

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

**CPUC JOINS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT ON STRIKE TEAM
TO ENFORCE SAFETY COMPLIANCE OF PASSENGER CARRIERS
AT MAJOR AIRPORTS AND OTHER AREAS OF INTERESTS**

SAN FRANCISCO, November 1, 2010 – The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) participated in 10 multi-agency strike force operations on passenger carriers (limousine, shuttles, tour buses) during the third quarter of 2010. These operations were conducted to ensure that companies are properly licensed with CPUC. The operations were conducted at the following locations:

1. **San Jose Mineta International Airport (SJC) – July 21, 2010** - CPUC staff along with the California Highway Patrol (CHP), Santa Clara Weights and Measures Division (SCWM), Employment Development Department (EDD), San Jose Police Department, and San Jose Airport Landside Operations, conducted a surprise passenger carrier inspection. SCWM has the responsibility under the California B&P Code for testing taxi meters for accuracy and rate posting inside the cab for the customers. EDD is responsible for enforcing the California Unemployment Insurance Code, specifically ones that involved employee-employer relationship, and ones that enforces employment tax contributions. Approximately 139 vehicles (49 shuttles, buses, and limos, and 90 taxi cabs) were pulled over for the inspection. The CPUC issued 15 Notices to Correct Violations (failed to maintain current vehicles with the CPUC, incomplete or no waybills).

2. **Del Mar Race Track – July 21, 2010** – CPUC staff conducted a surprise passenger carrier inspection. At the request of Del Mar Race Track officials, the CPUC staff limited the operation

to a check of vehicle plate numbers and TCP numbers. Of the 125 vehicles, four companies were operating with a suspended CPUC permit.

3. **Hollywood Strike Force – August 13, 2010** – CPUC staff with CHP and Culver City Police Department conducted a surprise inspection of buses and limousines in the Hollywood area from 7 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Approximately 58 vehicles were inspected, and the CPUC issued seven Observation Reports/Notices of Violation and five Misdemeanor Warnings.
4. **John Wayne Orange County Airport (JWA) – August 20, 2010** – CPUC staff along with CHP and JWA Airport Landside Operations conducted an inspection of passenger carrier buses and shuttles. Forty buses and shuttles were inspected and the CPUC issued five Notices to Correct Violation for failure to have waybill and improper vehicle markings.
5. **Oakland International Airport (OAK) – September 2, 2010** - CPUC staff along with the CHP, Alameda County Sheriff Office Airport Police Services, Livermore Police Department, Alameda Police Department, Alameda County Weights and Measure, and the Port of Oakland conducted a surprise passenger carrier inspection. Approximately 205 vehicles (95 were shuttles, limos, and vans subject to CPUC jurisdiction; and 110 taxi cabs) were pulled over for the inspection. The CPUC issued three misdemeanor warnings (operations without a CPUC permit or on a suspended permit) and 35 Inspection Observation Reports showing various minor violations (waybill failure, vehicles in operation not listed with the CPUC, vehicle identification (decals, livery plate)). Fifty-six had no violations.
6. **Hollywood Strike Force – September 3, 2010** – CPUC staff along with CHP and LAPD conducted a surprise inspection of passenger carrier buses in an effort to ensure that only carriers who were properly insured and licensed were using the public highways.
7. **DUI Checkpoint San Diego – September 3, 2010** – CPUC staff along with San Diego Police Department (SDPD) and CHP conducted a surprise inspection at a DUI Checkpoint set up by the SDPD participating in the Law Enforcement Task Force to address alcohol-related problems and

traffic in the greater San Diego Area. Seven vehicles were inspected. The CPUC issued two field observation reports noting violations for equipment reporting, vehicle markings, and waybills.

8. **Muir Woods National Monument – September 4, 2010** – CPUC staff along with the CHP and National Park Service conducted a surprise inspection of passenger carrier buses and shuttles. The CPUC issued five inspection observation reports showing various minor violations (failure to display and waybill violations). Fourteen had no violations.

9. **Fisherman’s Wharf San Francisco – September 18, 2010** - CPUC staff along with the CHP and San Francisco Police Department conducted a surprise inspection of passenger carrier buses. The CPUC issued one misdemeanor warning and 15 inspection observation reports showing various minor violations (failure to display and waybill violations).

10. **San Ysidro CHP/PUC Strike Force – September 21, 2010** – CPUC staff along with the CHP conducted a surprise inspection at the San Ysidro border crossing. Of the 20 vehicles inspected, the CPUC issued four field observation reports of violation.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

###