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Corporate Safety Systems Manager Abdul Zohbi confers with law enforcement officers prior to Sheriff and LAPD crackdown on safety violations along the Metro Blue Line.

Hundreds cited for safety violations in joint Sheriff/LAPD operation along Metro Blue Line

(Feb. 4, 2010) In a concerted effort to promote public safety awareness along the Metro Blue Line, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles Police Department today issued 330 citations, gave 30 warnings and impounded 24 vehicles for 30 days in a joint operation to enforce traffic laws in the street running (non-gated) segment of the light rail line between Washington Station and 7th/Metro Center in downtown Los Angeles.

The operation took place from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and included 31 motorized officers. Metro's Corporate Safety staff also was an active participant. The focus was on violators running red lights, making illegal left turns and pedestrian jaywalking. While there



has been a steady decline in train versus vehicle accidents on the Metro Blue Line, which connects downtown Los Angeles and Long Beach, the level of pedestrian accidents has remained stagnant.

Metro has an active program of "Education, Engineering and Enforcement" to reduce incidents. Illegal left turns and running red lights are the primary cause of train-vehicle accidents with the Metro Blue Line in the non-gated segments while pedestrians illegally crossing the tracks against all active warning signs that include flashing lights, bells, lowering gate arms indicating approaching trains are the top cause of pedestrian accidents in the gated segment of the Metro Blue Line alignment.

-- from staff reports









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