



Los Angeles County Professional
Peace Officers Association

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STAR & SHIELD

REMEMBERING HEROES

**Fallen Officers Honored at
Local, State and National Memorials**



SEE PAGE 12



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Wages Versus Respect: Fighting for a Fair Contract

As president of PPOA, I have had the honor of leading our Unit 612 Negotiations Team through more than eight months of grueling contract talks with County and Department executives. Several of our other bargaining units have recently begun their initial efforts to start their negotiations processes. From the outset, our goal has been simple: to secure a fair and equitable successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that respects the value of our public safety professionals. Unfortunately, what we have encountered instead is a staggering lack of respect for our work, our safety and our future.

The County's initial offer of a 0% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for all County employees was nothing short of a slap in the face. Thanks to the powerful turnout by PPOA members and allies at the April 15 Board of Supervisors meeting, we have pushed the needle — albeit slightly — toward incremental COLAs in the second and third years. This movement, however minimal, underscores the importance of standing united. Still, the latest proposals fail to meaningfully acknowledge the daily risks our members face, or the impacts of understaffing, emotional burnout and low morale.

We understand the County is facing financial challenges, particularly from the recent wildfires and the enormous \$4 billion settlement stemming from AB 218. But let us be clear: the County has not once claimed a legitimate financial inability to pay us what we are due. Instead, it has chosen to ignore the crisis unfolding within our ranks — where staffing is critically low, morale is plummeting and mental health struggles are rising. These are not abstract policy issues; these are real-world threats to the safety and stability of Los Angeles County.

Our response? Fight back — with strategy and unity. We are deploying a multi-pronged approach to ensure PPOA members are treated with dignity and the compensation they deserve. Here is how:

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY: PUSHING FOR SB 577

PPOA has been actively supporting Senate Bill 577, proposed by Senator John Laird, which seeks to bring balance to the legal landscape created by AB 218. This bill does not abandon victims — it simply raises the legal standard for pursuing decades-old claims, protecting counties from catastrophic financial liabilities while still honoring the rights of survivors. If passed, SB 577 would provide relief to Los Angeles County and potentially free up hundreds of millions



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of dollars annually — funds that could and should be reinvested into public safety wages and staffing.

I have met directly with policy advisors from Senators Seyarto, Caballero and Gonzalez — all members of the State Senate's Public Safety Committee — to emphasize our support for this bill. Our message was simple: we cannot secure the future of public safety if we bankrupt the departments responsible for it.

DIRECT ENGAGEMENT WITH COUNTY LEADERS

Face-to-face advocacy matters. I have recently and personally met with Supervisors Kathryn Barger, Janice Hahn, Hilda Solis and Lindsey Horvath to make it clear: PPOA members have sacrificed too much to be

ignored. These conversations have been respectful but candid. We have reminded them that public safety does not take a day off — and neither should their commitment to fairly compensating the professionals who uphold it.

When policymakers see our members not as line items but as people — parents, veterans and first responders — the conversation begins to change.

BACKING SHERIFF LUNA'S PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

We are also proud to stand in support of Sheriff Robert Luna's proposals to address chronic understaffing and low morale. His plan includes a deferred retirement plan — already proven effective at LAPD — and a comprehensive approach to fund workforce shortages. With the Department operating at roughly 75% of the staffing levels needed, Luna's proposals are not only practical, but essential. These solutions directly support the same goals PPOA is fighting for: retention, morale and respect — all of which hinge on fair compensation.

THE BOTTOM LINE: WAGES AND RESPECT

Let us be clear: this is not just about money. This is about recognition. It is about dignity. It is about a county that says it values public safety, yet consistently fails to show it through action. Wages are the metric, but respect is the message.

PPOA will not stand down. As our next rounds of bargaining unfold, we will continue to push, press and advocate on every front — legislative, political and organizational. Using every tool at our disposal, we will fight for a contract that reflects the courage, sacrifice and unwavering commitment of our members.

We do not want special treatment — we want fair treatment. And we will not rest until we get it. 🇺🇸

Proposed Termination of CSB Contracts, Part 2

PPOA genuinely hopes that our active and retired membership, and their loved ones, had a patriotic and festive July 4 celebration. No matter your political persuasion, the United States is and will always be the world's great beacon of liberty and independence. Here's to America's 249th anniversary of Independence Day!

Now on to some concerning LASD decisions that became effective June 1 and July 1 regarding PPOA members assigned to County Services Bureau (CSB). On June 1, one Sergeant and two Sheriff's Security Officers (SSOs) assigned to Libraries were involuntarily displaced due to a proposed contract termination of May 1.

