



LAAPOA

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

LAX | VNY | LPR | MPO



2019 Annual Report





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Published by 911MEDIA®
A division of Trade News International, Inc.
(818) 848-6397 | 911MEDIA.com



Contents



- 4 President's Letter
- 5 About LAAPOA
- 6 Member Services
- 7 Negotiations
- 8 2019 Year in Review
- 10 Public Relations
- 12 Legislative and Political Activity
- 14 Legal Representation
- 15 In Memoriam

President's Letter



As a new year begins, the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association reflects on last year's accomplishments with gratitude and optimism. We continually strive for the support of Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) in achieving the "gold standard" set forth by airport leadership, which LAXPD has the potential to fulfill, in addition to improving the quality of life for our municipal police officers at the Los Angeles Police Department and our newest members, the Los Angeles Park Rangers. This past year has been one of challenge, trial and change that will bring new developments to the airport police community, the city's parks and citywide policing as a whole in the coming years.

Over the past 16 months, our three departments have experienced leadership changes. Most recently, we welcomed a new chief to the Los Angeles Airport Police. Earlier in 2019, a new chief park ranger was appointed to the Los Angeles Park Rangers, and in June 2018, a new chief was selected to head the Los Angeles Police Department.

In October, years of effort to bring about key modernizations led to groundbreaking construction for a state-of-the-art Airport Police facility,

which means that operations currently spread among eight separate locations around the airport will be consolidated under one roof at the police headquarters. The new facility will provide a professional and technologically advanced environment to support the efforts of the Airport Police in a manner worthy of our brave men and women who work tirelessly 24/7 to safeguard the aviation community and the surrounding neighborhoods. The new LAXPD HQ is expected to be fully functioning by mid-2021.

This groundbreaking reminds us that it is imperative that the LAXPD rank and file and specialized units be present at the table with LAWA leadership as policy and expanding infrastructure are developed and discussed. Navigating the growing world of ride-sharing (with the recent changes to LAX's traffic patterns and ride-sharing policies) and its implications for transportation and infrastructure serves as a prime example of why LAXPD must always be part of the traffic plans and discussions early. In policing one of the nation's highest-traffic airports, LAXPD retains a vested interest in how these new technologies and procedures are implemented. As the culture of transportation changes in the United States, coordination with local and federal agencies will be necessary in moving forward to overcome issues that impact safety and security at our airports.

Throughout the year, we sought upgrades to our equipment and expanded training and educational opportunities for our officers. It is a never-ending cycle, and under prior airport leadership, policing resources were neglected. As LAX continues to expand, we appreciate the leadership and foresight CEO Deborah Flint showed in bringing the most qualified chief to LAXPD prior to her departure. We have already begun establishing a relationship with her replacement, Justin Erbacci, to

rebuild where there were deficiencies and evolve with our increasingly active law enforcement responsibilities.

Staffing is a priority with all of our agencies. We will continue to work with management on filling existing vacancies. LAAPOA will also continue to push local, state and federal legislation that supports and advances the profession of police work and safety of airports, parks and cities. We were pleased to lead the effort, along with our AAAPO brothers and sisters, in support of the Law Enforcement Officer Reimbursement Program, federal legislation passed by Congress that allows airports to increase the presence of law enforcement officers at high-volume security locations and screening checkpoints while receiving federal funding to do so. In addition, through our affiliation with PORAC, we were able to support the joint police association effort to advocate for suicide prevention and the mental health support that is desperately needed in our profession.

We look forward to further improving benefits and quality of life for our members and their families in 2020, and anticipate many great improvements ahead of the numerous major events coming to the Los Angeles area in the future. As always, may God keep you and yours safe and continue to bless us all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ME McClain'.

Marshall E. McClain, President

About LAAPOA

The Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association (LAAPOA) represents the sworn police officers of the Los Angeles Airport Police, the Los Angeles Municipal Police and the Los Angeles Park Rangers assigned to protect and serve Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Van Nuys Airport (VNY) and the city of Los Angeles, and provide emergency medical services, law enforcement and wildland firefighting in the open space parks and throughout the city of Los Angeles.

The Mission

To maintain a leadership role in organizing, empowering and representing the interests of all current and retired members:

- To facilitate a member-driven organization that promotes public awareness that encourages and upholds a professional image to the aviation community and public at large
- To preserve an environment in which members interact and work toward achieving common goals and objectives and to define and enhance standards for professionalism

- To advocate for ensuring that the latest training and equipment are identified, provided and implemented for all law enforcement and public safety professionals
- To represent and protect the rights and benefits of all our members

The Story

The Los Angeles Airport Police Department is the fourth-largest law enforcement agency in Los Angeles County, with more than 1,200 law enforcement, security and staff personnel.

