



LOS ANGELES AIRPORT PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
LAX | VNY | LPR | MPO



2022 Annual Report









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Los Angeles County Organization of Police  
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Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC)

Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement (SCALE)

Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA)

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# From the President



As 2022 comes to a close, the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association reflects with gratitude on this year's accomplishments and the honor of representing our members after another election. Yet again, it has been a year of overcoming trials, challenges and changes that will bring about new developments for the airport police community, the city's parks and citywide policing as a whole in the coming years.

Staffing is a priority with all of our agencies, and we will continue to work with management on filling existing vacancies and ensuring our members are accorded the resources and equipment needed to fulfill their duties to the utmost level while staying safe on the job. The political arena also remains volatile, especially as we wrap up this midterm election year, and our involvement is more critically important than ever as law enforcement continues to be a target of scrutiny and flawed public policy. Through our affiliations with our brothers and sisters in PORAC and other police associations, we were pleased to participate in joint efforts to oppose bills and political candidates that would diminish public safety and advocate for those

that would protect our communities and uphold our mission. We achieved many successes this year (see pages 10–11 for an in-depth look at our public relations and advocacy efforts, and pages 12–13 for details on our legislative and political activities), and we hope to build on them going forward. LAAPOA will keep pushing for local, state and federal legislation that supports and advances our profession and the safety of our airports, parks and cities.

We look forward to further enhancing benefits and quality of life for our members and their families in 2023, and we anticipate great improvements in advance of the many major events coming to the Los Angeles area in the years ahead. 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](http://www.laapaal.com).

## 2022 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Alyse Marie Productions

Apex1 Volleyball Club

BSA Troop 234 San Pedro

California Police Athletic Federation

Casa Prieto Sporting Goods

Filipino American Law Enforcement

Officers Association Los Angeles

Fund a Hero

High Hopes Neurological Recovery Group

Jacob's House

Los Angeles Unified School District

Nevada Police and Fire Games

Program for Torture Victims

Project Seek, Inc.

REACH LA

Reading Is Fundamental of Southern California

SEP United, Inc.

Soroptimist International of Greater Santa Clarita Valley

Spicy Green Book

TRUST South L.A.

# 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](http://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
- ▶ *The Layover With LAAPOA* video podcast
- ▶ LAAPOA Twitter account
- ▶ LAAPOA Facebook page
- ▶ LAAPOA Instagram account
- ▶ LAAPOA YouTube channel

## 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](http://www.laapoa.com/laxpd-university).



# Negotiations

## 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](http://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.

## RETIREMENTS

LAAPOA congratulates the following members who retired in 2022. We thank you for your service and dedication and wish you all the best in your retirement.

POLICE CAPTAIN  
**Fernando Castro**  
35 years

POLICE OFFICER  
**Daniel Dixson**  
21 years

POLICE OFFICER  
**Maurice Jones**  
15 years

POLICE OFFICER  
**Emily Waters**  
30 years

POLICE SERGEANT  
**Harvey Coleman**  
24 years

POLICE OFFICER  
**Nannette Florez-Dye**  
31 years

POLICE LIEUTENANT  
**Dennis Lau**  
20 years

POLICE OFFICER  
**Robert Westling**  
27 years

POLICE DETECTIVE  
**Claudio Cruz**  
31 years

POLICE OFFICER  
**Oscar Gatewood**  
20 years

SR. PARK RANGER  
**Jose Pineda**  
32 years

# 2022 Year in Review

## January 1

New laws taking effect in California include AB 1475, which limits the circumstances in which law enforcement can release the mugshot of a suspect on social media; AB 43, which authorizes local authorities to reduce speed limits to protect the safety of vulnerable groups such as pedestrians and cyclists; and SB 2, which allows the state's law enforcement accrediting body to decertify officers for serious misconduct (such as sexual assault, perjury and wrongfully killing civilians).

## January 3

The California Supreme Court unanimously rules that corrections officials need not consider earlier release for violent felons, even if their primary offense is considered nonviolent under state law.

