



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

Media Advisory

Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL TO ANNOUNCE THE DISCOVERY OF HIGH AMOUNTS OF LEAD FOUND IN CHILDREN'S AND RELIGIOUS JEWELRY

LOS ANGELES, Calif. – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will hold a press conference on Tuesday, April 28 to show and discuss the discovery of children's and adult jewelry that contains lead levels that grossly exceed California's regulatory limits.

Lead is a toxic metal that can cause serious health problems even death, especially in young children. Much of the jewelry was imported from China and many were packaged with labels claiming to be lead free.

On September 22, 2006, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed California's Lead-Containing Jewelry law (Assembly Bill 1681). It went into effect on Sept 1, 2007. Since then, DTSC has been actively monitoring levels of lead in jewelry. These investigations have lead to the discovery of the mislabeled jewelry.

When: Tuesday, April 28, 1:30 pm
Where: DTSC Environmental Chemistry Lab
1449 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA, 90026
Who: - Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director, DTSC
- Mike Berriesford, Supervising Criminal Investigator, DTSC
- Antonia Becker, Senior Scientist, DTSC

Visuals include:

- Samples of the lead-tainted jewelry displayed for reporters/cameras.
- DTSC investigators to demonstrate how they test for lead in jewelry.

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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.