

## N E W S   R E L E A S E

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### **California Labor Commissioner's Office Donates Clothes to Los Angeles Nonprofit Organization**

**Los Angeles**—The California Labor Commissioner's office has donated clothing worth more than \$33,000 to the Shelter Partnership, Inc., operator of the S. Mark Taper Foundation Shelter Resource Bank, putting to charitable use garments confiscated during enforcement sweeps of garment manufacturers operating illegally in Los Angeles and surrounding counties.

The donation of these garments coincided with the Annual [Giving Tuesday](#), a national day of giving driven through social media channels by nonprofits, for-profits and individuals. The Labor Commissioner's office also donated confiscated clothing worth more than \$14,000 to Shelter Partnership, Inc. in December 2012.

"These donated garments help individuals and families who really need them and at the same time serve to highlight the penalties this office will impose on underground employers who undermine California's economy," said California Labor Commissioner Julie A. Su. "I am delighted to have this wonderful partnership with the Shelter Partnership, Inc."

Over the past year, enforcement conducted by the Labor Commissioner's office and the department's Labor Enforcement Task Force in the garment industry resulted in the confiscation of adult and children's clothing. The confiscations were from businesses that violated California labor laws that require proper registration with the State.

The clothing will be distributed to many of the 180 homeless and domestic violence shelters that are served by Shelter Partnership, Inc. The partnership also provides donations to the LA Family Housing shelter through their Shelter Resource Bank.

"We are thrilled to have this long-term and win-win relationship with the Department of Industrial Relations that gets new, quality clothing in the hands of children and adults experiencing homelessness in our community," said Ruth Schwartz, executive director of Shelter Partnership, Inc.



Volunteers sort through donated clothing at the Shelter Partnership on December 3.

Under the law, the confiscated clothing items are required to be placed in storage and disposed of or destroyed after 45 days. These items, however, may be donated to nonprofit organizations provided that the organizations agree the items will not be resold.

The Labor Commissioner's office, also known as the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, adjudicates wage claims, investigates discrimination and public works complaints and enforces state labor law. Additional information on labor laws and work-related topics are available on our [website](#) as well as on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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