## February 24

Russia launches a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The war has since killed thousands, displaced millions and destroyed entire cities.

## March 28

President Joe Biden submits to Congress his proposed \$5.8 trillion budget plan for fiscal year 2023, calling for an increase of \$1.7 billion in spending for federal law enforcement.

## May 1-2

Peace officers from across the state gather in Sacramento for the largest California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony to date and the first since 2019. The names of 28 fallen officers are added to the monument and a new statue recognizing female peace officers is unveiled.

## May 3

The Officer Tommy Scott Memorial Highway Bill (SCR 39) is enrolled, designating a portion of the 405 Freeway to honor the first LAXPD officer who died in the line of duty.



PORAC

## May 15

National Police Week begins, and law enforcement members and supporters gather in Washington, D.C., for the first traditional in-person ceremonies since May 2019.

## May 16

The cumulative death toll from COVID-19 exceeds 1 million in the United States.

## May 24

In one of the deadliest school shootings in American history, 19 children and two adults are killed in a shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. The 18-year-old shooter is killed at the scene in a shootout with police.

## May 25

President Biden issues an executive order on law enforcement reform, which creates a national registry of officers fired for misconduct, encourages state and local police to tighten restrictions on chokeholds and so-called no-knock warrants, restricts the transfer of military equipment to law enforcement agencies and mandates that all federal agents wear activated body cameras.

## June 7

California holds its primary election. Despite many notable county and city contests in Los Angeles, such as the sheriff, county supervisor, mayor, city controller, city attorney and City Council races, less than a third of the county's registered voters participate.

## June 14

The city of El Monte and the law enforcement community mourn after Police Corporal Michael Paredes (later posthumously promoted to sergeant) and Officer Joseph Santana are killed in an ambush shooting while investigating a report of domestic violence.



**Sergeant  
Michael Paredes**



**Officer  
Joseph Santana**



## July 6

Supporters of the effort to recall Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón submit more than 715,000 petition signatures to election officials in the hopes of forcing a recall election.

## July 12

Governor Gavin Newsom signs AB 1594, which allows gun violence victims to sue the manufacturers of such guns.

## July 22

Governor Newsom signs SB 1327, which enables private citizens to bring civil action against anyone who manufactures, distributes, transports or imports assault weapons or ghost guns, for a minimum of \$10,000, as well as attorneys' fees.

## July 24

A mass shooting on a crowded afternoon at Peck Park in San Pedro claims the lives of two people and injures at least five others.

## August 15

The L.A. Registrar-Recorder County Clerk's Office announces that it has found invalid nearly 200,000 of the petition signatures to recall DA Gascón, leaving the effort well below the threshold required to schedule a recall election.

## August 16

President Biden signs the Public Safety Officer Support Act of 2022 into law, extending disability and death benefits to families of officers who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or die by suicide in the line of duty.

## September 30

Governor Newsom signs the Freedom to Walk Act, which stipulates that law enforcement can only ticket pedestrians for jaywalking if there is "immediate danger of a collision."



## October 9

Scandal erupts when a leaked recording reveals racist and derogatory remarks made by L.A. City Council President Nury Martinez in a conversation with Councilmembers Kevin De León and Gil Cedillo and L.A. Labor Federation President Ron Herrera about how to maintain their power through the redistricting process. Martinez resigns her seat three days later.

## October 20

LAPOA hosts its 2022 Women's Leadership and Empowerment

Conference, offering networking, training and inspiration to female members of law enforcement.

## November 8

In the midterm elections, all 435 seats in the House of Representatives and 35 of the 100 seats in the Senate are contested, along with 39 state and territorial gubernatorial positions and numerous other state and local elections. In Los Angeles, Robert Luna is elected as sheriff and Karen Bass as mayor.



# Public Relations

Through our press releases, *BLO* e-newsletters and print newsletters, and social media platforms, LAAPOA kept members, supporters, political leaders and the media apprised of our advocacy efforts throughout the year as our profession continues to face unprecedented challenges and scrutiny. In addition to speaking out for our members and public safety, we highlighted the vital work that peace officers are doing to serve and protect their communities, and helped our audience stay informed on the complex legal and policy issues affecting law enforcement.

