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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Law Enforcement to Conduct Metro Blue Line Safety Awareness and Enforcement Operation May 16**

On Wednesday morning, May 16, law enforcement will coordinate a joint Safety Awareness and Enforcement Operation at some of the busiest Metro Blue Line rail crossings to raise public awareness that it is unsafe for pedestrians or motorists to illegally pass through closed crossing gates where possible collision with approaching trains could result in serious injury or death.

From 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., deputies from Metro Transit Services Bureau, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Long Beach Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will converge on major Metro Blue Line street-level rail crossings throughout the rail line to conduct traffic enforcement operations and to distribute safety tip handouts to both motorists and pedestrians.

Recent vehicle-related accidents have occurred when motorists have made illegal left turns against a red light or from running red lights. Pedestrian accidents have resulted when people were running to catch their train without looking both ways.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) organized the multi-jurisdictional committee of law enforcement to review safety concerns along all "at-grade" segments since each police agency has primary responsibility for traffic enforcement in their area.

While the primary thrust of the operation is safety education, law enforcement will issue citations to members of the public who flagrantly violate traffic safety rules.

For additional Metro information and online transit trip planning, visit [WWW.METRO.NET](http://WWW.METRO.NET). For transit trip planning assistance over the phone, call 1-800-COMMUTE.

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