



OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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CALIFORNIA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS RETURN FROM ANTI-TERRORISM TRAINING IN ISRAEL

LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (LAX) – Eight law enforcement officers from six California jurisdictions return home as California's first groundbreaking Counter-Terrorism Canine-Handler Teams after a 2-month intensive counter-terrorism education course with 16 canines in Israel under the direction of Pups for Peace. In addition, 10 executive law enforcement officials from the northern, southern, eastern and western regions of California graduated as well from a week long Executive Counter-Terrorism Workshop. These eight Counter-Terrorism Canine-Handler Teams are the first line of defense amongst California's civilian population in key civilian transportation sites such as airports and train stations.

Pups for Peace (PFP) (www.pupsforpeace.org) is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, humanitarian and non-partisan organization dedicated to reducing death and injury through the use of specifically trained explosive detection canines and handlers to stop and detect terrorism before it strikes. PFP has developed, "... the best training the world has to offer" as stated by Chris Bertelli, Office of Homeland Security (OHS) March 25, 2007 as aired on CNN Newsroom. This unique training program specifically counters the types of suicide bombs and improvised explosive device (IED) terrorist attacks happening throughout the world. "This program was specifically developed to address the previously unseen terrorist tactic of using suicide attacks against civilian populations. We are proud of our partnership with OHS and look forward to addressing this continuing terror threat together" said Annette Rubin, Chairman of Pups for Peace.

These specially trained Counter-Terrorism Canine-Teams represent Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Sacramento Sheriff's Office, San Francisco Police Department as well as Alameda, Santa Clara and San Mateo Sheriffs' Offices. The goal of these teams is to detect and deter terrorism before it strikes as a "first preventers". It is our sincere hope and prayer that our combined efforts to train and deploy these brave officers and canines in the community will not only enhance public safety in California, the United States, Israel and the world at large, but will also send a clear and unequivocal message of zero tolerance to those who seek to destroy the peace, security and sanctity of human lives.

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