On July 1, three Sergeants, two Sheriff's Security Assistants (SSAs) and 32 SSOs assigned to Probation Department, Department of Public Health, Registrar-Recorder, Behavioral Health, Zev Y. Family Support Center and the Sherman Block Building were involuntarily displaced due to proposed contract termination dates of June 1.

To be certain, when PPOA became aware of the Probation Department's proposed contract termination (two Sergeants and nine SSOs) on December 3, 2024, "meet and confer" was demanded to discuss all impacts to our 11 members who would be involuntarily displaced from their present job assignments. PPOA demanded that the Department offer a countywide job fair for our members to select available vacant positions, and a job fair date of May 29 was agreed upon. Also, the movement date for our 11 impacted members was mutually set for July 1. If only this were the end of our ongoing saga with CSB and the Department.

On Saturday, March 15, PPOA President Steve Johnson contacted the Department regarding several sources advising PPOA that, in addition to the termination of the Probation Department contract, it was the Department's intention to terminate multiple contracts with various County of Los Angeles entities.

On March 18, PPOA was advised of the Department's intention to restructure CSB, which would impact several contracts. President Johnson demanded to meet and confer on March 18.

On March 26, the Department provided PPOA with the information on members who would be impacted by the proposed "restructuring of CSB," and also advised that it was working with PPOA to schedule a meet-and-confer date (eventually set for May 8).

Besides the above impacted personnel (four Sergeants, two SSAs and 34 SSOs), the Department provided additional restructuring information pertaining to the termination and partial termination of three additional contracts: the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Department of Mental Health



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(DMH) and Department of Health Services (DHS) (see chart below).

The total number of impacted CSB personnel assigned to the final three proposed contract terminations is four Lieutenants, 24 Sergeants, a staggering 119 SSOs and 11 Law Enforcement Technicians (LETs).

On May 1, President Johnson and I met with Sheriff Luna at the HOJ to discuss the proposed termination of 11 contracts, which, if fully executed, impact four Lieutenants, 28 Sergeants, 78 Deputy Sheriff generalists, 154 SSOs and 11 LETs. PPOA expressed our vehement opposition to the proposed termination of contracts, especially since the proposals to do so were *initiated by the Department* and not their clients, who were funding these service

ADDITIONAL CSB CONTRACT TERMINATIONS

Contract	Proposed Contract Termination Date	Impacted PPOA Personnel
DPSS	12/01/2025	1 Lt., 2 Sgts., 35 SSOs
DMH	03/01/2026	1 Lt., 2 Sgts., 34 SSOs
DHS (Partial)	06/01/2026	2 Lts., 20 Sgts., 50 SSOs, 11 LETs

contracts with absolutely no cost to the Department. Although the Department has stated that there will be no layoffs, PPOA is nonetheless looking at 197 union jobs being eliminated as a result of the Department's actions. To PPOA's knowledge, none of the contractual County entities had any complaints regarding the quality of professional public safety services provided by our CSB personnel, especially our SSOs, who are the classification most negatively impacted by the Department's proposed actions.

Sheriff Luna expressed his understanding of PPOA's opposition to the termination of contracts, but was making his decision based on his belief that it would improve employee wellness by using the displaced sworn CSB personnel to fill sworn vacant positions at the Department that are presently being filled by mandatory overtime. Before the meeting concluded, PPOA asked the Sheriff to rescind the proposed termination of contracts. PPOA remains committed to opposing the termination of the DPSS, DMH and DHS contracts.

In closing, if you are one of the 158 PPOA members who are impacted by the Department's proposed actions that are to occur in December 2025, March 2026 and June 2026, rest assured that on July 2, PPOA demanded to meet and confer with the Department. If you have not received any information regarding PPOA's continuing opposition to these three proposed contract terminations, please email info@ppoa.com. 🛡️

Just the Beginning

My fellow Custody Assistants, a lot has transpired in the short amount of time I have been in this elected position — some challenges, small victories and inevitable changes. However, with each one there remains one constant: Custody Assistants showing their tenacity and resiliency in the face of the daily hardships and inequities we face as a classification.

In March, I had my first meeting with Department executives, where I addressed a few of many ongoing custody issues. The first was that there was only one Custody Assistant in the entire county to hold a Custody Training Officer position. PPOA had worked diligently for C/As in the position of CTO to receive the 5.5% pay increase during the time they are training new C/As, and it was very disheartening to find only one C/A was benefiting from their efforts. Moving forward, there was a shared commitment for each custody facility to have at least one C/A as a CTO to assist in the training of new C/As, with the expectation to add more C/As to the CTO position. Our ultimate goal is for all C/As to be trained by C/As.

