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The Pups for Peace staff, clad in dark blue, are shown during a recent training session with Israeli police in Jerusalem.



## Deputies Travel to Israel for Security Training with 'Pups for Peace'

By ELIZABETH LEIDER

(Feb 8, 2007) Deputies Richard Faulk and David Cervantes of the Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau flew to Israel on Tuesday. They will train with Israeli police and a program called "Pups for Peace" to learn patrol procedures and tactics for working with explosive-detection dogs on mass transit systems.

Pups for Peace is a non-profit organization headquartered in Israel with offices in the United States and other locations around the world. According to the organization's website it is "dedicated to reducing death and injury through the use of explosive-detection dogs".

Near the completion of the program, Lt. Rick Craig and Sgt. David Wessol will join the deputies in Israel to attend their graduation and for a tour of the Pups for Peace facilities.

When Faulk and Cervantes return to Los Angeles, they will bring with them dogs that were trained at the Pups for Peace headquarters. These dogs and their handlers will patrol Metro's transit systems.

In addition, Faulk and Cervantes will share their newly acquired knowledge about patrol procedures and tactics with the rest of the LASD K-9 team.

"We're excited about the opportunity to make history as one of the first transit agencies in the nation to have Pups for Peace canines deployed," said Transit Police Chief Cmdr. Dan Finkelstein. "We're also thankful to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security for financing the program, and to Pups for Peace for bringing it all together."

