

PRESS RELEASE Water Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 20, 2004

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CITY OFFERS FREE BOAT SAFETY INSPECTIONS AS PART OF NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

SAN DIEGO – To celebrate "National Safe Boating Week" free boat safety inspections will be provided by the City of San Diego Water Department Rangers on May 22, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at San Vicente Reservoir. In conjunction with the Mission Bay Aquatic Center, the U.S. Coast Guard and the California Department of Boating and Waterways, the City is inviting the public to this event to learn about how to enjoy a safe and fun day on the water. Local emergency response organizations and vendors will also provide safety handouts and product information, as well as give demonstrations of rescue equipment and the latest fishing, boats, skis and wakeboarding equipment.

National Safe Boating Week was designated by the United States Congress to encourage boaters to take safety courses to decrease the number of accidents and fatalities on our waterways. The most common cause of boating accidents is operator inexperience. An estimated 85 percent of all boating fatalities could be prevented by simply wearing a life jacket.

Since 1913, the City has offered the public recreational use of its reservoirs, including boating and fishing, and is widely recognized as a pioneer in the multiple use of water supply reservoirs. San Vicente is located at 13500 Moreno Avenue in Lakeside and is one of nine municipal reservoirs in operation by the City of San Diego. It is currently open for fishing on Wednesday and Thursday, and for water contact sports (water-skiing, wakeboarding, towing of inflatables, etc.) on Thursday through Sunday from sunrise to sunset through the end of October. There is a 100 vessel limit on the lake. Personal watercrafts (jet skis, wave runners, etc.) are not permitted at San Vicente. For more information about recreational programs for San Vicente or other City lakes, please call (619) 465-3474 or visit www.sandiego.gov/water.