



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: José A. Álvarez (619) 515-6635

VISITORS TO SYCUAN CASINO ADVISED TO BE TESTED FOR TB

*Individual Who Visited Casino between **June 1 and December 26, 2006** Was Diagnosed with TB;
Patrons Recommended to See Their Physician*

The San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) and Sycuan Casino are taking steps to notify patrons of Sycuan Casino, 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, to be tested for possible exposure to tuberculosis.

Patrons may have been exposed between June 1 and December 26, 2006. Infection from exposure is most likely for visitors who spent a total of 120 hours or more in the Bingo Hall. Additionally, any patrons who rode the Route 2 Bingo Bus that served the National City area may have been exposed. This bus arrived at the casino between 5 and 6pm, and left the casino between at 10 and 11pm.

"We are working with Sycuan Casino to notify patrons who could have been exposed," said Dr. Nancy Bowen, San Diego County Deputy Public Health Officer. "The former patron is being treated and no longer poses a risk."

Sycuan Casino representatives are working diligently with HHSA in this effort.

"Providing a safe environment for our customers and employees is Sycuan's top commitment," said Maureen Kerr, Director, Human Resources, Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease.

Patrons who may have been exposed should contact their physician. People with no medical provider, or anyone who would like more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. During 2006, there were 315 total cases of TB in San Diego County.

"TB is a common infectious disease affecting people in all aspects of their life," added Dr. Bowen.

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