

## Los Angeles City Council

## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT ALEX PADILLA

SEVENTH DISTRICT

Press Release October 14, 2005 Contact: Bill Mabie (213) 713-4720 (213) 473-5774

## Mission Area Police Officers Conduct Coordinated Probation and Parole Compliance Searches to Suppress Violence in North Hills

22 Gang Members Arrested

**Mission Hills** – Council President Alex Padilla joined with Captain Kirk Albanese, Police Commissioner Alan Skobin and other Los Angeles Police Department officials today to announce the results of a probation and parole compliance sweep in the community of North Hills conducted Friday morning.

Standing alongside a table with a number of confiscated firearms, Padilla spoke out about the need to hold accountable those responsible for the recent spike in gang violence in the community of North Hills. In a 16-day period there has been an unusual spike in violent crime with two homicides and 7 additional people shot.

During the morning sweep, 22 gang members were arrested. Twelve gang members were arrested on felony charges including 2 parolees at large. Four guns were seized including a sawed-off shotgun.

Padilla took time out to recognize the work of Mission Area officers and other law enforcement personnel who participated in the sweep. He also issued a stern warning to those who are involved in the recent violence. "Those who are responsible need to understand that we will do what is necessary to get them off the streets and hold them accountable for their actions," said Padilla "For those who are thinking about getting involved in violent gang activity we are urging them to take advantage of the many programs available to take your life in a different direction," Padilla added.

More than 100 Los Angeles Police officers along with law enforcement officers from Los Angeles County Probation, State Parole, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms participated in the sweeps which targeted known gang members. The primary objective of the operation was to reduce the level of violence in the community, ensure compliance with probation and parole conditions, seize illegally possessed weapons, arrest law violators and reduce fear in the community.