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Venice Division 6 operators celebrate 200 days of safety with a luncheon and rounds of applause from UTU reps, Transportation Manager Cheryl Brown, at left, and Metro Westside/Central General Manager Mark Maloney, back row center.

Venice Division Celebrates 200 Days of Safety on the Job

- Roster: [Safety Honor Roll](#)

(July 14, 2009) Along with the ocean breeze and the Line 534 coastal route to Malibu, a sparkling safety record is just one more reason why Venice Division 6 employees love their job. As of June 26, the division has put together more than 200 days of work without lost time due to an accident or work-related injury.

At a recent celebration at the venerable division, which held its [centennial](#) in 2001, Transportation Manager Cheryl Brown presented awards to some 25 operators recognized for their adherence to the high safety standards that thrive at the Venice Division.

Everybody on the safety honor roll received a baseball cap embroidered with a Metro corporate safety logo and



Westside/Central GM Mark Maloney,

personalized with the number of years of driving safely. Those with safety records amounting to milestone years of 5, 10, 15 and 20 also received the coveted Metro belt buckle.

The safety awards are based on the established criteria of zero worker's comp claims, zero avoidable accidents, no more than one unavoidable accident or incident and zero absences that exceed 30 days.

In the spirit of celebration, Brown presented a "Manager's Choice" recognition to Venice Division staff who have gone "above and beyond" in their efforts to promote and enhance division safety. The recipients of the annual award are honored with their names on a perpetual plaque that is publicly displayed in the division training room. The FY2008-2009 honorees are Earis Valls for safety suggestions, Frank Cole for transportation operations and Melvin Braxton and Carlo Salas for morale.

Division staff were rewarded with a festive luncheon for their safety achievements. Co-sponsored by UTU Local 1607, the event was attended by UTU Local 1607 Chairwoman Lisa Arrendondo, and UTU Local 1607 Vice Chairman Ernie Martinez, who personally thanked the operators for their outstanding work performance. Also appreciative was Westside/Central Sector's Byron Lee, who not only attended but also helped serve the *El Pollo Loco* buffet lunch.

--from Gayle Anderson

Transportation Manager Cheryl Brown and Safety Award-winning Operator Tyronne Rouege at the entrance to Venice Division offices.

Safety Honor Roll

19 * Samson Gessesse * Benjamin Zisner * 17 * Carlton Robertson * 15 * Melvin Braxton, * Evan A. Hale * Dung Vu * 11 * Javier Lopez * 10 * Jackie Davis * 8 Darrell Carter * Tracy McZeal * 7 * Francesca Brande * 6 * David Stidhum * Denise Cabaong * Landon White * 4 * Sean McCormick * Robson Mendanha * Dennis Moss * 3 * Ike Collins * Angelo Colon * Tracy Pettigrew * Mark Roat * 2 * Robert Larks * Tyronne Rouege * Mario Trigueros * Laura Villarreal



Morale booster Melvin Braxton, who navigates the celebrated Line 534 to Malibu, wouldn't have it any other way. He's stayed at Venice Division for 39 years.