The Airport Police Department is a division of Los Angeles World Airports, the City department that owns and operates two airports in Southern California: Los Angeles International and Van Nuys (general aviation).

Although the Los Angeles Airport Police Department has served the aviation security needs of Los Angeles World Airports since 1946, the birth of the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association (LAAPOA) can be traced to a single event in the history of the Department: the 1984 Summer Games. In conjunction with the opening of the Tom Bradley International Terminal and Terminal 1 for the Olympics, staffing increased to handle the influx of travelers flying to Los Angeles.

Today, at the request of the membership, LAAPOA has grown into an outspoken, proactive organization that works to enhance professional and personal benefits for its members. In recent years, the association has built a successful track record of protecting its members' contracts against fluctuations in the local economy.

As part of the **Peace Officers Research Association of California** (PORAC), LAAPOA members have access to comprehensive legal defense coverage and several insurance and benefit options.

Throughout the year, LAAPOA hosts a number of free activities for members and their families, including a holiday party and picnic. The association's **Los Angeles Airport Police Athletics & Activities League** (LAAPAAL) also sponsors activities and charity events (see below).

As aviation security requirements change to secure the dynamic environment at LAX — the number-one terrorist target on the West Coast — and Van Nuys Airport, LAAPOA will continue to evolve to protect the sworn personnel of the Los Angeles Airport Police Department, as well as Los Angeles Municipal Police and Los Angeles Park Rangers.



LAAPAAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The mission of the Los Angeles Airport Police Athletics & Activities League (LAAPAAL) is to encourage and sponsor members of the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association and the surrounding communities to participate in athletics and charity events that

better the membership and the community at large.

Activities and events sponsored by LAAPAAL include the Tommy Scott Memorial LAX Run, the Cruise for a Kid's Cure, the Police Unity Tour, Mistletoe Memories, the State of the

Union Dinner, and the LAXPD soccer, basketball and shooting teams.

LAAPAAL is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, tax ID 90-0604757. To make a donation or for more information, visit www.laapaal.com.

2019 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Association of Airport Employees — Tommy Scott Memorial Scholarship Fund
Big League Dreams Las Vegas

L.A. Blue Softball
L.A. Police Relief and Assistance Foundation — Blue Ribbon Trust for Fallen Officer Juan Jose Diaz

LAX Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay Team
Nevada Police & Fire Games

Pacific Heart, Lung & Blood Institute
Police Unity Tour Chapter 37

Special Olympics Southern California — Law Enforcement Softball Tournament Sponsorship
U.S. Police & Fire Games

Member Services

Insurance

All active LAAPOA members receive a paid **City Employees Club of Los Angeles** membership. The club connects City employees through a network of information and discounted products such as theme park and movie tickets. Members also have access to group-rated insurance products.

PORAC Insurance and Benefits Trust

LAAPOA members are granted free membership in the **Peace Officers Research Association of California** (PORAC), which offers a number of insurance options and benefits.

Retiree Medical Trust

PORAC's **Retiree Medical Trust** (RMT) is a health care pre-funding vehicle that is funded by defined contributions set in the labor agreement and provides a stream of monthly payments for life, for those who meet the eligibility rules.

Short- and Long-Term Life and AD&D Needs

Available through our membership in PORAC, these plans are administered by **Myers-Stevens & Toohy Co., Inc.**, which has countless years of serving its clients.

Long-Term-Care Plan

All active members receive the optional initial benefit amount of \$1,000 per month in coverage from the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

Banking

LAAPOA is partnered with several banks to offer the best service to its members, including **Citibank** and the **Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union**. These full-service banks have been in business for years and have sound track records. Among the

benefits offered are checking and savings, real estate loans, internet banking, debt consolidation, direct deposit, low-interest credit cards and auto loans.

Accounting

Since 1941, **Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co., LLP**, has been committed to providing clients with the highest level of personal service and attention. So it only makes good sense to ensure that LAAPOA maintains an accurate account of its funds.

Investing

LAAPOA has partnered with **UBS Financial Services**, drawing on its 150-year heritage to serve private, institutional and corporate clients worldwide by combining wealth management, investment banking and asset management businesses to deliver superior financial advice and solutions. LAAPOA members have access to the UBS wealth management team to assist with any investment needs.

Communication

All members receive complimentary copies of the print *BOLO* newsletter, providing timely updates on law enforcement issues and association news. In addition, members receive, at no cost, the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) monthly publication, *PORAC Law Enforcement News*, which contains information on statewide legislative issues, reports from the Legal Defense Fund, member association news and career-related articles.