I addressed the issue of C/As being assigned to deputy positions on the in-service at TTCF. To mitigate this issue, a unit order (CDM 2-01/100.00: TTCF OU 3-05-340) was implemented, in which C/As are responsible for notifying scheduling if they are pre-hired for any deputy position or any direct supervisor if the assignment occurs the day of the shift, so you can be moved to an appropriate work assignment. This unit order potentially relinquishes the responsibility from the Department and places it back onto C/As, who shall make the notifications to be moved. I encourage you to utilize this unit order at every given opportunity. I will gladly email it to anyone interested.

I also discussed the issue of contractually obligatory breaks not being accommodated at MCJ, in part due to wellness breaks. There was a lack of documentation to serve as supportive evidence of these claims. I was advised that an efficient and acceptable documentation of such an incident would be via email notification to the floor sergeant to include who, when and where. So, moving forward, if you are not being accommodated for your 30-minute break, you need to notify your direct supervisor, in writing, to leave a paper trail of how often and where this pattern of behavior is occurring. Per policy, wellness breaks are not an entitlement; they are to only be utilized with unit commander approval, when facility operations permit and with permission from your



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direct supervisor. Therefore, wellness breaks should not be interfering with lunch breaks. If we continue to allow the behavior, we are condoning it.

While the rumors and false information run rampant about the body-worn cameras, here is what we do know: In early 2024, the BWC was first proposed for custody, and PPOA fought for C/As not to wear them at all. However, as of my first meet-and-confer with PPOA leadership for the BWC in April 2025, the conversation was focused on the verbiage of the BWC policy to ensure protections were in place for PPOA members. This led to the Department's conclusion that there is no question body-worn cameras are coming to custody and C/As will wear them, too. However, once LASD refused to continue negotiating the policy, PPOA filed an Unfair Labor Practice

claim with the Employee Relations Commission (ERCOM). PPOA sent notification to our members via personal email, explaining the events and what led to them (see tinyurl.com/ulpcharge and tinyurl.com/ulpbasis). While PPOA is awaiting mediation with ERCOM, LASD recently sent notification via Custody Support Services that all pending BWC training dates are canceled until further notice. Due to the diligent and savvy work of PPOA, all BWC custody operations have been brought to a complete stop. This is a testament to PPOA's hard work and dedication to its members, and we will continue to fight for fair and legal practices.

Although we continue to prove our resilience, do not mistake adaptability for complacency or simply being another "cog in the machine." During these past few months, I have spoken with incoming Academy classes, and I have religiously preached the importance of knowing your rights as a unionized employee. PPOA is essentially your insurance policy for career survival. You can call the PPOA office 24/7, as it is a 24-hour line, if you ever find yourself in need of representation. This includes if you are pressured to speak to Internal Affairs, Internal Criminal Investigative Unit, Homicide detectives or upper management. You have the right to decline until you consult with a labor representative or attorney, regardless of your role in an incident. Also, if you feel you are being harassed, hazed or discriminated against, are aware of any violations of our current MOU or are involved in an off-duty incident, please reach out to PPOA for guidance and assistance with those matters. Like me, PPOA can only address what is brought to their attention. So, if you are unsure of what to do, call PPOA. 🍎

Potential Pension Progress and a Positive Step Forward for PPOA Elections

Quite the summer so far, and once again as I watch the news, I say, “It’s good to be retired.” I feel terrible for the men and women working so hard today on the Department, and it seems County leadership has failed them at almost every level.

We have all lived through the years of wage battles, too much overtime and what seem like insane new policies that make the job nearly impossible, not to mention legislation that largely favors the criminal. However, looking at what we have today, I think it’s never been worse on all fronts for the men and women on the job. My hat goes off to them for what they are dealing with. They are the new heroes, just by virtue of coming to work each day and not switching careers to computer science!



Jim Schallert
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your representative Board member (currently me) will be held electronically when the time comes. There may be other instances in which PPOA solicits opinions from retirees, and these will make use of online balloting as well. This is an important technological upgrade, and the good news is that more than 100 PPOA retired members have already registered online, so good job!

I want to thank those of you who sent comments about the passing of Art Reddy. He was an amazing guy and a *huge* loss to PPOA and to all of his friends. Please keep Art and Judy in your thoughts and prayers as you think about those we have lost over the years.

Until next month, keep safe and healthy, schedule your skin cancer screenings and colonoscopies and dentist appointments, wear approved sunblock, exercise, eat right, tell family

and friends how much they mean to you and *enjoy retirement*. 🍷

MY HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IS THAT OUR PERSONNEL GET THE SUPPORT THEY NEED FROM THE DEPARTMENT, THE COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC.

My hope for the future is that our personnel again get the support they need from the Department, the County and the public to make their job less stressful. We have seen far too many suicides in our profession. The Department needs to ensure its outreach is the best in the world to prevent our members from taking their own lives. Every time I see a deputy working the field, I don’t ID myself; I just thank them for their service. They need to hear it now more than ever.

