



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR



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TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR

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July 31, 2003

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TO: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Mark J. Saladino
Treasurer and Tax Collector 

SUBJECT: BUSINESS LICENSE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY REPORT
FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 2003

At the meeting of September 30, 1997, your Board approved amendments to the Los Angeles County Code requiring the Treasurer and Tax Collector, in cooperation with the Sheriff and the Department of Health Services, to implement a reporting format to track business license enforcement activity and to provide a quarterly summary to the Board of all license enforcement activities performed by the appropriate agencies.

A copy of the Report for the quarter ending June 30, 2003 is attached for your information. Detailed enforcement activity is available upon request.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (213) 974-2101 or your staff may contact Dwight Andersen of my staff at (213) 893-7968.

MJS: DA:

JD:tr

Z4: BL6.03

Attachment

c: Business License Commission
Interdepartmental Coordination Group
Sheriffs Department
Department of Animal Care and Control
Fire Department
Department of Health Services
Regional Planning Department
Department of Public Works

**BUSINESS LICENSE ENFORCEMENT
ACTIVITY SUMMARY REPORT
QUARTER ENDING June 30, 2003**

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR ACTIVITY

Businesses Inspected	711		
In Compliance		516	
Non Compliance		195	
	License Not Posted		40
	Unlicensed Activity		87
	New Owner		14
	Other Violation		54
Non Compliance Enforcement Actions		195	
Business w/County License		94	
	Pending Disposition		18
	Action Taken		76
	Owner Corrected Violation		76
	Referred to BLC and ICG		0
Business without County License		101	
	Pending Disposition		21
	Action Taken		80
	Corrected Violation		80
	Referred to ICG		0

TAXICABS

Inspected	29		
Sealed	29		
Special Taxicab Enforcement (See attached report)			
In Compliance	0		
Non Compliance	0		
	Citation Issued/Impounded		0

Itinerant Businesses Inspected	40		
(Peddler, Tow Truck, Circus/Carnival)			
In Compliance		27	
Non Compliance		13	
	Owner Corrected Violation		13
	Referred to BLC and ICG		0

REPORTS FROM CONSTITUENTS OF NON COMPLIANCE

Non compliance		5	
Business w/County License		2	
	Pending Disposition		0
	Action Taken		2
	Owner Corrected Violation		2
	Referred to BLC and ICG		0
Business without County License		3	
	Pending Disposition		0
	Action Taken		3
	Corrected Violation		3
	Referred to ICG		0

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SHERIFF ACTIVITY

Businesses Inspected	23		
In Compliance		12	
Non Compliance		11	
Non Compliance		11	
Business w/County License		3	
Pending Disposition			0
Action Taken			3
	Owner Corrected Violation		3
	Referred to BLC and ICG		0
Business without County License		8	
Pending Disposition			0
Action Taken			8
	Citation/Warning		3
	Corrected Violation		5
	Referred to ICG		0

HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT – AMBULANCE/AMBULETTE

Ambulance/Ambulette Vehicles Inspected	441		
In Compliance		395	
Non Compliance		46	
Action Taken		46	
	Vehicle Out of Service		0
	Owner Corrected Violation		46
	Referred for Hearing		0

REPORTS FROM OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF NON COMPLIANCE

Non Compliance		1	
Business w/County License		0	
Pending Disposition			0
Action Taken			0
	Owner Corrected Violation		0
	Referred to BLC and ICG		0
Business without County License		1	
Pending Disposition			0
Action Taken			1
	Corrected Violation		1
	Referred to ICG		0

**BUSINESS LICENSE ENFORCEMENT
ACTIVITY SUMMARY REPORT
QUARTER ENDING June 30, 2003**

FIRST DISTRICT

Catering Trucks, Whittier Boulevard & Bonnie Beach Avenue

On April 15, 2003, in response to a complaint, the Treasurer and Tax Collector conducted a field investigation in the unincorporated East Los Angeles area. Citizens complained of catering trucks located on Whittier Boulevard, near Bonnie Beach Avenue, staying longer than the 30 minutes allowed in the County Code. Also, it was reported that the operators of the trucks had set up tables and chairs on the public sidewalk. During the investigation, the owner of the truck was advised to comply with the County Code by moving every 30 minutes. He was also advised that continued violations of the County Code could result in his business license being denied and that this violation may be reported to the Business License Commission. The owner was provided a copy of the County Code Section pertaining to Peddler Commercial Vehicles and was issued a written warning notice by the Treasurer and Tax Collector to move every 30 minutes.

