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**COUNCILWOMAN JAN PERRY HONORED BY FORMERLY HOMELESS VETERANS
JAMES M. WOOD COMMUNITY CENTER**

Councilwoman Jan Perry, of the Ninth District, is sponsoring a Veterans Day Luncheon to honor the men and women who have bravely served in the armed forces and have played a vital role in maintaining our free way of life. The event will be held in the **James M. Wood Community Center** on **Monday, November 12, 2007** from **12:00—2:00 PM**. The Center is located at 400 E. 5th Street, at the intersection of 5th and San Julian Streets in Los Angeles.

The Veterans Day Luncheon is dedicated to assembling and honoring the nearly two hundred veterans of Central City East/Skid Row who live and work at SRO Housing Corporation. The luncheon will include a steak lunch prepared by the catering department of the Midnight Mission, live entertainment, raffles, games, prizes, and much more. Veterans who live at The Southern, an SRO Housing Corporation facility that provides 53 efficiency units of permanent housing for veterans, were instrumental in initiating the event. Councilwoman Perry and District Nine are the luncheon sponsors.

A recent government statement reports that although veterans comprise about 11% of the nation's population, one out of four homeless men and women is a veteran. SRO Housing Corporation is a nonprofit community based organization that is dedicated to building a healthy community for homeless and very low-income individuals in Los Angeles' Central City East neighborhood.

SRO Housing built and currently operates the James M. Wood Community Center, a safe and sober community space on what was once known as "Thieves Corner." Named for James M. Wood, a former labor negotiator, CRA/LA Board Chairman, and founder of SRO Housing Corporation, the Center is open 7 days a week. Activities include meals for seniors, community-based 12-step meetings, resident organizing meetings, fine art classes, chess tournaments, life skills workshops, and special events.

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