PPOA is watching a few legislative bills travel their course that would positively impact taxation of our pensions in California. Any measure with a cash cost component will likely be an uphill struggle, as the budget is many, many billions in the red. Any attempt to recalculate pensions for the PEPRAs folks would also be subject to increased scrutiny based on the cost. It is always good to see this stuff pop up. I never, *ever* thought that the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) issue would be a “win” for us, and sure enough, it was. So, never say never.

As many of you have read, PPOA is moving to “electronic voting” soon. For retirees, this simply means the election for

MEMBERS CAN WIN!



IT PAYS TO READ

STAR & SHIELD

THREE \$100 PRIZES

Every issue of *Star & Shield* will feature a different hidden word. The word will be used only once in the entire magazine — your challenge is to find it!

Members who find the hidden word and register through our website (PPOA.com) by the end of this month will be entered into a drawing for one of three \$100 prizes. Contest ends July 31, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. PT.

This month’s hidden word is:

Vehement

*Showing forceful energy
or strong feeling*

Online registration only. Please do not call the PPOA office to register for contest.

PPOA Delegates Gather for Quarterly Meeting

PPOA delegates gathered in Montebello last month to meet with union directors and staff. Guest speakers at this meeting included Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan Hochman, LASD Commander/LACERA Board of Retirement Trustee Shawn Kehoe and Blue Cancer Connect founder Vickie Speed. Additional topics of discussion included salary contracts, membership registration for online voting, labor representation and more.

If you are an active PPOA member and would like to get more involved with matters impacting your career, we encourage you to join more than 120 union delegates throughout the county. Interested members should email their full name and employee number to info@ppoa.com. 🇺🇸



Awards Ceremony Set to Shine

Spotlight on Worthy PPOA Members



PPOA will host an awards ceremony later this year to formally recognize members of this Association for exemplary performance, honorable military service or acts of valor. The nomination form and further details are available at PPOA.com. Thank you for helping us identify and acknowledge worthy PPOA members!

Sergeant Ramos Sworn in as PPOA Board Member

During the Board meeting in June, PPOA directors were proud to welcome Sergeant Noe Ramos, who was sworn in as the newest Unit 612 representative. Board Member Ramos was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Kevin Ahsmuhs, who resigned in April due to his retirement. 🇺🇸



PPOA Members on Audit Committee Help Ensure Efficiency

Per the PPOA bylaws, an outside accounting firm conducts an extensive audit at PPOA annually to help the staff and Board determine the most efficient course for day-to-day operations of your union. PPOA members are asked to serve on the audit committee, which confers with the auditor to review the findings and confirm the information is accurate. It is an integral part of being transparent as an association and ensures that members play an active role in that process.

We are grateful to the following PPOA members who volunteered to serve on the audit committee in June:

- Sergeant Amber Campana
- Senior Criminalist April Whitehead
- Civilian Investigator Ben Garcia
- Medical Examiner Investigator Justine Epperson 🇺🇸



Proud to Welcome New PPOA Members

PPOA representatives were honored to welcome new members to our union last month during Sergeant Supervisory School at STARS Center and Custody Assistant Class #116 orientation at Biscailuz Center. 🇺🇸



Board Member Melissa Rodriguez offers insight to new Custody Assistants.



PPOA President Steve Johnson speaks with Sergeants.

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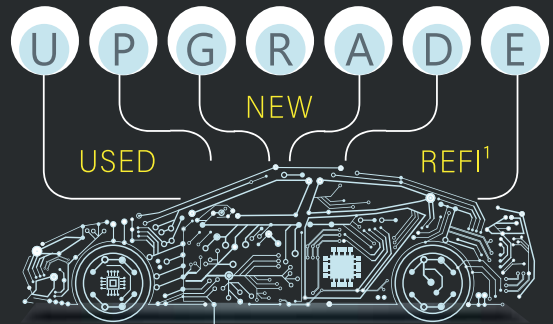
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Support for First Responders

PPOA was proud to set up our barbecue trailer at the LASD emergency mobilization staging area in June to grill fresh meals for our members and Department personnel. ❤️





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56th Annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

Families of fallen officers were joined by law enforcement personnel for the 56th annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony. This ceremony commemorated the lives of five fallen officers from L.A. County, including LASD Deputy Alfredo Flores.

The full photo album from the ceremony can be viewed at facebook.com/lappoa. Photos by Greg Torres/PPOA. 





