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Contact: Theresa Adams Lopez
(310) 732-3507

**PORT OF LOS ANGELES LOBSTER FESTIVAL
SMASHES ALL RECORDS**

CROWDS AT 3-DAY EVENT CONSUME 28,000 MAINE LOBSTERS



425 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
Tel: 310/732-3508
After 5:00 p.m.:
310/732-3500

SAN PEDRO, Calif. -- Donning lobster-themed hats, clothing and jewelry, a record 50,000 visitors descended on Ports O' Call Village at the Port of Los Angeles during the three-day Lobster Festival held over the weekend. Billed as the Largest Lobster Festival in the World, the San Pedro event is now in its sixth year.

"This year's record-setting attendance shows that San Pedro is on its way to becoming a prime entertainment destination, and that the city's efforts on *From Bridge to Breakwater* and other developments will succeed in a big way," Mayor Hahn said. "I am especially pleased that the jobs and visitor spending along the waterfront also strengthen Los Angeles' economy."

"The incredible turnout at the Lobster Festival this year proves that this is THE Lobster Festival in Los Angeles," said Councilwoman Janice Hahn. "People from all over the Los Angeles region came to San Pedro to enjoy the festival with us and I know they will all come back to enjoy our waterfront promenade as it is built over the coming years."

"We knew we had a hit on our hands by 9 p.m. on Friday, when we had sold over 4,000 meals. The 20,000 lobsters we had for the weekend wasn't going to be enough. I've been producing lobster festivals for a decade and I have never seen anything like this year's success," said Jim Hall, festival producer.

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Port of Los Angeles Lobster Festival

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“We were up most of the night arranging for more lobsters to be shipped from Maine and Boston. All I can say is thank heavens for Captain Bill Atwood and the ‘Lobster Cavalry’ in Sprucehead, Maine. They worked way into Saturday night to get us the extra fresh lobsters we needed for the weekend. Lobsters were still arriving all day Sunday,” Hall added.

In all, 28,000 Maine lobster dinners, prepared by the San Pedro Fish Market, were consumed by the festivalgoers who also enjoyed a feast of international foods, arts and crafts, live entertainment and a pirate encampment for children.

Tiny, four-pound Miniature Pinscher “Bosco” won grand prize honors for the second year in a row in Saturday’s popular LobsterDog Parade and competition. A crowd favorite, Bosco’s winning costume was a sea turtle in the contest in which canine entrants of all sizes and breeds came dressed as lobsters or sea animals. Bosco is owned by Lloyd and Joyce Bradshaw of Downey.

The Port of Los Angeles Lobster Festival is sponsored by the Port of Los Angeles, the South Bay Daily Breeze, Budweiser, Bud Light, The Vault 350, Comcast Cable and the Sheraton Los Angeles Harbor Hotel. A portion of the proceeds from the Festival’s First Class Ticket sales goes to benefit the community outreach programs of the San Pedro Peninsula Chamber of Commerce.

The Port of Los Angeles is America’s premier port. As the leading containerport in the nation and a critical hub in the international supply chain, the Port generates thousands of stable, well paying jobs. It has also placed a high priority on smart growth initiatives combined with high security, environmental stewardship and community outreach. The Port of Los Angeles is a proprietary, self-supporting department of the City of Los Angeles. The Port of Los Angeles. . Anchoring a bright future.

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