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In This Together

W e are all in this together: PPOA, our employers, our families, our country, our world. As I write this, the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to represent never-before-seen complications for the masses. “Stay at Home” has become the norm. Retail, entertainment and “nonessential” services have been shut down. Wearing gloves and protective masks at work has become old hat.

From day one, PPOA Board and staff have worked numerous hours to address members’ needs. Our staff and I have provided a limited presence in our office and have been using technology to create a virtual command post, fielding concern calls and emails, conferencing with each other as well as other unions and departments, and consulting with our attorneys and lobbying firm in Sacramento to ensure our members’ rights are being preserved.

Keys to effectively surviving this crisis are manyfold, including personal hygiene, financial awareness and keeping anxiety in check. PPOA has joined all of the other health officials in publishing numerous suggestions to maintain personal safety. Wash your hands! Many people do, but effective handwashing practices are critical. For an eye-opening moment and learning experience, check out this video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYFWbqgf-2Q.

Additionally, at work, personal protective equipment (PPE) use is of the utmost importance. While the County is supplying PPE currently, resupply is of concern. Use PPE appropriately, but conservatively. Like all resources, we do not know when more is coming. Utilize social distancing whenever available and do not be wasteful.

There is no doubt that uncertainty plays heavily into this crisis.

Investments in the stock market have lost about a third of their value. Projections show this event could affect world financial markets, with recovery taking years. Don’t panic! A loss in the market is only a loss when cashed out. Prudent financial decisions have never been more important. As part of our decision to help our communities as County employees, we have all chosen financial security over the desire to pursue riches. Our jobs may be difficult as disaster service workers, but as it stands, our families should be solvent. Within the first few weeks of this event, millions of people were laid off. This only adds to the overall anxiety levels of the citizenry looking for resolution and security. Be thankful and respectful of what we have in life, in both purpose and security.

Times are tough. While many other tragic events have occurred during my lifetime and been seared into my memory, none have been worldwide. Between limitations on freedoms, loss of work and the specter of severe illness looming, many people have difficulty functioning. Depression and anxiety are easy to slip into. Relax! Talk it out. Share your feelings and concerns. The County departments all have many resources dedicated to our members.

PPOA IS HERE TO ASSIST IN MANY WAYS AND IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP OUR FAMILY MEMBERS DURING THESE UNCERTAIN, HISTORIC AND DIFFICULT TIMES.

Additionally, you are never alone. PPOA is here to assist in many ways and is always available to help our family members during these uncertain, historic and difficult times. For starters, please see the PPOA COVID-19 FAQ starting on page 10. We emailed the first set to members on March 19, the second set on March 21 and the third set on March 28. We’ll continue to update you on issues affecting your career and personal safety as they arise, so please stay connected. Monitor our communications, reach out with concerns to info@ppoa.com or call the office. It is our responsibility and goal to assist you with anything within our power. We wish you all good health as we navigate personally and professionally through these uncharted waters.
Count on PPOA to Fight for You

The spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) across our country and now throughout Los Angeles County has created a historic time of unprecedented uncertainty. As you and your families read this article, the top COVID-19 experts’ scientific prediction that April will be the cruelest month for California and Los Angeles County will be in progress or nearing its end. The U.S. Navy hospital ship Mercy arriving at the Port of Los Angeles at the end of March is hopefully not a harbinger of the expected dramatic surge of COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths that could result in never-before-seen stressors on our fragile health-care system, our loved ones, our communities, our public safety, our economy and you, our PPOA members.

All of you, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, regardless of sworn or nonsworn status, are designated public employee Disaster Service Workers (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Regardless of this designation, you have already gone above and beyond the call of duty and continue to do so, carrying out the sacred oath and affirmation of office as you risk your personal health and safety (as well as your loved ones) to protect the residents of Los Angeles County. The daily acts of courage, sacrifice and selfless dedication to duty that you have exemplified during this global crisis are a direct mandate to your union to fight like never before as we do everything in our power to have your backs during this global and national catastrophic occurrence.

PPOA’s first mandate is to ensure that the health and safety of all our members and their families remains our organization’s highest priority. The County of Los Angeles, as well as its Sheriff’s Department, District Attorney’s Office and Department of Medical Examiner, must take decisive and unprecedented proactive actions to ensure that the County workforce is and remains healthy throughout this pandemic. This mandate has not been executed during the first few weeks of this global crisis, as each day, shift and, for that matter, this pandemic. This mandate has not been executed during the first few weeks of this global crisis, as each day, shift and, for that matter, for that matter, that does not come at the expense of the brave men and women who are battling for containment of COVID-19.

PPOA’s second mandate is to fight for paid leave for our members who have been exposed to COVID-19 prior to April 1, 2020. From that date going forward, the federal government’s new Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) will take effect and provide up to 80 hours of paid leave for employees who meet the qualifying reasons for leave related to COVID-19; https://tinyurl.com/udk47so. If any PPOA members have used their leave balances (prior to April 1, 2020) as a result of COVID-19, PPOA needs to get your information and circumstances. Please call the PPOA office or email info@ppoa.com as soon as possible. PPOA is committed to fighting for retroactive leave pay. Along with our fellow Los Angeles County unions that comprise the County Coalition of Unions (CCU), we will fight together for a fair and equitable resolution that does not come at the expense of the brave men and women who are battling for containment of COVID-19.