47th Annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

The family members of five peace officers who died in the line of duty, including LASD Deputy Alfredo Flores (EOW April 20, 2024), were joined by thousands of law enforcement personnel and supporters for the 47th annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony at the State Capitol. This emotional event included a memorial procession, a Walk of Honor for department representatives and immediate family members of officers being enrolled, and the Enrollment Ceremony, in which the names of the five fallen officers were formally added to the Memorial Monument. PPOA President Steve Johnson, as a California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation board member, was humbled to serve as a facilitator for the family of fallen El Monte Police Officer Terry Long. 🇺🇸



Thousands Unite for National Police Week

Washington, D.C., hosted thousands of law enforcement personnel, families of fallen officers, and supporters during National Police Week (May 11–17) to honor the service and sacrifice of peace officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. This year, LASD Deputy Alfredo Flores (EOW April 20, 2024) was included among the 345 names added to the Memorial wall, which now pays tribute to more than 24,000 fallen officers. The impactful and emotional events that week included the following:

POLICE UNITY TOUR

Participants in the three-day Police Unity Tour began their ride in New Jersey and pedaled through cities in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland with



a primary mission to acknowledge officers who died in the line of duty. After persevering through 300 miles, the cyclists were greeted by thousands of colleagues, friends and supporters in the nation's capital. The arrival of the cyclists marked the unofficial start of National Police Week and corresponding events throughout Washington, D.C.

This year, the tour raised \$2.2 million in donations for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. Over the 29-year history of the ride, the Police Unity Tour has donated \$40 million to the fund in honor of the fallen.

PPOA and ALADS proudly sponsored more than 60 members participating in the 2025 Police Unity Tour. Support team representatives from both unions were embedded with the riders to ensure the event moved forward as safely and smoothly as possible for all involved.





TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND LASD/LAPD LUNCHEON

LASD and LAPD personnel were joined by families of fallen officers for a poignant visit to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Following that event, a luncheon for both agencies was proudly hosted by PPOA, ALADS and the Los Angeles Police Protective League.

37TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Each year, the names of officers who lost their lives in the line of duty are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. These names were read aloud during the candlelight vigil to memorialize those who made the ultimate sacrifice.


→ continued on page 16





44TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

Family members of fallen officers from agencies throughout the nation gathered for a ceremony on the West Lawn of the Capitol. This event is sponsored annually by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), and this year's guest speakers included Vice President J.D. Vance and FOP President Patrick Yoes.

Full photo albums from each of the National Police Week events can be viewed at [facebook.com/lappoa](https://www.facebook.com/lappoa). Photos by Greg Torres/PPOA. 





14th Annual PPOA Scholarship Awards

PPOA was honored to present scholarship awards in June to a room full of deserving college students and their proud families. Our 2025 scholarship recipients included a Custody Assistant and 12 students who are sons and daughters of PPOA members. We wish the best to each student, and we're grateful to their families who joined us for the ceremony. Special thanks to L.A. County District Attorney Bureau of Investigation Captain Chandrea Parker for her participation and support. We are also very thankful to the following law firms for their commitment as corporate sponsors of PPOA's Star & Shield Foundation and two of the scholarships awarded last month:

- Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin & Lee
- Straussner, Sherman, Lonné, Treger, Helquist, Krupnik





Congratulations to Custody Assistant Class #115

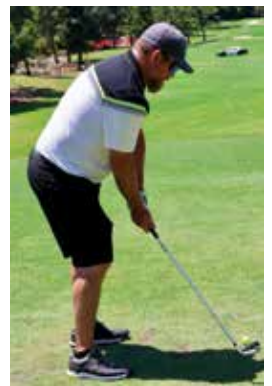
PPOA representatives were honored to join the family members and friends of Custody Assistant Class #115 at the Academy graduation ceremony in May. *Photos by Greg Torres/PPOA.*



Fallen Heroes Honored at 17th Annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament

Nearly 200 law enforcement personnel, supporters, volunteers and sponsors gathered in Whittier last month for PPOA's 17th annual Peace Officer Memorial Golf Tournament. Each year, this event serves as the primary vehicle to raise funds for the Star & Shield Foundation and its mission to support the families

of fallen officers. We are grateful to our main tournament sponsor, the Law Offices of James J. Cunningham, and the extensive, impressive list of generous sponsors who step forward every year to help honor our fallen heroes. The full photo album can be viewed at facebook.com/lappoa. 🇺🇸



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

These events and more can be found on PPOA's online calendar at PPOA.com. Do you know of a Department-related event we can help promote? Email details to info@PPOA.com.

July 18

24th Annual PPOA Fishing Trip

5:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pierpoint Landing, Long Beach

UPDATE: This event is now sold out

August 13

PPOA Board of Directors Meeting

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

San Dimas

Members are invited to attend with

RSVP: (323) 261-3010

August 27

PPOA 24th Annual Pre-Labor Day BBQ and General Membership Meeting

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Biscailuz Center



PPOA 24TH ANNUAL PRE-LABOR DAY BBQ AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Biscailuz Center

September 1

Labor Day

The PPOA office will be closed in honor of the County holiday.

