



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Jessica Tarman
Communications Director
213-473-7003/213-276-2093
jessica.tarman@lacity.org

Tagger-Probation Task Force

(Los Angeles) – On Wednesday, February 3, 2010, the West Valley Area Gang Impact Team (GIT), in conjunction with Councilman Dennis Zine (a current LAPD Reserve Officer), conducted a Tagger Probation Compliance checks with the assistance of the Los Angeles County Deputy Probation Department and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) representatives.

The early morning operation was funded by Councilman Dennis P. Zine and is the second operation funded by his office. It was specifically designed to focus on individuals who are on probation for graffiti offenses in the hopes of deterring future crimes. All subjects were on probation for graffiti and related vandalism offenses, with search and seizure conditions. Today's probation compliance checks were conducted at 11 residences within Council District Three by teams of West Valley Area GIT uniformed officers and detectives. Each team was accompanied by a Deputy Probation Officer and DCFS representative. One graffiti vandal, an admitted gang member, was arrested for a Probation Violation. A knife in a plastic sheath was recovered from his dining room table in addition to narcotics paraphernalia. The documented gang member admitted to carrying the knife for protection.

"I will continue to aggressively combat this destructive behavior in Council District Three and the City of Los Angeles," said Councilman Zine. "As part of my longstanding commitment to public safety, I have dedicated funds to cover police overtime costs to send a strong message to taggers that graffiti and vandalism will not be tolerated in our community."

Photos available upon request.

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