LAAPOA's extensive website (www.laapoa.com) is full of useful information for the public, in addition to an exclusive members-only section containing sensitive, ongoing union information.

Other communications with LAAPOA members include:

- Free calendar and benefits booklet
- "Eye on Aviation" daily e-newsletter
- Biweekly BOLO electronic newsletters
- LAAPOA Twitter account
- LAAPOA Facebook page
- LAAPOA Pinterest page
- LAAPOA Instagram account

The LAAPOA App

Available from both Google Play and the Apple App Store, the LAAPOA app keeps users at the forefront of public safety issues at home and abroad. The app provides access to the latest LAAPOA news and press releases, the American Alliance of Airport Police Officers (AAAPO) press releases and the latest issue of the *BOLO* newsletter. LAAPOA members can stay up to date on union news, events, legal representation, benefits and more.

LAXPD University

In 2019, LAAPOA introduced a new benefit to help Airport Police officers, other Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) employees and their family members continue their education. The LAXPD University program offers tuition discounts from participating schools to family members and tuition reimbursement of up to \$6,500 per fiscal year to active full-time or part-time regular LAWA employees eligible to take Civil Service promotional examinations. For more information, visit www.laapoa.com/laxpd-university.

Bargaining Unit

LAAPOA is the exclusive bargaining unit for the sworn police officers and firefighters of the Los Angeles Airport Police Department and is the only union recognized by the City of Los Angeles to negotiate their wages, benefits, hours and working conditions. Only LAAPOA members have the right to ratify a potential contract. The following are just a few examples of previous and recent successes:

- One of the few City unions to avoid any salary or benefit cuts, layoffs or furloughs
- Implementation of marksmanship bonus
- Creation of compensated time off bank
- Creation of a new public safety tier and increased retirement formula
- Uniform allowance increase
- Approval of Class "C" uniforms and outer bulletproof vest for optional patrol uniform
- Increase of 10.75% for pay parity
- Elimination of 20% pay reduction for new hires
- City withdrawal of release time balance owed and lower future reimbursement rates
- Creation of one full-time release position at the reduced rate
- Creation and implementation of two additional pay grades, actively working on more
- Expansion of on-call pay to more members



- Implementation of bilingual and sign-language pay
- Approval of Class "C" uniforms for vehicle checkpoints and during inclement weather

More information about LAAPOA's contract negotiations can be found at www.laapoa.com.

Standing Committees

Standing committees are composed of the Board of Directors and LAAPOA members. Committees include:

- Activities/Fundraising
- Discipline/Grievance
- Legislative/PAC
- Members/Benefits

- Negotiations/Bylaws
- PAL
- Public Information
- Scholarship
- Training/Equipment
- Retiree Liaison

Fringe Benefits

Due to LAAPOA's PORAC membership and experienced negotiators who contract directly with the City for fringe benefits, there is more to offer members and their families, such as added medical, dental, vision and, of course, vacation and sick-leave benefits.

2019 Year in Review

January 1

New laws taking effect in California include SB 1421, which allows the release of police personnel records involving investigations of officer-involved shootings, sexual misconduct or perjury.

January 22

Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey comes to a standstill when air-traffic controllers suspend flights after two passenger planes report unmanned aerial vehicles in their airspace.

January 25

President Donald Trump signs a bill reopening the federal government after 35 days, the longest government shutdown in U.S. history.

March 7

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department arrests a man who pushed his way through a security checkpoint at John F. Kennedy International Airport while carrying a handgun loaded with three bullets.

April 22

Deputy Executive Director of Public Safety and Security Patrick M. Gannon announces his retirement from LAWA, effective May 25.

May 6

The California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony remembers the state's eight law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty in 2018 and the more than 1,500 who have made the ultimate sacrifice throughout its history.

May 12

National Police Week begins, bringing thousands of law enforcement officers, supporters and surviving families from around the globe together in Washington, D.C., to honor fallen heroes and those who put their lives on the line every day.

June 18

Several TSA agents are injured at Phoenix's Sky Harbor Airport when a man attempts to rush through the security checkpoint.



July 28

Three people are killed and another 12 are injured in a mass shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival.



July 29

President Trump signs the Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act into law, extending a financial lifeline to the thousands of police officers and firefighters suffering from illnesses related to the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

August 3

A gunman kills 22 people and injures 26 in a Walmart in El Paso, Texas; just 13 hours later, another shooter kills nine and injures 27 in a bar in Dayton, Ohio.