PPOA remains committed to keeping you informed during this historic crisis through frequent communications via our website, Week in Review (every Saturday morning), mobile app, social media and email blasts. If you have not provided PPOA with your personal email address, please do so immediately at info@ppoa.com. Please do not hesitate to call PPOA with any questions, concerns or needs that you may have. You will receive a call back, guaranteed. I think it is also important for you to know that PPOA is collectively and positively engaged with the Board of Supervisors, CEO Office, Sheriff Villanueva, District Attorney Lacey and Medical Examiner Dr. Lucas, and their respective leadership teams.

Finally, to our PPOA members and your loved ones, I pray for your health, safety and spirit of optimism as we boldly move forward together. 🤚
Drafting, Position Review and Other Custody Assistant Issues

The first few months of 2020 have been more productive than the previous few. Meetings with the Department about matters of our concern have taken place and have been well received by both sides, leading to follow-ups that will either hopefully resolve or bring about more in-depth dialogue about how our classification has evolved, where the missteps are and what changes can be made.

A January meeting to discuss CCWs and the MPP was positive. Potential language concerns were addressed while also identifying and addressing storage concerns at custody facilities and County buildings. We have agreed to a follow-up that will hopefully finalize the policy aspect, and an agreement in general. This will allow us to go forward with any potential process.

These discussions have been laborious and your patience in this matter has been appreciated.

Overtime and drafting continue to be major issues at some units. That prompted me to ask the Department for an account of our numbers at each unit. Is this a case of being short unit personnel or short items countywide?

Surprisingly, the total custody assistant vacancies are not the issue. It seems to be the distribution of personnel that has impacted units, some more so than others.

Government mandates, programs and political agendas have led to the creation of specialized units catering to post-inmate release programs. But are there numbers to confirm that creating more programs is better than reducing or capping current programs? Is good money being thrown after bad at the expense of overworked personnel?

Instead of taking money and hiring overtime behind vacancies, open the C/A exam and fill the vacancies. With each program the Department accepts, it should ask for an increase in C/A items to accompany them. Our diehard “overtimers” may disagree, yet those continually drafted and being pre-drafted on RDOs would beg to differ. I was told as a young C/A that overtime was a luxury and not to settle into a lifestyle based on it.

Information was provided to Sheriff Villanueva in early January by the Board of Labor Relations and Compliance. The Sheriff requested more details comparing the jobs that C/As and deputies do in custody. Station jailers were also included in this review. The review was reportedly with the Undersheriff and a second presentation is pending.

A disturbing, systemic trend of how some station jail supervisors address their jailers has to stop. We cannot curse at inmates without a complaint or consequence, so it shouldn’t happen to a jailer either.

Reports of station supervisors’ language and tone toward jailers have increased. Statements of “I don’t care about the jail” and more colorful adjectives should not be tolerated. As long as you make your checks, pass inspection and don’t have a body during your shift, that’s all that matters to some. I know that’s a bit severe, but some jailers would agree with that assessment.

I continue to field questions and requests about what should be applied to our position in regard to service time, education, equipment and expanding the role. All of these matters have been forwarded to the Department in some form, and their importance has not been diminished in the pursuit of recognition, respect and solidarity among our members.

In the weeks to come, I will be visiting units during briefings. I look to focus on PM and EM shifts this round, but may also stay to speak with AMs as time and unit duties permit.

I appreciate your patience during this initiative to turn around the perception and deployment of this position from an afterthought to a recognized partnership.

I appreciate your patience during this initiative to turn around the perception and deployment of this position, from an afterthought used to supplement sworn to a recognized partnership within custody, patrol and courts.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly. Rumors lead to misunderstandings, misinterpretations, confusion, frustration and dissection. With everything we do, those are things that we don’t need.

I recently saw this saying, and I feel it applies: “You can’t force someone to respect you. But you can refuse to be disrespected.” 😊
Last June, I had the honor of standing alongside the parents of fallen Security Officer Lars Burkhardt at PPOA’s annual scholarship ceremony. The conference room was packed with PPOA members and college students on hand to receive scholarship awards from PPOA’s Star & Shield Foundation. One of the scholarships was named in honor of Officer Burkhardt, and his parents generously donated to that fund in order to help his legacy impact others. I am pleased to report that Lars’ legacy will continue in the form of a PPOA scholarship each year, thanks to the generosity of his parents. If you know of a security officer or security assistant (or one of their dependents) taking college classes, please encourage them to apply for the PPOA scholarship. Applications are posted at PPOA.com and the deadline for submission is May 15.

Jody Clounch
PPOA Board Member
Security Officer, LASD
jclounch@ppoa.com

Message From the Board

Scholarships, Armed Suspects and Other Issues for LASD Security Personnel

Fallen SSO Lars Burkhardt

ALL IN A DAY’S WORK FOR SSO FIRST RESPONDER

Busy shifts are nothing new for PPOA members, and one Saturday last month was no exception for SSO/PPOA Delegate Jeff McKuen. After being flagged down to help a hiker with a broken leg at Vasquez Rocks in the afternoon, he was the first responder on a rollover T/C in Palmdale that evening. The hiker was transported to the hospital; the driver of the vehicle was arrested for DUI. Nice work, Jeff!

SSOS DETAIN ARMED SUSPECT

On March 3, President Rhodes and I visited the Rancho Dominguez DPSS facility in Compton to speak with PPOA members from Countywide Services Bureau about security and staffing concerns. The very next day, a 28-year-old suspect attempted to enter the building with a .25-caliber semi-automatic handgun. Being that the nearest deputies had to respond from a nearby station and needed time to roll to the location, SSOs detained the suspect and inspected the weapon to determine if it was a replica or actual firearm. Not only was it real, but it had a bullet in the chamber and the magazine was filled to capacity. This marked the third weapon recovered at this facility in the last 12 months and is further evidence that SSOs are capable first responders.