September 10

PPOA Board of Directors Meeting

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

San Dimas

Members are invited to attend with

RSVP: (323) 261-3010

24th Annual PPOA PRE-LABOR DAY BBQ

& GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



BISCAILUZ CENTER

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27



RETIREE EVENTS



HR 218 Qualification

July 20

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

PDC (Wayside) range

Info: Deputy Phil Abner,

pabner54@gmail.com

Norwalk-Pico and Friends Summer Luncheon

August 20

11:30 a.m.

Maggie's Pub, Santa Fe Springs

Info: Sally, (562) 947-4840 or

shar104123@aol.com

Law Enforcement Serra Retreat

September 26–28

Serra Retreat House, Malibu

Open to sworn and professional staff,
active and retired

Info: (818) 381-7698



September 26–28,
Serra Retreat House, Malibu

Desert Heat Retirees Luncheon

First Wednesday of

each month at 11 a.m.

Elks Lodge, Lake Havasu

Info: Lnx1993@yahoo.com

Rogue Valley Retiree Lunch

Last Wednesday of each

month at 11 a.m.

Grants Pass Golf Club

Grants Pass, OR

Info: michaelbuschke@charter.net

Temple Station Monthly Alumni Luncheon

Last Thursday of each

month (except Nov./

Dec.) at 11:30 a.m.

Peppertree Café, Glendora

Info: ricksummers@verizon.net

Your Vote — Your Voice

Moving forward, voting for PPOA elections and contracts will be conducted online.

PPOA members must be registered for electronic elections in order to cast a vote.

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QUESTIONS?

Please contact PPOA
at (323) 261-3010
or info@ppoa.com.



By Bob Giroux

Lang, Hansen, Giroux & Kidane, PPOA Legislative Representatives

Legislative Update: Budget Revision and Suspense File Process

STATE BUDGET

In his May 14 press conference unveiling the FY 2025–26 May revision, Governor Gavin Newsom opened with a reminder of California’s global economic stature — the state is now ranked as the world’s fourth-largest economy. However, the tone quickly shifted as the governor laid blame on former President Trump’s economic policies for creating national instability and hampering California’s fiscal planning. As state leaders race to finalize a budget by the June 15 constitutional deadline, the political and economic backdrop remains tense.

While revenues have increased by \$7.9 billion compared to the governor’s January Budget proposal, this growth is tied to economic activity from 2024. Looking ahead, the Department of Finance (DOF) forecasts a starkly different picture for FY 2025–26, projecting a \$16 billion drop in revenues. The decline is primarily attributed to:

- A \$10 billion reduction in capital gains
- \$2.5 billion less in corporate tax revenues
- \$2 billion decline in income tax withholdings from wages
- \$1.5 billion drop in personal income tax collections

To close the \$12 billion budget gap, the governor’s \$321.9 billion May revision proposes a multipronged approach:

- \$5 billion in spending reductions
- \$5.3 billion in internal borrowing
- \$1.7 billion in fund shifts, notably from cap-and-trade auction revenues

Additionally, the plan includes the use of \$7.1 billion in state reserve funds, already agreed upon with the Legislature during last year’s budget negotiations. Notably, much of the fiscal tightening comes from the health and human services sector, including a controversial freeze on Medi-Cal enrollment for undocumented adults.

On June 9, Senate and Assembly leaders announced a joint agreement on a legislative budget framework in response to the governor’s May revision. Budget hearings are ongoing at the time of this writing, with final legislative action expected by June 15. While there is broad alignment between the governor and the Legislature on several issues, significant differences remain, particularly in the prioritization of program funding and use of reserves.

As negotiations between the governor and Legislature continue, and with additional revisions expected, the coming weeks will be critical in shaping how California weathers this next economic chapter.



LEGISLATION

As the California Legislature moved through its pivotal appropriations committee “suspense file” process on May 23, hundreds of bills were either advanced or quietly shelved without a formal vote. Recall that the suspense file is a tool used by the Assembly and Senate Appropriations committees to temporarily hold bills with significant fiscal impacts, typically those that would cost the state \$150,000 or more from the General Fund or \$50,000 or more from any special fund. It allows lawmakers to consider the cumulative cost of bills and how they fit within the state’s overall budget.

This year, the Assembly Appropriations Committee evaluated 666 bills, holding 35% on suspense, while the Senate Committee considered 432 measures, placing 29% on hold. These decisions reflect growing caution considering the projected \$12 billion deficit for FY 2025–26 and anticipated future shortfalls.

For PPOA, the results were mixed, highlighting the uphill battle for benefit-enhancing legislation in a tight fiscal climate.