August 5

LAXPD Chief David Maggard becomes Deputy Executive Director for Law Enforcement and Homeland Security, leading to a search for a new chief.

August 19

Governor Gavin Newsom signs AB 392, redefining the circumstances under which the use of lethal force by a peace officer is considered justifiable.

August 28

LAAPOA announces LAXPD University, a new benefit available to Airport Police officers and other LAWA employees providing tuition reimbursement for qualifying personnel to enhance their job proficiency through education and training.

September 4

Governor Newsom signs SB 192, repealing the California law that made it a crime to refuse to help a police officer.

September 12

Governor Newsom signs law enforcement–supported SB 230, setting a national precedent in use-of-force training.

October 1

Governor Newsom signs SB 542, which allows first responders to seek workers' compensation for post-traumatic stress caused by their jobs.



October 7

LAWA breaks ground on the new state-of-the-art LAXPD facility.

October 9

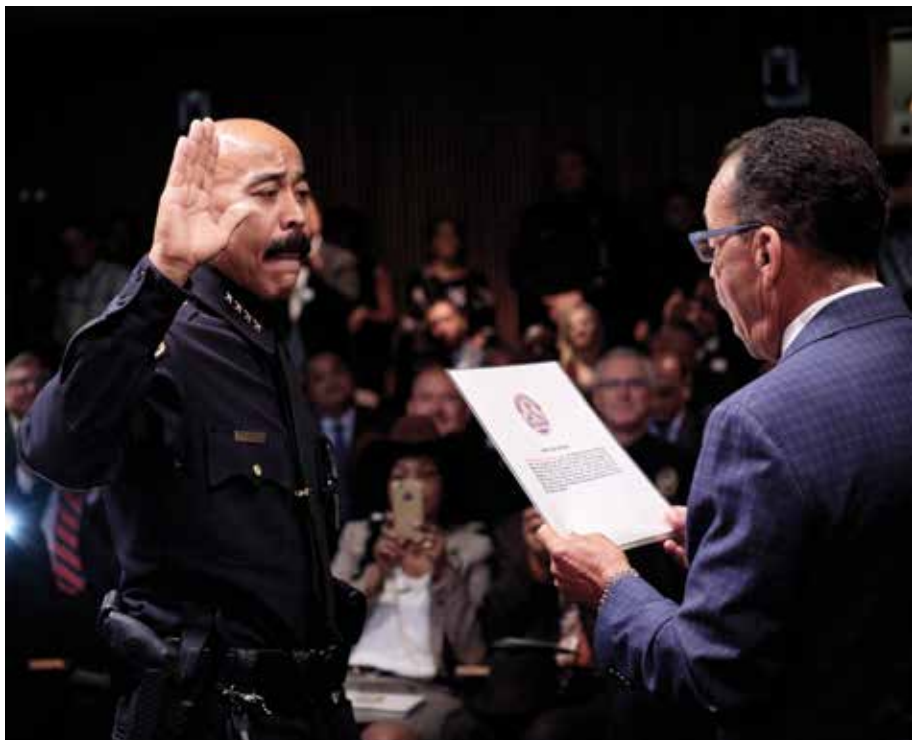
Governor Newsom signs AB 1215, placing a three-year moratorium on California law enforcement agencies' use of facial recognition on body-worn cameras.

November 6

Cecil Rhambo is sworn in as the new chief of the LAXPD.

November 27

CEO Deborah Flint announces her departure from her position with LAWA.



Public Relations

LAAPOA tackled a wide variety of issues throughout the year in its *BOLLO* e-newsletters and print newsletters, as well as press releases issued both independently and in partnership with the American Alliance of Airport Police Officers (AAAPO). In addition to spreading the word about initiatives that LAAPOA is working on, our messaging kept members, supporters, political leaders and the media informed about LAAPOA's expert perspective on broader airport policing topics, state political and legal developments, and concerns affecting the law enforcement profession nationwide.

Protecting Our Members and Advocating for Aviation Security

As the beginning of the year saw several anti-police laws take effect in California, LAAPOA advocated for a measure that would really make a difference in public safety: **a ban on bringing loaded firearms to airports**, where more and more guns are being found in travelers' luggage at checkpoints nationwide, increasing the risk of something going tragically wrong.

January was a rough month for aviation security; not only did the longest **federal government shutdown** in U.S. history impact critical FAA and TSA operations, but a **drone scare** also brought Newark Liberty International Airport to a standstill. LAAPOA pointed out that these events show how seemingly isolated incidents can have far-reaching effects on the security of our airports and our national transportation infrastructure, and much more needs to be done to fix the vulnerabilities in our system.