➔ continued on page 9

Firearm recovered by SSOs

SSO Jeff McKuen helped an injured hiker and responded to rollover T/C.
COVID-19, Black Swans and Bourbon

If you asked me a month ago if I had corona, I would have simply replied, “No, I am a bourbon guy.”

So fast the world changes.

We are in a true black swan event for most of us. (A black swan is an extremely rare event with severe consequences. It cannot be predicted beforehand, though many claim it should be predictable after the fact.)

As of the writing of this article, there are over 200,000 worldwide cases. We watch how other countries are dealing and pray we are like some and not others when this virus hits hard. We are told things like “shelter in place,” and we are given statistics on how long a virus can live outside the body. We hear conflicting information, from “Older folks suffer worse” to “Most are younger in the hospitals.” We watch our president and his crew respond the best they can in what has so far been non-partisan and thought out.

What is clear is that many are panicking because no one knows what tomorrow brings.

What I personally feel is:
• This is a badass virus and can kill.
• It can be transferred from person to person via cough, sneeze and touch, and it lives on some surfaces for a while.
• If you get it, you can show few to no signs of the virus but still pass it on to others.
• If you have underlying conditions, you could suffer worse.

That’s about all I really know up to this point. Knowing just those facts to be true, my personal strategy is to avoid contact with others within about six feet, wash my hands a lot, stay inside as much as possible and don’t spring break in Florida. As testing becomes widely available, I am sure the numbers of known cases will grow far faster than they are now. I personally think the shelter-in-place option is good if you are elderly or have any of the other conditions that cause concern.

What about your portfolio? What about LACERA? What about our paychecks? I think LACERA has been through issues similar to this in the past, and while the fund will absolutely take a hit, hopefully a rebound is in the future once the disease levels off, they develop a vaccine or they find other medications to really slow the progress and severity of the virus.

Again, who knows what the reality of life will be in the next few weeks between my typing this and your reading it?

As for our Department, there’ve been no cases in the jails yet, but I imagine they are coming or are already there but unconfirmed. We should hold in our hearts all of the Department members and other public safety personnel who are keeping us safe during these times.

I guess the point of this article is that no matter where you are, we are all going through this together — every one of us, from Los Angeles to Peru to Morocco to Japan. It isn’t like an earthquake, a market downturn or a hurricane. Everyone across the globe will be impacted in one way or another.

Some things I truly hope come from this are:
• More U.S. manufacturing
• The end of handshakes (I like the elbow bump or the Spock “Live long and prosper” thing)
• The end of neckties! (I mean, really, why are those still a thing?)
• An increased sensitivity and regard for others
• A more important realization of true heroes: public servants, doctors and nurses, versus sports players
• More people learning to cook and more people appreciating bourbon!

To all of you retirees out there reading this, I truly hope you stay safe. Follow the guidelines they are recommending. Put the bikini away for a while and watch a season of True Detective! (Only seasons one and three, though; season two was just “meh.”) At this point, there isn’t much we can do except support our families and loved ones, and when it’s all over, maybe bury some grudges, forgive some faults and try to be closer to one another.

If you have some thoughts or want to share what you are doing to avoid boredom during a lockdown, shoot me an email at jschallert@ppoa.com.
Jacket for Courts Personnel

While visiting County facilities, security officers asked me about the possibility of a lightweight jacket. The current jacket available is bulky for colder weather, but is far too much for anything less than cold winter temps. PPOA contacted Galls to inquire about a lighter jacket and we were informed that the Elbeco Softshell Jacket is an option. Even though the description (see image) says “Custody Assistant,” the webpage does have a box to indicate whether you want patches or a name strip.

Welcome, SSO Class #56

PPOA proudly welcomed 15 new security officers to this association on March 12. I was honored to speak with them during their first day at the Academy and wished them well as they began five weeks of training. We look forward to joining them at their graduation!

CCWS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings with the County to discuss CCWs have been postponed. I’ll update you as soon as they resume.
Emailed to PPOA members on March 19, this is part one of a continuing effort to provide PPOA members with relevant, timely information. The safety of our members is our utmost concern. For up-to-date information on COVID-19 and guidance from Los Angeles public health professionals, please go to http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus.

WHAT IS A CORONAVIRUS?
Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Many of them infect animals, but some coronaviruses from animals can evolve (change) into a new human coronavirus that can spread from person to person. This is what happened with the new coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2, which causes the disease known as COVID-19. Diseases from coronaviruses in people typically cause mild to moderate illness, like the common cold, but in some rare circumstances, death or serious medical conditions may arise.

HOW ARE CORONAVIRUSES SPREAD?
Like other respiratory illnesses, such as influenza, human coronaviruses most commonly spread to others from an infected person through:
• Droplets produced through coughing and sneezing
• Close personal contact, such as caring for an infected person
• Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?
Reported illnesses have had a range of symptoms, including fever, cough and difficulty breathing, which sometimes requires hospitalization and under extreme circumstances can lead to death.

WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT DOING TO PROTECT EMPLOYEES FROM EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 AT THE WORKPLACE?
First, the Department is providing safety equipment (personal protective equipment, or PPE). PPOA has requested PPE and believes the Department is distributing it accordingly. All employees who face the prospect of being in contact with individuals who have or may have the COVID-19 virus are to be provided with gloves, a mask and, in some circumstances, eye protection. If you have not yet received your PPE, contact your chain of command for assistance. If you are denied the right to the equipment, immediately contact PPOA.