Tequila's Dos, 6544 E. Whittier Boulevard

On April 30, 2003, a public hearing was held on whether or not to deny the renewal of Public Eating and Coin Phonograph Business Licenses for Tequila's Dos. The Treasurer and Tax Collector reported to the Business License Commission that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was requesting that the business licenses for Tequila's Dos not be renewed. The Sheriff's Department cited numerous complaints from the neighbors concerning loud music, prostitution, gunshots, narcotic arrests, excessive noise, "unauthorized" car washes in the parking lot, lewd behavior and general misconduct. The Business License Commission denied the appeal by the licensee and the denial by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was upheld.

ABC Decoy Operation

On May 30, 2003, in response to numerous citizens' complaints, State ABC staff, Treasurer and Tax Collector personnel, Explorer Scouts and the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station conducted an ABC Decoy operation. The purpose of the operation was to verify compliance by business owners in determining the age of a person attempting to purchase alcohol. Twenty-five establishments were visited and five were issued misdemeanor citations by the Sheriff for the sale of alcohol to a minor.

Two bars were also visited. The following are the results of the operation.

El Diamante, 3524 E. 1st Street

The El Diamante Bar was issued a misdemeanor citation by the Sheriff for conducting Entertainment without a business license. On June 20, 2003, the Treasurer and Tax Collector informed the owner by mail that the activity was illegal and must cease immediately and continued violations could jeopardize the current licenses for this business. The Business License Commission was also notified of this violation.

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The Lampliter, 1347 S. Atlantic Avenue

The Lampliter Bar was issued a misdemeanor citation by the Sheriff for conducting illegal activities on the premises. During the inspection, deputies observed several females dressed in "G-string" bottoms and small bikini tops providing "lap dances" to bar patrons for money. On June 20, 2003, the Treasurer and Tax Collector informed the owner by mail that the activity is illegal and must cease immediately and continued violations could jeopardize the current licenses at the business. The Business License Commission was also notified of this violation.

SECOND DISTRICT

Food Vendor Sweep

The Treasurer and Tax Collector participated with the Lennox Community Enhancement Team in food vendor abatement operations in the Lennox area. The operations consisted of personnel from the Health Department, Public Works, Treasurer and Tax Collector Business License and the Lennox Sheriff's Station. In response to citizens' complaints, the vendor sweeps targeted County Code violations, illegal food carts and unlicensed lunch trucks and vendors operating on area streets and on or near public school property.

On May 16, 2003, nine vendors were inspected. The Treasurer and Tax Collector issued written warning notices to three peddler commercial vehicles to move every 30 minutes and County Health confiscated food from three vendors.

On May 19, 2003, ten vendors were inspected. The Treasurer and Tax Collector issued one written warning notice to a peddler commercial vehicle to move every 30 minutes and County Health confiscated food and illegal carts from nine vendors.

On June 10, 2003, seventeen vendors were inspected. The Treasurer and Tax Collector issued four written warning notices, two to peddler commercial vehicles to move every 30 minutes and two to peddler commercial vehicles for operating within 1000 feet of a school. County Health confiscated food/carts at ten inspections and the County Sheriff impounded one unlicensed ice cream truck. Two vendors were in compliance with County Codes.

On June 19, 2003, eight vendors were inspected: The Treasurer and Tax Collector issued one written warning notice to a peddler commercial vehicle to move every 30 minutes. County Health confiscated food and illegal carts at five inspections and the Sheriff issued misdemeanor citations at seven inspections for violations of the Health Code. The Sheriff arrested one operator for outstanding warrants.

On June 20, 2003, because of an emergency operation involving the Lennox Sheriff, the scheduled operation was canceled.

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FOURTH DISTRICT

Marina Del Rey Boat Show

On June 26th and June 27th, 2003, the Treasurer and Tax Collector conducted compliance inspections at the annual Marina Del Rey Boat Show. The inspection was to check whether the vendors were in compliance with the County Code that requires them to obtain Special Event Merchandise Peddler Business Licenses. The Treasurer and Tax Collector identified twenty-two vendors and collected \$1,835.00 in Business License fees at the event.

FIFTH DISTRICT

Robin's Nest, 8237 Soledad Canyon Road

On May 28, 2003, responding to a citizen's complaint, the Treasurer and Tax Collector conducted an investigation at the location. The complainant reported unlicensed truck rallies and outdoor concerts with live bands being conducted at the location. On one occasion, the complainant alleged the business conducted a three-day outdoor concert. The complainant also reported loud noise coming from the outdoor concerts and heavy traffic caused by the large number of people that attend.

The Treasurer and Tax Collector advised the owner and manager that the business was not licensed to conduct an outdoor festival. Also, the owner was advised that continued violations of the Business License Code may cause the pending picnic park and public eating business license at the location to be denied. The Treasurer and Tax Collector issued a written warning notice to the owner to cease all live music, karaoke and outdoor festival activities until the proper business licenses are obtained. A festival scheduled for May 31, 2003 was canceled.

No new violations have been reported.