The effect of drones on airports continued to be a hot topic throughout the year. In March, LAAPOA examined both the **security benefits and threats of unmanned aerial systems**, reviewing what airports are doing to address safety concerns and expressing support for LAX's vision of being the nation's first airport to set up a counter-UAS system.

Checkpoint security also continued to make headlines in March, when the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department arrested a man who pushed his way through a security checkpoint at John F. Kennedy International Airport while carrying a handgun loaded with three bullets. Then, in June, several TSA agents were injured at Phoenix's Sky Harbor Airport when a man attempted to rush through the security checkpoint. In both instances, pointing out that assaults at checkpoints are on the rise, LAAPOA and our partners at AAPO renewed the call for airport police officers to be stationed within 300 feet of TSA security clearance to increase protection.

In May, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that LAX has become an expanding hub for the illegal export of California cannabis, with a whopping 166% surge in pot smuggling arrests since legalization began. LAAPOA reminded readers of the laws surrounding carrying **marijuana at the airport** and on airplanes, and pointed out how many of the promised benefits of legalization have failed to materialize and instead emboldened criminal traffickers, placing additional strain on limited law enforcement resources.

Another frequent subject in the news this year was **biometric technology**. Many local and state governments explored limiting its use due to privacy concerns, while the TSA and CPB experimented with its application to strengthen the airport screening process. In June, LAAPOA provided an overview of recent developments in biometric policies at LAX and throughout California, cautioning that the tech should not be a substitute for human personnel, but does offer a valuable and necessary addition to the law enforcement toolbox that should not be limited by lawmakers.

With an unprecedented number of passengers set to take to the skies during the summer season, LAAPOA shared guidelines on how to **travel smart and**

stay safe, including home security measures, proper packing, planning ahead and staying vigilant. Continuing its commitment to helping its members grow both personally and professionally, in August LAAPOA introduced a new benefit available to LAXPD officers and other LAWA employees: **LAXPD University**, which offers tuition reimbursement for qualifying personnel to enhance their job proficiency through education and training.

LAAPOA also kept readers abreast of the **leadership changes at LAXPD and LAWA** that unfolded throughout the year. In April, after Deputy Executive Director of Public Safety and Security Patrick Gannon announced his retirement, LAAPOA looked back on his career and accomplishments and committed to working with LAWA on a seamless leadership transition. When it was announced in July that Chief of Police David Maggard would be named as Gannon's replacement, LAAPOA voiced its strong opposition to the promotion, pointing out ongoing concerns about Maggard's leadership and the unprecedented number of lawsuits filed against him during his tenure. LAAPOA also released the results of its survey of members about LAXPD management, which painted a grim picture of the Department and showed overwhelmingly negative responses regarding Maggard's fairness, leadership, concern for officers, character and accountability.

As the search for a new chief began, LAAPOA called on LAWA to choose a candidate who would lead with integrity, dedication and respect. That call was heeded, and in October, LAAPOA commended the appointment of Cecil Rhambo, whose experience and diverse background are an ideal fit for the specialized policing needs and culture of LAXPD. Issuing a warm welcome upon his November 6 swearing-in, LAAPOA summarized the many opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for LAX — including a series of high-profile events and continuing unprecedented expansion

— and expressed confidence that Chief Rhambo is an inspiring choice to advance the Department into the future.

Highlighting Statewide Political and Legal Issues

In April, LAAPOA provided members with a case law update on **marijuana search and seizure issues** in the wake of Proposition 64, explaining how the recent court decision of *People v. Fews* ruled that evidence of marijuana can still be probable cause for a warrantless search of a person or vehicle.

Also in April, as the battle over police use of force continued at the State Capitol, LAAPOA made the case for **SB 230** as a safe and sane measure that would set a clear and enforceable standard for authorizing use of force and mandate training for all California law enforcement agencies. The following month, events took a surprising turn when SB 230 and its competing use-of-force bill, **AB 392** (which sought to redefine the legal standard for when lethal force should be used), were linked by lawmakers in an attempt to reach a compromise and bring law enforcement organizations and civil liberties advocates back to the negotiating table. LAAPOA kept members apprised of the complex political issues and hailed the unexpected development as progress toward reform. In July, when it looked like only AB 392 might be headed to the governor's desk, LAAPOA explored how such measures make officers too afraid to do their jobs out of fear of being judged and demonized, leading to a failure to act during emergencies that can put both themselves and the public in danger. LAAPOA again called for support for SB 230 as a necessary balance providing officers with the tools they need to create training and protocols to help them better react in dangerous situations. Finally, on September 12, Governor Newsom signed SB 230 into law. LAAPOA provided an analysis of how the law will benefit law enforcement officers and set a national precedent in community policing.



