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**Former Bus Operator Sentenced in Felony Embezzlement Case**

- Jeffrey Ralph ordered to pay \$10,000 in restitution

By PAM MURANO  
(Oct. 21, 2008) Former Arthur Winston Division Bus Operator Jeffrey Ralph entered a *nolo contendere* (no contest) plea to two felony counts of embezzlement and was sentenced to one year in Los Angeles County Jail on October 7.

Ralph, who worked for Metro for almost 17 years, was ordered to pay \$10,000 in restitution and will commence five years' formal probation upon his release from custody. Ralph paid \$2,500 in restitution at the sentencing hearing and was ordered to pay the balance during his probation.

The case was filed on Sept. 23, 2008, after a joint investigation by the Metro Special Investigations Unit and the Transit Services Bureau of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The investigation found that Ralph had been selling his day passes to a street vendor who sold them and split the money with Ralph. As Ralph was entrusted with this fare media by his employer (Metro), selling his day passes constituted embezzlement.

Ralph was terminated from Metro after the investigation.

Ralph will surrender at the Los Angeles Criminal Court on Oct. 28. Failure to surrender on that date would result in the court imposing a full three-year sentence in state prison.

Ralph's accomplice was sentenced earlier this year to one year in Los Angeles County Jail and three years' formal probation.