## Advocating for Our Members

First and foremost, LAAPOA continued to voice the concerns of our members to ensure they receive the support and resources they need to effectively protect the public. In a July press release, we noted that LAX had commandingly regained its longstanding position as the second-busiest airport in the country, with the number of passengers and flights surpassing pre-pandemic levels. But LAAPOA argued that LAX is lagging when it comes to sustaining the employees who make it safe and secure, nearly doubling the number of airport executive positions while allowing **LAXPD sworn and civilian staffing** to diminish to lows not seen in nearly 15 years. The following month, as LAAPOA negotiated contracts for the sworn members of LAXPD, Los Angeles Municipal Police officers and the Los Angeles park rangers, we pointed out the City's shameful track record of treating our peace officers like second-class citizens, especially considering all three agencies have higher-than-average levels of minority members. LAAPOA vowed that we would hold the City to its claims of diversity and inclusion, and continue to fight for **equity in wages, benefits, equipment and working conditions for our members.**

LAAPOA also reiterated our **ongoing call to arm park rangers** in light of rising crime in city parks. In June, news surfaced that City Councilmember Mike



LAAPOA continued advocating for park rangers to be properly equipped for their law enforcement role.

Bonin, who voted against a measure that would have allowed rangers to carry firearms, had instead hired armed private security guards to protect his own Council District 11 office from unsafe conditions in adjacent Westchester Park. The next month, a mass shooting at San Pedro's Peck Park killed two people and injured at least five others, leading residents to call for greater safety measures. In response to both events, LAAPOA emphasized that arming park rangers is the cost-effective, commonsense solution to protect our parks from violence. In October, as the latest crime statistics showed increasing danger to both the public and unarmed rangers, LAAPOA recommended that our park ranger members no longer perform law enforcement duties as long as they are denied the full range of tools they need, instead routing all calls for law enforcement services in City parks to LAPD.

## Standing Up for Public Safety

In addition to protecting the interests of our members, LAAPOA frequently

used our platforms to address the broader public safety issues affecting our profession throughout California and across the country. In February, in response to skyrocketing violent crime nationwide, we examined how defunding police and other **progressive criminal justice reform policies** have been detrimental to the safety of our communities. At the end of March, LAAPOA applauded President Biden's move to increase **police funding in the 2023 budget**, supporting federal programs that provide invaluable resources to state and local law enforcement agencies – a hopeful sign the pendulum of policy and public opinion might be swinging back in support of law and order. However, the need for continued vigilance by public safety advocates became clear in May, when Biden issued an **executive order on law enforcement reform** that created a national registry of officers fired for misconduct, encouraged state and local police to tighten restrictions on chokeholds and so-called no-knock warrants, restricted the transfer of military equipment to law enforcement



agencies and mandated that all federal agents wear activated body cameras. Although we and our statewide partners at PORAC were active in ensuring that even more severe language did not make it into the final order, LAAPOA pointed out the order's impacts on local agencies and stressed the importance of continuing to make our voices heard at the federal level in support of reasonable policy that reflects on-the-ground realities.

We also weighed in on matters closer to home, including announcing in March that LAAPOA was **supporting the campaign to recall L.A. County District Attorney George Gascón**, whose policy decisions have turned Los Angeles' criminal justice system upside-down and made the city more dangerous by not holding criminals accountable and not supporting victims. Additionally, with 2022 being a midterm election year, LAAPOA kept members up to date on the many pivotal races happening on the local, state and national levels. In advance of California's primary election in June, we issued **endorsements of candidates who would support public safety** in a number of key contests. We also informed our members about the role of primaries in the political process and provided a **guide to participating in the election**. After reports showed that less than one-third of eligible voters had cast a ballot in the primary, we sounded the alarm on **the problem of voter apathy and the dangers of not being involved in the political process**, especially for peace officers. Ahead of the general election in November, LAAPOA issued additional endorsements and again encouraged our members to stand up for their profession by voting for leaders who would do the same.