WINS: OPPOSED MEASURES SHELVED

Two high-profile bills that PPOA strongly opposed were held on suspense and are effectively dead for the session:

- AB 1489 (Bryan): This bill would have prohibited peace officers from carrying an agency-issued firearm with any measurable blood alcohol content, on or off duty. PPOA opposed the measure due to concerns about its practical implications and overly broad reach.
- SB 277 (Weber-Pierson): This bill would have required officers to obtain consent for certain searches, limiting when consent-based searches could occur. PPOA argued

the bill would have interfered with lawful investigatory procedures and posed risks to officer and public safety.

SETBACKS: SUPPORTIVE BILLS HELD DUE TO COST

While PPOA supported a suite of bills aimed at expanding benefits for public safety personnel, several promising measures were held due to their fiscal impacts:

- AB 47 (Nguyen): This bill sought to limit parole eligibility for certain sex offenders under the Elderly Parole Program. Despite broad public safety support, it was held due to projected high costs for continued incarceration.
- AB 814 (Schiavo): Intended to exclude from gross income retirement and survivor benefits for peace officers, this bill faced significant projected revenue losses — \$650 million in FY 2025–26 alone.
- AB 918 (Ransom): This bill would have provided a tax exclusion for mutual aid wages earned by first responders working outside their usual jurisdictions. Estimated costs: \$8.8 million in FY 2025–26.
- AB 1057 (Rodriguez): This measure sought to exclude from income tax the overtime pay of first responders during emergency operations. It carried a projected impact of \$12 million in FY 2025–26.
- SB 555 (Caballero): This bill proposed aligning workers' compensation permanent partial disability benefits with Social Security COLA adjustments. While the long-term cost was deemed uncertain, the fiscal implications were enough to stall it. 🇺🇸



STAR & SHIELD

Congratulations to the following PPOA members 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.

CONTEST WINNERS

\$100 PRIZE WINNERS

(May/June issue — the hidden word appeared on page 9)

John Jansen, Sergeant

Marisol Martinez, Custody Assistant

Meena Shin, Sr. Criminalist

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PPOA extends our sincere condolences to the families of the following PPOA members who passed away in March and April:

Retired Lieutenant
Stephen Curry
 EOW: March 2, 2025
 LASD 1964-1998
 Academy Class #104
 Last assignment: Task Force
 for Regional Auto Theft
 U.S. Army veteran

Retired Deputy
Charlean Allen
 EOW: March 16, 2025
 LASD 1969-1982
 Academy Class #134
 Last assignment: Temple Station
 Condolences may be emailed to the
 family: reallymeanmom@yahoo.com

Retired Member
Grace Franklin
 EOW: March 19, 2025
 LASD 1962-1996

Retired Sergeant
Michael Duran
 EOW: March 20, 2025
 LASD 1981-2014
 Academy Class #209
 Last assignment: East L.A. Station
 Condolences may be emailed to the
 family: slduran@verizon.net



Retired Member Grace
 Franklin (EOW: 3/19/25)



Retired Deputy Sandra
 Spence (EOW: 4/29/25)

Retired Deputy
Barney Villa
 EOW: March 29, 2025
 LASD 1973-2005
 Academy Class #165
 Last assignment: Arson Explosives
 Detail
 U.S. Marine Corps veteran
 Condolences may be emailed to the
 family: nvilla04@gmail.com

Retired Deputy
Norman Prell
 EOW: April 6, 2025
 LASD 1959-1990
 Academy Class #77
 Last assignment: Robbery/Homicide
 U.S. Navy veteran

Retired Custody Assistant
Robert Herrera
 EOW: April 7, 2025
 LASD 1997-2017
 Last assignment: Men's Central Jail
 U.S. Marine Corps veteran

Retired Sheriff's Security Officer
James Brown
 EOW: April 11, 2025
 LASD 2001-2019
 Last assignment: Community College
 Bureau/Pierce College
 Served as PPOA delegate



Deputy Barney Villa
 (EOW: 3/29/25)



Retired Sheriff's
 Security Officer
 James Brown (EOW:
 4/11/25)



Retired Deputy
 David Gardner
 (EOW: 4/15/25)



Retired Deputy
 Raymond
 Arrington (EOW:
 4/28/25)

Retired Deputy
David Gardner
 EOW: April 15, 2025
 LASD 1960-1993
 Academy Class #86
 Last assignment: Avalon Station
 Brother of retired LASD member
 Dan Gardner
 U.S. Navy veteran

Retired Lieutenant
William Benton
 EOW: April 21, 2025
 LASD 1962-1993
 Academy Class #92
 Last assignment: NCCF
 U.S. Marine Corps veteran

Retired Deputy
Raymond Arrington
 EOW: April 28, 2025
 LASD 1969-2000
 Academy Class #133
 Last assignment: Technical Services
 Transportation
 Condolences may be emailed to the
 family: papasote01@aol.com