Second, the Department is utilizing the “quarantining” of employees with known work exposures or employees who are exhibiting symptoms at work consistent with the virus. If the employee does not wish to self-quarantine at home, PPOA is working with the County on alternative locations that may be made available to quarantined employees.

Third, employees who have vulnerable family members at home, or family members with symptoms or a diagnosis of COVID-19, may quarantine at home under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The County is not requiring a medical certification on the FMLA paperwork, with all requests to be granted based upon the assertion of need as stated by the employee.

WHAT DO I DO IF I BELIEVE I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS?
While on duty, if you come into contact with any of the following, fill out the LASD Activity Log (ICS 214):
• An individual who has COVID-19
• An individual who has come into contact with someone who has COVID-19
• Medical equipment recently utilized by an individual with COVID-19

If potentially exposed, it is imperative that all personnel fill out the logs when carrying out any tasks, whether on regular time or overtime, related to COVID-19.

Once you fill out the Activity Log (ICS 214), submit it to your 214 Unit Coordinator at your unit of assignment.

Any personnel working in the field can print, complete, sign and submit the original to their 214 Unit Coordinator, who will then scan and submit the documents.

When filling out the Activity Log (ICS 214), the name of the incident should be left as Covid-19 Response; details under the Notable Activity section should include details about the specific task you performed and specific location worked; and if backfill OT is worked, please include the full name of the employee you are filling behind. Also include standby activation.

Completion of the form with narrative details is required for state and federal government reimbursement and is used by Special Accounts Unit to identify claimable and non-claimable costs.
COVID-19 ICS 214

Activity Log Instructions

**Incident Information**
- **Operational Period:** Date and time of your entire shift worked on COVID-19

**Personnel Information**
- **Name:** Employee last, first name
- **Employee/Badge:** Employee number
- **Unit Assignment:** Division moniker/station or unit moniker
- **Call Sign:** N/A for COVID-19
- **Rank:** Rank of employee
- **Squad:** N/A for COVID-19
- **Phone:** Phone number of employee
- **RDO:** Is today the employee’s regular day off?
- **Regular Shift Hours Total:** Total “Regular Shift” hours spent on COVID-19 for this shift
- **Time In:** “Regular Beginning Shift” hours spent on COVID-19 for this shift; all times have to be coded 00:00
- **Time Out:** “Regular Ending Shift” hours spent on COVID-19 for this shift
- **Overtime Hours Total:** Total “Overtime” hours spent on COVID-19 for this shift
- **Time In:** “Overtime Beginning Shift” hours spent on COVID-19 for this shift
- **Time Out:** “Overtime Ending Shift” hours spent on COVID-19 for this shift
- **Enroute to Incident, Staging (10-97), Staging (10-98), Estimated Arrival at UOA, 18 Hour Time:** N/A for COVID-19, only to be used if acting as a response squad to a COVID-19 incident

**Supervisor Information**
- **Supervisor Unit, Supervisor Name, Supervisor Contact Number:** N/A for COVID-19

**Vehicle Information**
- **Driver/Passenger:** Employee to fill out only if their COVID-19 mission required a vehicle
- **Number:** Vehicle number
- **Arrival Mileage:** Vehicle beginning mileage
- **Ending Mileage:** Vehicle ending mileage
- **Make:** Vehicle make
- **Model:** Vehicle model

**Other Equipment Assigned:** N/A for COVID-19

**Mission Assignments (Check all that apply):**
- Escort
- Evacuations
- Hard Closure
- Incident Management Team
- Logistics Detail
- Security Post

**Prepared By/Date/Time:** To be filled out by the employee completing and signed prior to submission

**Activity Log:** Employee will fill out the “Time” and “Notable Activity” for the general role they worked on the COVID-19 response

**CAN I GET TESTED FOR THE CORONAVIRUS?**

PPOA is advocating for the expedited testing of public safety personnel who are exposed and/or show symptoms. If you develop symptoms consistent with the COVID-19 virus, including a fever, difficulty breathing or inability to keep fluids down, contact your medical provider immediately and testing options should be described to you. Additionally, contact the Department for further direction as it liaisons with the Department of Public Health. Certain members, such as the elderly or those who are immune-compromised or have underlying medical conditions, should be particularly aware of symptoms and seek medical care at the earliest opportunity if the need arises. Most medical care facilities are triaging requests for medical attention by utilizing a telephonic screening process. Check with your medical provider before you go to the clinic to determine their protocol.

Additional information about COVID-19 can be found by visiting the websites below for the Department of Public Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health:** [publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov)
- Frequently asked questions: [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/FAQ.pdf](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/FAQ.pdf)
- Handwashing handout: [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acz/handwash.htm](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acz/handwash.htm)

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** [cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)
PPOA COVID-19 FAQ, Part Two

Emailed to PPOA members on March 21, this is part two of a continuing effort to provide PPOA members with relevant, timely information. Below is the latest information regarding sick leave, administrative leave, vacation time and all other forms of time off in relation to COVID-19. For up-to-date information on COVID-19 and guidance from Los Angeles public health professionals, please go to http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus.

WHAT CAN THE COUNTY AND/OR LASD ORDER ME TO DO DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY?

