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## Hazardous Materials Response Training Begins for Metro Rail Personnel



Photo by Ned Racine

Industrial Hygienist Collins Kalu of Metro Corporate Safety, pictured above, at right, with Metro Blue Line Transportation Manager Duane Martin, discusses hazardous materials and first-responder awareness during a training class, Wednesday, for some 35 rail managers and supervisors. The class was conducted at Metro Red Line Division 20. All Metro Rail personnel and Facilities Maintenance employees who maintain Metro Rail facilities will participate in the two-and-a-half-hour training class. The training, along with an hour-long class provided by the Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau, was developed in response to concern about a Dec. 22 mercury spill at the Pershing Square station.

## Suspect Arrested in Mercury Spill; Authorities Researching Criminal Charges

(Jan. 24, 2007) Sheriff's detectives arrested Armando Bustamante Miranda, Tuesday, as a suspect in the mercury spill at the Pershing Square station. He is being held at the Twin Towers Jail.

Detectives, meanwhile, are working with the LA County District Attorney's office to research appropriate criminal charges – state or federal – to file against the suspect in the Dec. 22 incident, according to Transit Police Chief Cmdr. Dan Finkelstein.

Finkelstein said he also will recommend seeking restitution from Bustamante Miranda, 27, for the effort



Armando Bustamante

involved in the cleanup.

Miranda, 27, is being held in the Twin Towers Jail.

During questioning, the suspect told Sheriff's Det. Dan Regalado that he had found the vial of mercury – a hazardous substance – in a dumpster in West LA. He told the detective he was showing it to passengers at the rail station in hopes of selling it to support his drug habit.

Two warrants had been issued against Bustamante Miranda in unrelated drug charges.