LAAPOA didn't only support our profession in the political arena. In May, we marked **National Police Week** with an overview of the memorial ceremonies taking place in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and a tribute to the officers we have lost too soon.



In September, we celebrated **Labor Day** with a reminder of the power of union representation when it comes to protecting peace officers' rights, compensation, safety and professional pride. The following month, we offered readers a preview of the **2022 LAAPOA Women's Leadership and Empowerment Conference**, which gave public safety professionals from around the state an opportunity to network and learn how to achieve balance between their career, physical fitness, personal finance and mental well-being. And in November, we shared facts about the history and meaning of **Veterans Day**, which holds extra significance for peace officers, about 20% of whom are also veterans of the armed forces.

### Educating on the Issues

Throughout 2022, LAAPOA provided expert interpretation of the legal issues impacting our members from our general counsel, Mastagni Holstedt, APC. At the federal level, we shared **a guide to understanding President Biden's police reform executive order**, as well as updates from the Supreme Court **clarifying qualified immunity for law enforcement officers** and **protecting police from civil liability for Miranda violations**. On the state

level, articles discussed the California Supreme Court's ruling **limiting early release of violent felons under Proposition 57**, and an appellate court ruling **clarifying the meaning of "sustained" under SB 1421** when it comes to triggering a Public Records Act release. On the labor front, we informed members of the PERB ruling finding a county has the **duty to bargain when a proposed ordinance impacts discipline**. Other legal topics covered included whether an officer can **waive their own POBR rights**, the latest on **using information obtained during a "compelled" internal affairs interview**, and the **First Amendment protections on recording police**.

LAAPOA also released **new episodes of our video podcast, The Layover**, featuring fascinating interviews by President Marshall McClain with L.A. City Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Sacramento District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert, and retired Port Authority Police Officer and 9/11 first responder veteran Bobby Egbert. The stories, experiences and insights of these diverse law enforcement figures offered viewers a better understanding of the intricacies of the profession and an appreciation for the personalities who help to shape it.

# Legislative and Political Activity

For the past 40 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 2022, LAAPOA continued its vital work of promoting proposed bills that would benefit public safety and opposing bills that would 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 advocates for its public safety association members on the statewide level. For lobbying on national and global transportation issues, LAAPOA utilizes the services of Iseman & Szeliga in Washington, D.C.

California senators and assemblymembers hit the ground running in January, introducing hundreds of bills within the first month of the session. Once again, law enforcement became a quick target. But ARA and PORAC were able to defeat the most damaging bills early on, including measures dealing with the following:

- Limiting the existing Public Safety Officer Procedural Bill of Rights Act (POBR)
- Making personnel records public in any agency where a civilian oversight board can access citizen complaint investigations
- Threatening school safety by eliminating the requirement that teachers and administrators notify law enforcement when a student engages in certain unlawful and dangerous behaviors on campus
- Prohibiting peace officers from stopping motor vehicles for "low-level" infractions – including expired vehicle registration, unsecured license plates and faulty lighting equipment



Those early wins allowed PORAC to go after less egregious bills later in the session, which was overall a success, despite the sheer number of measures aimed at law enforcement. In 2022, PORAC tracked 317 bills and took a position on 141 while actively tracking the remaining 176. Out of the 31 bills PORAC vigorously opposed, 20 were defeated outright. We got significant amendments on seven more, allowing us to remove our opposition, resulting in an 87% success rate on our actively opposed bills.

Although most of PORAC's efforts are defending against bad bills, the organization also continues to be a leading force in pushing good legislation through. PORAC sponsored or supported nearly 100 bills this year.

Governor Gavin Newsom had until midnight on September 30 to sign or veto the 1,166 bills sent to his desk during the 2022 legislative session. This year, the governor signed 997 bills into law and vetoed 168.