Retired Deputy
Sandra Spence
 EOW: April 29, 2025
 LASD 1971-2001
 Last assignment: Norwalk Station
 U.S. Navy veteran



S&W SHIELD

9MM/SIG P229 9MM

S&W: CA model w/ Kydex holster and 4 mags: \$450. Sig: CA model w/ Kydex holster and 3 mags: \$850. (323) 597-6059. (0724)

BACK HOUSE

STUDIO FOR RENT

A 690-square-foot addition, which features studio living, a bathroom with a shower, walk-in closet, washer/dryer and one driveway parking space. One occupant, and no pets are allowed. Rent is \$1,950, which includes water, gas and trash. Call (323) 236-1739 or email dgathright1984@me.com. (0724)

ROSE HILLS PLOT FOR SALE

Rose Hills (Whittier) cemetery plot located in the Garden of Prayers near the main entrance. \$15,000 or OBO. Call (909) 243-3002 or email rjramirez0618@gmail.com. (0824)

16" SCROLL SAW FOR SALE

Central Machinery 16" variable speed scroll saw table tilts 45 degrees for bevel cuts. Table size: 10" x 16" — pre-drilled holes for table mount. Air pump function. \$60 (was originally \$80). Call Pat: (909) 596-3508. Pictures available upon request. (0524)

1974 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER FJ40

Runs well, in-line six cylinder motor, four-speed manual transmission, partially restored, ready for full restoration. Asking \$23,500 obo. Email Ryan for pictures or questions: blaint28@hotmail.com. (0225)

1965 PORSCHE SPEEDSTER REPLICA FOR SALE

Convertible, replica. 2-door, black with tan interior and tan top. 4-speed manual transmission, 1600cc, build of a Volkswagen Karmann Ghia chassis. Asking price \$25,000. Contact (626) 484-8301 or mianico5@gmail.com. (0924)

HUGE FURNISHED STUDIO/BEDROOM IN QUARTZ HILL, CA

Queen bed, flat screen TV, Wi-Fi and streaming services, kitchenette with sink, refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, window A/C, power recliner, large bathroom with shower. \$1,250/month, including utilities. Contact MikeMartinez2000@gmail.com or (408) 693-9404. (0225)

CUSTOM LUXURY CONVERSION VAN FOR SALE

This van is overkill and has it all. 2013 Sprinter 3500, 96K miles, 6,000-watt battery inverter with 6AGM house batteries, etc. See it at tinyurl.com/sprintersk. Contact srkehoe@gmail.com. (0425)

CAMP HOSTS WANTED

Part-time, flexible hours. Spend summer 2025 in scenic June Lake, CA. Must have RV or trailer. Call (818) 700-9677. (0425)

ATTENTION WOODWORKERS

Shapeoko XXL carbide 3D router. It cuts wood, plastic, aluminum and more. Asking \$1,500. Leave a message at (626) 392-8507. (0425)

TIRES/RIMS FOR SALE

Four BF Goodrich (white letter) radial tires mounted on American Racing mag rims. Two 215-60-15 and two 255-60-15 tires — 3 years old with only 1,000 miles. \$850 or best offer. Call Richard at (562) 858-8936 and leave message. (1024)

RIVERFRONT VACATION RENTAL

Stunning riverfront views from a Parker Strip, Arizona, 4-bedroom 2-bath home, featuring a full kitchen, ice maker, washer-dryer, boat ramp, private boat and jet ski dock, and much more. First responder and military discount. Call Robert at (858) 688-3670 or Chuck at (323) 470-9827, or email rmos@mosmag.com. (0125)

2020 FORD RANGER FOR SALE

XLT Super Crew. 37,000 miles. Excellent condition. New tires. \$28,500 obo. Contact: steveday212@yahoo.com. (0924)

RIFLE SCOPES FOR SALE

Gently used: 1. Burris, 3x9 — 40mm Fullfield II. 2. Eagle Eye optics red dot tubular. Both scopes come with mounts. \$125 for both, I pay for shipping. Also have considerable amount of reloading stuff: dies, scales, blocks, etc. Call for list. Diagnosis of low vision forces me to give up hobby. Contact: Ron at (661) 317-7671 or nybakken.john@gmail.com. (0725)

1999 PORSCHE "911" CARRERA

2-door convertible, black/black, 6 cyl, manual transmission. Asking price \$18,000 OBO. Contact tiffanyjoiner26@gmail.com. (0725)

SLOT MACHINE FOR SALE

Mills "Break the Bank" nickel slot machine. Good working condition with stand. \$1,500. Contact Wayne at (626) 422-0555 or email waw296@gmail.com. (0924)



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 made in writing, not over the phone. Ads run for three months. PPOA is not responsible for any claims made in a classified ad.



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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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