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Spanish law enforcement officials visit the LASD to better understand how West Coast crime prevention. They were, left to right, Abdon Macias, Spanish National Police (CNP) inspector; Ana Geriz, CNP inspector and Police Attaché at the Spanish Embassy in Washington D.C.; Manuel Perez Alvarez, CNP commissioner; LASD Deputy Britta Kjellstrand; Francisco Javier Periera Estevez, CNP inspector chief of the Barcelona Seaport; Quintin Munoz, CNP inspector chief of the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Division.



Photos by Jimmy Stroup

## Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau Hosts Spanish Law Officials

By JIMMY STROUP

(June 29, 2007) The Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau hosted a delegation of high-ranking law enforcement officials from Spain Thursday, as part of a weeklong tour of the Sheriff's Department in its various forms.

All from the Spanish National Police (CNP), the five-person group was made up of officers responsible for law enforcement ranging from seaport security, drug enforcement, organized crime and illegal immigration.

The delegation came to Los Angeles after their interest was piqued by an LASD presentation at the consulate in Washington, D.C. a few months ago.

"We went to D.C. and gave a presentation, and invited people to come here and see what West Coast law enforcement is all about," said Deputy Britta Kjellstrand, who helped guide the visitors around the various departments within the LASD.



Sgt. Augie Pando describes the challenges law enforcement officers face in dealing with graffiti

“They’re here to get the experience, to get a flavor, a taste of what LA Sheriff’s is all about and how we handle emergencies and everyday situations,” she said.

and vandalism crimes on the Metro system to the Spanish delegation, and how TSB deals with offenders.

Thursday’s events included an overview of Sheriff’s Department history, a briefing on the K9 units used at Metro – along with a demonstration on the Gold Line – and a presentation on tagging and graffiti, and how the TSB handles the problem. They also rode and inspected the rail and bus systems.



Commander Dan Finkelstein meets with the Spanish Law Enforcement delegation just before they received a presentation from TSB deputies about how law enforcement works in the massive Metro system.

Only one of the CNP officers spoke fluent English, so the bi-lingual talents in the TSB were on display, with some presentations being interpreted by deputies and others given entirely in Spanish.

Earlier this week, the Spanish group toured the Port of Los Angeles. Today, they were scheduled to tour the courts downtown and meet with Sheriff Lee Baca.