Shortly thereafter, LAAPOA hailed another legislative victory for law enforcement when Governor Newsom signed **SB 542** into law on October 1, allowing first responders to seek workers' compensation for post-traumatic stress caused by their jobs.

Promoting the Law Enforcement Profession

On the eve of the **California Peace Officers' Memorial** ceremonies, LAAPOA remembered the state's fallen officers, examined recent statistics on line-of-duty deaths and reminded readers that officer safety measures should be of paramount importance. Two weeks later, we joined with AAPO in marking **National Police Week** 2019, reviewing the memorial events and thanking those who took the occasion to honor law enforcement.

In July, LAAPOA joined AAPO in hailing President Trump's signing of legislation reauthorizing the **September 11th Victim Compensation Fund**, which extended aid for first responders, their families and other victims who continue to suffer the devastating aftereffects of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

Later that month, LAAPOA issued a reminder about the importance of **not rushing to judgment in the aftermath of an officer-involved shooting**, pointing to the examples of several recent

incidents that demonstrated how misinformation and biased assumptions can lead to the public accusing police of abuses that later prove to be false.

In August, in the wake of the devastating string of mass shootings in Gilroy, El Paso and Dayton, LAAPOA explored the connection between **violent video games and real-life gun violence**, cautioning that implementing strict gun-control measures is not a panacea and calling on lawmakers to address the glorification of violence in our culture.

In September, LAAPOA joined AAPO in remembering the **18th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks**, the deadliest day in our nation's history for firefighters and law enforcement officers. Later that month, LAAPOA provided updates and reminders on **legal issues involving vehicle searches**, summarizing important points from recent court decisions and established case law.

As the nation observed **Veterans Day** in November, LAAPOA honored those who have served our country during war or peacetime, and especially those who continue to serve their communities as members of law enforcement. Analyzing the many issues faced by veterans, including PTSD and other emotional stresses, LAAPOA called for continued support for mental health and wellness for veterans and law enforcement.

Legislative and Political Activity

For the past 37 years, LAAPOA has been proactive in the political sphere, advocating for legislation that advances the interests of our members and the law enforcement profession while also keeping the safety of the communities we serve at the forefront of our mission. In 2019, LAAPOA continued its vital work of promoting proposed bills that would benefit public safety and opposing bills that aimed to threaten it.

LAAPOA's lobbying firm locally and in Sacramento is Aaron Read & Associates (ARA). LAAPOA is also part of the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), which represents its public safety association members with lawmakers. For lobbying on national and global transportation issues, LAAPOA utilizes the services of Iseman & Szeliga in Washington, D.C.

This year proved to be one of the most challenging ever for law enforcement at the State Capitol. The top priority for LAAPOA and its partners was ensuring that any legislative action on the topic of law enforcement use of force would put the safety of our members and our communities first. That meant working with legislators to ensure that AB 392, which sought to redefine California's legal standard for when force can be used, did not endanger officers or the public. It also meant sponsoring a companion bill, SB 230, that mandated necessary policies and training related to the use of force. As a result of much hard work by law enforcement leaders and advocates, informed and thoughtful amendments were made to both bills, and they were passed and signed into law.

Of the 3,033 bills introduced this year, 1,169 were chaptered and 172 were vetoed. The remaining 1,692 are inactive, dead or resolutions that do not have to go to the governor, or they were made into two-year bills that will be considered in 2020.

Chaptered Bills

Below is a summary of LAAPOA and PORAC's sponsored, actively supported and neutral legislation that was signed into law in 2019.

SB 230 by Senator Anna Caballero (D-Salinas), sponsored: Building on California's already rigorous officer training requirements, this is the first bill to mandate additional statewide training in specific categories such as de-escalation, interacting with vulnerable populations and an officer's duty to intercede. SB 230 incorporates the best practices already proven to reduce serious use-of-force incidents in other cities and states, making it the most comprehensive legislation dealing with use-of-force policies and training in the country. SB 230 will proactively and effectively result in better public safety outcomes for everyone because it will:

- Require that every California law enforcement officer receive the most robust training in the nation strictly designed to minimize the use of force
- Set specific policy requirements on de-escalation, an officer's duty to intercede, rendering medical aid, proportional use of force, interacting with vulnerable populations and more
- Specify that use-of-force policies and training may be considered in legal proceedings
- Increase transparency by setting forth detailed, standardized requirements for reporting all instances when force is used in our communities