The County and/or LASD can:
1. Ask employees returning from travel about their exposure
2. Ask an employee why they have been absent from work
3. Require employees to adopt infection-control practices (e.g., regular handwashing)
4. Require employees to wear personal protective equipment (e.g., masks, gloves or gowns), but it should provide related reasonable accommodation (e.g., non-latex gloves, gowns designed for individuals who use wheelchairs)
5. Encourage employees to get a vaccine if one becomes available, but employers may not be able to compel it
6. Take the temperature of employees or ask if they have symptoms associated with COVID-19; e.g., fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or sore throat (even though that is not normally permitted)
7. Require medical input certifying fitness for duty when an employee returns to work (This is not the current requirement but is expected to be put in place soon)

The County and/or LASD cannot:
1. Ask asymptomatic employees (employees with no symptoms) if they have medical conditions that would make them especially vulnerable
2. Compel employees to take a vaccine if they have a medical condition that prevents doing so safely

WHAT ARE MY CHOICES IF THE COUNTY OR LASD MANDATES ME TO BE QUARANTINED DUE TO HAVING SYMPTOMS OR EXHIBITING A FEVER THROUGH THE TEMPERATURE TEST?

The employer is required to allow you the choice of returning to your home or another location. Alternative locations, such as a hotel, may be made available. All members who are mandatorily quarantined by the County and/or LASD should make a request for the option of returning to home or a substitute location. If you are not offered a substitute location to quarantine, contact PPOA immediately.

A MEMBER OF MY FAMILY IS SICK, SO I CAN’T COME TO WORK. CAN I USE SICK LEAVE?

Yes; a family member is defined as husband, wife, domestic partner, child, stepchild, grandchild, brother, stepbrother, sister, stepsister, parent, guardian, stepparent, foster parent, grandparent, any person serving as a parent or who has served as a parent, or any other person living in the same household as the employee. Depending upon how long the illness lasts, you may be approved for Family Medical Leave. Your supervisor/Department will let you know if teleworking is an option. If you are not able to telework, you may be able to utilize your vacation, compensatory time or sick leave.

WHAT KIND OF LEAVE TIME WILL I HAVE TO USE IF I HAVE BEEN QUARANTINED? HOW WILL I GET PAID WHILE I AM OFF WORK DUE TO COVID-19?

Whether you get paid through administrative leave (paid leave) or are forced to use sick leave or disability pay will depend upon the circumstances surrounding the quarantine. If a member can demonstrate positive proof of exposure to COVID-19 while on duty, they will immediately be put on administrative leave.

PPOA is advocating for paid administrative leave for all employees who are ordered by the County and/or Department to be quarantined. This is an involuntary removal from your job by use of a direct order, thereby necessitating paid leave. We expect to get clarification on this position within days.

If you are self-quarantining based upon your personal symptoms, you will be entitled to use your sick leave and leave balances. If you do not have enough sick leave to last the entire quarantine time

→ continued on page 14
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frame (typically 14 days), you can use other leave balances and/or file for state disability via the EDD website.

The EDD provides information on the website, including that California workers who can’t work and who are medically certified either to have COVID-19 themselves or to have been exposed to it can file a disability insurance claim. This option provides short-term benefit payments “to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy,” per the EDD. Benefit amounts typically are about 60–70% of a worker’s wages (depending on income) and range from $50 to $1,300 a week.

Those workers unable to work due to caring for an ill or quarantined family member with COVID-19 — that can be verified by a medical professional — can file a paid family leave claim. This benefit “provides up to six weeks of benefit payments to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages because they need time off work to care for a seriously ill family member or to bond with a new child,” per the EDD. Benefit amounts are about the same as those from a disability claim.

Governor Gavin Newsom’s executive order has waived the typical one-week waiting period for benefits; this means that workers can receive benefits the first week they are out of work. EDD processing typically kicks in within a few weeks of receiving a claim.

CAN I USE VACATION TIME OR INVOKE THE FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT IF I DO NOT WANT TO BECOME EXPOSED TO COVID-19 AT WORK?

While the Department cannot stop you from invoking the Family Medical Leave Act in order to request time off in relation to exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or based on legitimate exposure to an individual with COVID-19, the Family Medical Leave Act cannot be invoked in order to avoid a perceived risk of exposure to COVID-19 pursuant to emergency job duties. In addition, the Department is currently not honoring any vacation time requests for non-COVID-19-related issues, which includes using vacation time to avoid a perceived risk of exposure to COVID-19.

PPOA COVID-19 FAQ, Part Three

Emailed to members on March 28, this is part three of a continuing effort to provide PPOA members with relevant, timely information. Below is the latest information received from the LASD, County and government agencies regarding COVID-19. Please be advised that the guidance and information provided may change at a moment’s notice. Any such change will be forwarded to the membership as soon as possible.

WILL I RECEIVE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) FROM THE DEPARTMENT?

Most workers at high or very high exposure risk will be provided and need to wear PPE (typically, gloves and mask).

Employers are obligated to provide their workers with PPE needed to keep them safe while performing their jobs. The types of PPE required during a COVID-19 outbreak will be based on the risk of being infected with COVID-19 while working at job tasks that may lead to exposure.

Currently, the County is working to distribute PPE to all affected County agencies and their employees in a manner that correlates with their respective risk of exposure to COVID-19. The County has identified four tier priorities for resource requests:
WHAT KIND OF PPE WILL I BE PROVIDED?

The kind of PPE that will be provided to you will be based on what kind of job duties you perform in relation to the COVID-19 crisis and the perceived level of risk of exposure associated with your job duties.

Public safety personnel fall into risk categories depending on the specific job duties being performed in relation to COVID-19. In areas where there is ongoing community transmission, workers in this category may have contact with the general public (e.g., in jail facilities, courthouses, Department stations, high-population-density work environments, and some high-volume County buildings).

