

[Metro.net](#) (web)

## Resources

► [Safety](#)

► [Pressroom](#) (web)

► [Ask the CEO](#)

► [CEO Forum](#)

► [Employee Recognition](#)

► [Employee Activities](#)

► [Metro Projects](#)

► [Facts at a Glance](#)  
(web)

► [Archives](#)

► [Events Calendar](#)

► [Research Center/ Library](#)

► [Metro Classifieds](#)

► [Bazaar](#)

## Metro Info

► [30/10 Initiative](#)

► [Policies](#)

► [Training](#)

► [Help Desk](#)

► [Intranet Policy](#)

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Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Douglas Barry presents commendations to Metro Transit Security Officers Manuel Salcedo and Richard Nelson. The officers were first on the scene of a fire March 28 and rescued three people from a burning building.



Photos by Gayle Anderson

## Fire Department Chief Honored Two of Metro's Own for Heroism

By Jennie Harris

(August 23, 2007) Metro Transit Security officers were awarded certificates of appreciation by Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Douglas Barry, Monday, for rescuing three people from a burning building on March 28.

"I'm sure you've saved some lives and property," said Chief Barry. "If you ever want to become firemen, let me know."



From left, Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Douglas Barry, Salcedo, Battalion Chief John Quintanar, Nelson, Transit Security Lieutenant Jim Cook and Metro Safety Certification & Operations Manager Tom Eng.

Manuel Salcedo and Richard Nelson, senior security officers, awoke sleeping residents as flames and smoke filled their home. Because of the officers' quick response, they were able to save three individuals from injury, and reduce the firefighters' response time and damage to the property.

"We didn't feel like we were doing anything extraordinary," said Officer Salcedo. "We saw something that needed to be done, and we just did it."

DDEO for System Safety & Security Jack Eckles said, said, "These officers aren't responsible for responding to fires. For them to do that on their own, and not to be asked, I think that's terrific."



"I think that's terrific," said DEO for System Safety & Security Jack Eckles, who, along with Battalion Chief John Quintanar, at right, and a contingent of Transit Security Officers, greeted

the heroes at City Hall.

| [Home](#) | [Phone Directory](#) | [Forms Online](#) | [FIS Online](#)