AB 392 by Assemblymember Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), neutral: This bill brings California's legal standard for when force can be used in line with the U.S. Supreme Court standard — which law enforcement agencies and departments throughout California and the U.S. already adhere to. PORAC worked diligently with

the bill's authors and our state's legislative leaders to amend the original version of AB 392 to prevent the adoption of any language that would make it even more challenging for our officers to protect our communities and themselves. Because of these amendments, nearly all California law enforcement organizations took a neutral position on the legislation. AB 392 will not significantly impact the way law enforcement officers perform their daily jobs, as it still retains the "reasonableness" standard set forth in the 1989 *Graham v. Connor* ruling.

AB 303 by Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes (D-Corona), supported: This bill closes a loophole that allows dangerous individuals who were previously judged to be sexually violent predators to use the system to their advantage by gaining release from state custody after claiming that their right to a speedy trial has been violated. It prevents delays and also improves safety within our communities by keeping dangerous criminals off the streets.

AB 433 by Assemblymember James Ramos (D-Highland), supported: Currently, crime victims do not have any way of knowing that a defendant may be poised to have their probation terminated early, cutting off any opportunity for revisiting restitution to the victim and potentially limiting a victim's safety in cases of possible reoffense. AB 433 requires that the prosecuting attorney and victim be given 30 days' written notice prior to a hearing to terminate probation early, providing victims with peace of mind and an opportunity to defend their constitutional right to restitution.

AB 1090 by Assemblymember Jose Medina (D-Riverside), supported: When a peace officer or firefighter loses their life in the line of duty, it is traumatic for their surviving spouse and children. Furthermore, the family often suffers significant emotional and financial burdens that make their grieving even more

difficult. This bill provides security and peace of mind by offering education to a family whose loved one died while protecting the community in which they served.

AB 1600 by Assemblymember Ash Kalra (D-San Jose), neutral: As introduced, AB 1600 dramatically impacted the California Pitchess System, which PORAC members heavily rely on for the privacy of their personnel records. The Pitchess System has been in place for the last 45 years and has worked well. AB 1600 would have weakened the system in favor of the Defense Bar. PORAC worked with our panel attorneys and the author's office to eventually amend the bill enough that we removed our opposition and went neutral.

AB 1735 by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda), supported: This bill expands the scope of evidentiary privilege under which a human trafficking victim may refuse to disclose, or may prevent another's disclosure of, a confidential communication made to a human trafficking caseworker. We believe this bill will help the victims of human trafficking by providing the necessary caseworker-victim privacy protections they deserve to keep them safe and to heal from the trauma they have experienced.

SB 459 by Senator Cathleen Galgiani (D-Stockton), supported: SB 459 adds consistency to the Penal Code by applying the existing five-year sentence enhancement for great bodily injury inflicted during the commission of spousal rape when the victim is intoxicated or under an anesthetic or controlled substance.

SB 542 by Senator Henry Stern (D-Canoga Park), co-sponsored: Law enforcement officers and firefighters work in an environment that can take an overwhelming physical and emotional toll. Their chronic exposure to traumatic events and critical incidents increases their risk for post-traumatic stress and other

stress-induced symptoms. Exposure to horrific events, such as stabbings, shootings, domestic violence incidents, terrorist acts and devastating automobile accidents make our peace officers and firefighters uniquely susceptible to the emotional and behavioral impacts of job-caused stressors. This bill addresses the trauma associated with the occupational duties of law enforcement officers and firefighters by creating a rebuttable workers' compensation presumption for these professions in instances where they sustain occupational post-traumatic stress injuries (PTSI). PORAC hopes SB 542 will provide timely access to needed treatment, raise awareness and destigmatize these conditions for those whose mental health may depend upon seeking treatment.

LAAPOA and PORAC also *actively opposed* two bills that were chaptered this year:

→ **AB 484 by Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer (D-South L.A.):** Removes a mandatory minimum sentence for certain drug crimes

→ **SB 61 by Senator Anthony Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge):** Limits a single buyer's ability to purchase a semi-automatic centerfire rifle to one per month

Vetoed Bills

Unfortunately, the following three supported and sponsored bills were vetoed this year:

→ **AB 314 by Assemblymember Rob Bonta (D-Oakland), supported:** Would have created a uniform and expanded standard of release time for public employees to engage in activities related to employer-employee relations