The CDC recommends that workers in this risk category need to wear some combination of gloves and mask.

For those performing high-exposure-risk job duties, which include any duties where contact within six feet of an individual legitimately suspected of having or already positively diagnosed with COVID-19 is expected, the Department must provide a fully functioning N95 mask or better. The appropriate form of mask will depend on the type of exposure and on the transmission pattern of COVID-19, which will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

All recommendations and suggestions regarding PPE distribution among County workers are subject to change depending on the County’s availability of resources.

CAN THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRE US TO WEAR PPE?

Yes. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission advises that an employer may require employees to wear personal protective equipment during a pandemic. However, where an employee with a disability needs a related reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (e.g., non-latex gloves, or gowns designed for individuals who use wheelchairs), the employer should provide these, absent undue hardship.

CAN I REFUSE A WORK ORDER IF THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE PPE?

Although the Department is working to provide the appropriate
PPOA COVID-19 FAQ

→ continued from page 15

PPE for every Department member on an as-needed basis, there may be emergency situations when PPE may not be available despite potential exposure to COVID-19. If this scenario arises, contact PPOA immediately.

Before refusing any orders based on a lack of PPE, make sure to contact PPOA and try to work with your supervisor to see if any alternate PPE arrangements or work assignments can be made.

IF I AM DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 OR EXHIBIT SYMPTOMS CONSISTENT WITH COVID-19, WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS AS TO WHERE I CAN LIVE DURING QUARANTINE?

The County and LASD have put in place two options for employees diagnosed with COVID-19 or exhibiting symptoms consistent with the diagnosis. An employee who is ordered to quarantine or isolate will be given the option of returning home or choosing alternative housing. Alternative housing will be made for those quarantined individuals with extenuating circumstances at their residence, such as family members at high risk if exposed.

If you require alternative housing and meet the above criteria, please work with your chain of command to contact the Department’s Operations Center for guidance. Should you have any difficulties, contact PPOA at (323) 261-3010 for assistance.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 OR DISPLAYING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND NEED ASSISTANCE WHILE QUARANTINED AT HOME?

If you are diagnosed with COVID-19 and need, food, water, hygiene items or other personal necessities for you or your family, please feel free to contact PPOA at (323) 261-3010. PPOA is working to ensure that PPOA members are provided all basic necessities when unable to obtain these items due to medical restrictions. These resources will be provided to affected members as quickly and safely as possible. 😊
2020 College Scholarship Program

We are proud to announce that 12 scholarships worth $13,500 total will be available to help further education for PPOA members and their dependents.

Criteria and applications are posted at PPOA.com.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 15.
In addition to breaking news, announcements and opportunities, the PPOA Facebook page features more than 2,500 photos and videos from events, graduations, memorials, dedications and more. We’re proud to document the diligent work of PPOA members and capture meaningful moments for our law enforcement family. www.facebook.com/LAPPOA
**IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION**

California’s Professional Peace Officers

WE TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN
Always Have. Always Will.

The beautiful bronze and granite California Peace Officers’ Memorial located on State Capitol grounds in Sacramento contains the names of more than 1,600 courageous peace officers who have laid down their lives in the line of duty protecting and serving their fellow Californians. Tragically, every year more names are added.

You can help the CPOMF in our mission to underwrite the annual California Peace Officers’ Memorial Ceremony, maintain the memorial monument, subsidize survivor support groups, and support the families of our fallen heroes through our educational grant and financial assistance programs.

California law allows taxpayers to make voluntary tax-free contributions on their personal state income tax returns to the “California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation Fund”. Simply indicate the amount to be donated where instructed on the tax return form. Importantly, the law requires that all contributions be used to maintain the California Peace Officers’ Memorial and for activities in support of the surviving families of our brave men and women peace officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice. We urge the more than 100,000 peace officers serving California to help us Take Care of Our Own.

CPOMF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, Federal Tax ID #95- 4350983
For more information please visit www.camemorial.org

2019 California Line-of-Duty Deaths

Officer Natalie Corona
Davis Police Department
EOW: January 10, 2019

Officer Tara O’Sullivan
Sacramento Police Department
EOW: June 19, 2019

Deputy Brian Ishmael
El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office
EOW: October 23, 2019

Sergeant Steve Licon
CHP — Riverside Area
EOW: April 6, 2019

Officer Andre Moye Jr.
CHP — Riverside Area
EOW: August 12, 2019
Promoting Health and Fitness of PPOA Members

POA was proud to donate and deliver a new elliptical machine to the LASD Crime Lab on March 10. Special thanks to PPOA delegate/FID Specialist Jenny Mak for helping to coordinate this donation. In addition, PPOA donated a new elliptical to PDC South the week prior. More donated equipment is scheduled for delivery in April.

In order to help members stay fit and healthy, PPOA’s Star & Shield Foundation teamed up with New Life Cardio Equipment (NLCE) to secure treadmills, ellipticals and more for unit gyms in need. NLCE will extend a special PPOA price to any member interested in purchasing cardio equipment for personal use, as well. For more information, please contact PPOA at info@ppoa.com.
PPOA Proud to Support New Leadership Library

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey hosted an official ribbon-cutting dedication of the DA Leadership Library on February 11. PPOA President Tab Rhodes and Executive Director Wayne Quint were honored to join ALADS President Ron Hernandez for the ceremony at the Hall of Justice. The new library, made possible through donations from PPOA and ALADS, serves as an invaluable resource center for present and future leaders in the L.A. County DA’s Office.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE AND PROTECT OUR CITIES.