→ **AB 340 by Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks), supported:** Would have authorized a county or group of counties to establish and implement a Disarming Prohibited Persons Taskforce (DPPT) team program, consisting of officers and agents from specified law enforcement agencies, for the purpose of, among other things, identifying, monitoring, arresting and assisting in the prosecution of individuals who are armed and prohibited from possessing a firearm

→ **AB 1681 by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego), sponsored:** Would have corrected inequities relating to public employees classified as supervisory peace officers, providing an option for them and their current bargaining unit (if any) to establish their own bargaining unit to provide adequate representation

Two-Year Bills

LAAPOA and PORAC sponsored and actively supported a number of bills that will carry over into 2020, on topics including establishing evidentiary privileges between union agents and represented workers, increasing punishment for fleeing the scene of an accident resulting in death or serious injury, ensuring retirees' promised and paid-for collectively bargained benefits, extending Labor Code protections to all individuals defined as peace officers in the Penal Code, and more. We also opposed two-year bills that would provide media access to encrypted police radio communications, amend the state Constitution to prohibit the death penalty from being imposed, and more. LAAPOA and PORAC will continue to protect members' interests regarding these and other issues as they arise.

Legal Representation

Protecting Members' Rights

It is paramount that LAAPOA members' rights are protected. To ensure this, the association has teamed up with the best law firms the state has to offer. Members can rest easy knowing that their representatives have been trained by the best and that experienced labor attorneys are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. LAAPOA is available to assist with filing a grievance, Internal Affairs interviews, administrative appeals hearings and much more.

Members should call a LAAPOA representative when named as a suspect in an investigation, interviewed as a witness or questioned by a supervisor. It is never in a member's best interest to submit to an interview without representation, even if the member believes there is nothing to worry about because he or she has done absolutely nothing wrong. Based on the records of numerous members interviewed as witnesses who, as a result of their interviews, became subjects themselves, all prudent LAAPOA members should have a reasonable belief that they might be accused of misconduct, and as such may be subjected to discipline.

Mastagni Holstedt, APC is the general counsel for LAAPOA, and also provides legal services in the following areas for our members: workers' compensation, personal injury, criminal defense, civil litigation defense and retirement law.

Law Firms

LAAPOA has established relationships with the following law firms for member representation:

- **Law Office of Saku E. Ethir**
- **Gordon, Edelstein, Krepack, Grant, Felton & Goldstein** (workers' compensation)
- **Law Office of Kasey L. Sirody**
- **Straussner Sherman** (workers' compensation)
- **Stone Busailah, LLP**

Members can call one of these attorneys and ask for advice or referrals free of charge.

PORAC Legal Defense Fund

Members of LAAPOA receive membership in the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC). The **PORAC Legal Defense Fund** provides members with access to a host of attorneys and law firms specializing in everything from workers' compensation to the Peace Officers' Bill of Rights and contract negotiations. Features of the PORAC LDF include:

- No cap on benefits
- Administrative discipline coverage
- Criminal coverage
- Civil coverage
- Civil case monitoring
- Court costs
- Investigators
- Polygraph examiners
- Court reporters
- Expert witnesses



In Memoriam

Gone But Not Forgotten

LAAPOA grieves the passing of the following officers and extends deepest sympathies to their families.

Lieutenant Alan Chu (Ret.)
Los Angeles Airport Police
EOW: February 13, 2019

Officer Richard Morales (Ret.)
Los Angeles Airport Police
EOW: April 24, 2019

Chief Gilbert Sandoval (Ret.)
Los Angeles Airport Police
EOW: November 4, 2019

Officer Alvon Blair (Ret.)
Los Angeles Airport Police
EOW: April 24, 2019

Captain Albert Torres
Los Angeles Department of
Recreation and Parks
EOW: October 12, 2019

Remembering Fallen Heroes

LAAPOA extends heartfelt condolences to the families of the California peace officers killed in 2019.

Officer Natalie Corona
DAVIS POLICE DEPARTMENT
EOW: January 10, 2019

Officer Tara O'Sullivan
SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT
EOW: June 19, 2019

Deputy Carlos Cammon
ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT
EOW: August 23, 2019

Sergeant Steve Licon
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL
EOW: April 6, 2019

Officer Juan Jose Diaz
LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
EOW: July 27, 2019

Deputy Brian Ishmael
EL DORADO COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT
EOW: October 23, 2019

Officer Esmeralda P. Ramirez
LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
EOW: June 9, 2019

Officer Andre Moya Jr.
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL
EOW: August 12, 2019

Officer Jonathan Diaz
LEMOORE POLICE DEPARTMENT
EOW: November 2, 2019



We will never forget.



LOS ANGELES AIRPORT PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



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