For all of your dental needs, we’re honored to care for you.

Special Pricing for All LA County Sheriffs Employees.
ASSOCIATION NEWS

Barbecue for Department Personnel

POA was proud to grill a fresh lunch for approximately 700 LASD personnel in February during Civil Response training for Court Services Bureau.

END OF WATCH

PPOA extends sincere condolences to the family members and friends of the following members who passed away in February:

Retired Sergeant
Charles Lane
EOW: February 4, 2020

Retired Deputy
Floyd Autry
EOW: February 12, 2020

Retired Lieutenant
Paul Petredis
EOW: February 19, 2020

Retired Deputy
Emma Best
EOW: February 27, 2020

Retired Law Enforcement Tech.
Mary Berke
EOW: February 21, 2020
Meetings With County Leadership

The five elected members of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors serve as the executive and legislative heads of the largest and most complex county government in the nation. In other words, they wield tremendous influence — especially when it comes to the careers and livelihood of PPOA members. On February 20, PPOA President Tab Rhodes met with Supervisor Janice Hahn to address issues of importance to PPOA members. This comes on the heels of separate meetings with Supervisors Barger, Kuehl, Ridley-Thomas and Solis in January. This series of regularly scheduled meetings with the supervisors will continue to help PPOA safeguard the rights and interests of our membership.

Advocacy

*Original list price: $9,900, plus endowment care fee. Price includes double depth concrete vault and interment rights for two. Offer expires 06/30/19.

Additional services and merchandise required. 10% savings not applicable to cash-advance items. Offers may not be combined. Whitter / FD 970 / COA 610.

Call 888-818-8664 for a no-obligation appointment with Mark Ortega, Pre-Planning Advisor (CA INS LIC 0D04129)

Like you, Rose Hills® is dedicated to our community and the families we serve. Rely on us to help you plan ahead for a final tribute that honors your legacy of service and commitment.

For a limited time, save $1,000* on Tierra del Cielo property or save 10%* on funeral and cemetery prearrangements. Financing options are available to fit your budget.

*Original list price: $9,900, plus endowment care fee. Price includes double depth concrete vault and interment rights for two. Offer expires 07/31/19.

Additional services and merchandise required. 10% savings not applicable to cash-advance items. Offers may not be combined. Whitter / FD 970 / COA 610.

CALL RUSS TODAY AT (208) 818-8711

RussWoodwardHomes@gmail.com
PPOA Delegates Gather for First Meeting of Year

POA delegates from units throughout the county gathered with union Board and staff members in late February for the first delegates meeting of the year. Topics of discussion included endorsements, training, committees and much more. We are grateful to all of the delegates who joined us for an informative evening.

**EYEWEAR DISCOUNTS FOR PPOA MEMBERS**

In a February “PPOA Week in Review” email, we shared an exclusive discount offered by Electric Eyewear for PPOA members. In March, we announced a similar discount offered to PPOA members from Spy Optic Eyewear. Both of the eyewear and accessories companies generously agreed to offer an exclusive 40% discount to PPOA members as a measure of gratitude for your service to Los Angeles County. We want to thank them both for standing with us, and we encourage PPOA members to support those who support law enforcement.

**TO REDEEM THE ELECTRIC EYEWear 40% DISCOUNT:**

1. Visit [www.electriccalifornia.com](http://www.electriccalifornia.com)
2. Select product(s) of choice
3. Enter code at checkout: LACOPPOA2040

**TO REDEEM THE SPY OPTIC EYEWear 40% DISCOUNT:**

1. Visit [www.spyoptic.com](http://www.spyoptic.com)
2. Select product(s) of choice
3. Enter code at checkout: LAPPOA1940
PPOA Hosts Fraternal Order of Police Meeting

PPOA hosted the first quarterly meeting of 2020 for the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Los Angeles County Lodge #1. All active PPOA members are members of FOP Lodge #1, which provides workplace legal protections through the FOP Legal Defense Plan. The L.A. County Lodge is one of 30 lodges in the California State FOP, and PPOA is thankful for the diligent work of State Lodge President (and former PPOA President) Roger Mayberry.

SUPPORT YOUR FOUNDATION

Did you know that when you shop on Amazon, a portion of what you spend could benefit the Star & Shield Foundation? Visit smile.amazon.com and select the Star & Shield Foundation as your charity. Each time you place an order, 0.5% of the purchase proceeds will help support families of fallen officers as well as those truly in need.

Go to www.ppoa.com and click on the Amazon Smile link to help the Star & Shield Foundation make an even bigger difference.
Watch Out for Census Scams

The 2020 census officially began in January, and this year will be the first time U.S. households will be able to respond online, by phone or by completing and mailing paper forms. By April 1, you should have received an invitation to participate in the census.

From the end of April to July, legitimate census workers will go door to door to capture information from college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers or other group housing, and households that fail to respond to the invitation. Crooks have been expecting this event and will attempt to exploit this by getting you to let down your guard and divulge personal information to them — information that could lead to identity theft.

Take the census seriously and respond to it, but if a census taker comes to your home, be aware of these signs that indicate this visitor is a fraudster:

- **They ask for your Social Security number.** This is not a legitimate census question.
- **They ask for your credit union or bank account number.** The Census Bureau will never ask you for your account number, PIN, passwords or similar access information for credit cards or financial accounts.
- **They ask for donations to a local charity.** Official census takers do not collect money for charities or political parties. They also will not contact you on behalf of a political party.
- **They don’t carry official badges.** Legitimate census takers always carry official badges with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark and an expiration date. If their ID looks suspicious, call (800) 923-8282 to contact a local Census Bureau representative and verify the census taker’s identity.

If you think you’ve been a victim of a census scam, contact your regional Census Bureau office immediately. The Census Bureau will tell you if the visitor works for them. If they are not legitimate census takers, contact your local police department.

ATTENTION

PPOA

MEMBERS

We need your personal (non-LASD) email address!
If you have not received an email blast from PPOA in the last 30 days (we’ve sent a handful), that means:

1. Your email address is not on file with PPOA, or
2. We have only your County email address (PPOA sends membership-wide email blasts to personal addresses only).

Either way, we need your personal (non-LASD) email address so that we can disseminate important news to you as quickly as possible. Please email your address to info@ppoa.com and reference “email updates” in the subject line.

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*STAR & SHIELD CONTEST WINNERS*

Congratulations to the PPOA members below for winning the “Find the Hidden Word” contest in *Star & Shield*. If your name is listed, that means your entry was drawn as one of the winners for that month’s issue. Please call Greg Torres at (323) 261-3010 to claim your $100 check.

**$100 PRIZE WINNERS**

(February/March issue — the hidden word appeared on page 4)

Bridget Adams, Security Assistant
Cassandra Carlos, Sr. Criminalist
Aaron Clark, Custody Assistant
2007 ROADTREK RV FOR SALE

MOBILITY SCOOTERS FOR SALE
Two scooters in excellent condition $500–$600 each. Contact Pat: (951) 430-1502. (0419)

MONTEBELLO HOME FOR RENT
3BR/1.5BA. 2-car carport. Newly remodeled. Split-type A/C units for all rooms. Stove included. $2,300 mo. + deposit. LASD family preferred. Contact Matt, (626) 625-7301. (0819)

POOL TABLE FOR SALE
Golden West brand, American-made. 7-foot bar size. Asking $1,500. Dark oak, burgundy felt. Best table on the market. Near-new table and accessories cost me about $4,000. Text is best: (714) 337-3121. (0119)

COLT DIAMONDBACK
.38 cal, 4” barrel, 6-shot revolver. Produced in 1969. Excellent condition. Original grips. One pancake holster with design imprinted. Contact Rick at (562) 201-1661, rettrtc@aol.com to request pix. A fair price at $1K. Colt Blue Book quotes value at $800-$1,500, depending on condition. (0119)

2012 ALLEGRO RED MOTORHOME FOR SALE
34-foot diesel. Washer/dryer, low mileage. Contact Ervin: (760) 630-8155. (0420)

RENTAL NEEDED FOR ELDERLY, DISABLED FEMALE
Retired deputy seeks small rental unit for elderly, disabled mother. Ground-level studio or 1 bedroom needed. Range $900–$1,100. Chino area preferred. Contact Matthew: (909) 418-7121. (0819)

RUGER RIFLE FOR SALE
Ruger Mini-14. 223 cal. Bicentennial model with extra mags. $600 OBO. Call (714) 350-7914. (0919)

HARLEY-DAVIDSON FOR SALE
2003 H-D Dyna Low Rider, white pearl. Approx. 4,800 miles. Screamin’ Eagle pipes, no frame mods, custom cruiser, 1450 (88 cubic inches), V2, 4-stroke. $8,500 OBO + accessories. Call (818) 822-4497. (0919)

2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED FOR SALE
Black exterior/black leather interior, loaded. Excellent condition. Only 16k miles. Selling for $28,000. Contact Martha, (626) 340-9360. (0220)

1949 9EL LINCOLN (AKA BABY LINCOLN)

SO. ONTARIO HOME FOR RENT
3-bed/2-bath, 2-car garage, partially furnished corner lot w/pool, alarm system, A/C & Spectrum hookup (family room & master). No pets. $2,350, plus $1,200 sec. dep. Contact Elvia: (909) 947-4578. (0420)

PPOA classified ads are free and available only to PPOA members (one per month, 25 words max). Private party only, no business ads allowed. Send your ad to: Star & Shield Editor, 188 E. Arrow Highway, San Dimas, CA 91773 or email to gtorres@ppoa.com.

New submissions are added on a first-come, first-served basis each issue. Please send within first week of each month to ensure timely inclusion. Sellers are encouraged to list price of each item listed. No work numbers or County email addresses may be used in ads. Submissions must be in writing, not over the phone. Ads run for 3 months. PPOA is not responsible for any claims made in a classified ad.
LEWIS, MARENSTEIN, WICKE, SHERWIN & LEE, LLP
OVER 45 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SAFETY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES

Our firm of 18 attorneys and over 50 support staff are dedicated to professional, personal service.

WORKERS COMPENSATION
State Bar Certified Specialist

We have successfully represented over 35,000 safety members. Our representation continues long after your case is concluded since your right to lifetime medical care may always be challenged.

DISABILITY RETIREMENT FOR SAFETY MEMBERS

We have a pension department that specializes in this area and have successfully obtained disability pensions for thousands of safety personnel under PERS, County 1937 Retirement Act and other county and city systems.

PERSONAL INJURY

Our personal injury department has successfully litigated or tried over 5000 claims for automobile injuries, products liability, medical malpractice and other negligence areas.

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Making a false or fraudulent workers’ compensation claim is a felony subject to up to five years in prison or a fine up to $50,000.00 or double the value of the fraud, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and fine.