## PORAC's Defeated Priority Opposed Bills

The following are some of the bills that PORAC successfully opposed. They are now either dead or have been vetoed by the governor.

**SB 57 by Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco):** This bill would have authorized San Francisco, Los Angeles and the city of Oakland to approve safe injection sites – spaces supervised by trained staff where people who use drugs can consume preobtained drugs.

**SB 299 by Senator Connie Leyva (D-Chino):** This bill would have unjustly increased the eligibility for compensation under the California Victim Compensation Program by expanding the definition of "crime" to include serious bodily injury or death caused by a law enforcement officer's use of force. This compensation would be awarded whether the use of force by the peace officer was outside of legal or policy directives or found to be illegal in any way.



**SB 300 by Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose):** SB 300 attempted to overturn Prop 115, which determined individuals guilty of first-degree murder with special circumstance(s), who are not the actual killer but acted with reckless indifference to human life in the murder, shall be punished by death or life without parole. This bill would have not only eliminated the “accomplice” standard established in Prop 115, but it would have also given a judge complete discretion in all cases of first-degree, special circumstance murder, regardless if the defendant is the killer or accomplice.

**AB 937 by Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo (D-Los Angeles):** This bill would have extended California’s sanctuary state protections to those convicted of any crime – including sex crimes and violent felonies, such as murder, rape, torture, kidnapping and more. AB 937 specifically prohibited “any and all efforts” to investigate, enforce or assist in investigations regarding crimes intertwined with immigration violations.

**AB 1608 by Assemblymember Mike Gipson (D-Carson):** AB 1608 would have deleted from the law the authority to combine the duties of the sheriff and coroner.

## **PORAC’s Successful Co-Sponsored Bills**

The following are a few of PORAC’s co-sponsored bills that were signed into law.

**SB 850 by Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz):** AB 850 addresses the need for an expanded definition of “family” that aligns better with the realities and complexities of the modern day. The legal and commonly accepted definitions of marriage today, who may enter into marriage and what constitutes a marriage go substantially beyond the notion of a traditional union outlined in the law. Additionally, the notion that children are only born and raised out

of a single marriage, not subject to common issues such as divorce, is outdated. Updating the law to reflect these inconsistencies and gaps, SB 850 will ensure that the families of peace officers who die in the line of duty receive the additional benefits they deserve.

**SB 1127 by Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego):** This bill revises the workers’ compensation penalty provisions that may be assessed for unreasonable denial of a presumptive injury claim, reduces timelines for initial compensability determinations and removes the statute of limitations applicable to temporary disability for cancer claims. These presumptions help ensure PORAC members have quick and efficient access to medical treatment for work-related injuries and a swift return to work.

**AB 1751 by Assemblymember Tom Daly (D-Anaheim):** With SB 1159 (Hill) passing in 2020, COVID-19 and other communicable diseases were classified as presumptive work-related injuries. These presumptions sunset on December 31, 2022, but the virus continues to spread. AB 1751, co-sponsored by PORAC, extends that COVID presumption to January 1, 2024.

## **Bills Signed Into Law**

Below are some of the other bills impacting law enforcement that were signed into law this year.

**SB 960 by Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley):** This bill removes provisions of existing law requiring peace officers to either be a United States citizen or permanent resident eligible for and having applied for citizenship. PORAC actively opposed this bill, but after extensive meetings with POST and the chiefs’ and sheriffs’ associations, it is clear that non-citizen peace officer candidates without the requisite background information, for whatever reason, will likely not be hired.

**AB 2773 by Assemblymember Chris Holden (D-Pasadena):** Beginning

January 1, 2024, this new law requires each state and local agency to include in its annual report the reason given to the person stopped at the time of the stop. PORAC initially opposed AB 2773 because it allowed the defendant to file a motion to dismiss all charges if the officer failed to advise the defendant up front of the reason they were stopped. That language was removed from the bill at PORAC’s request, and we changed our position to neutral.

## **Vetoed Bills**

Below are some of the other bills impacting law enforcement that were vetoed by the governor.

**SB 284 by Senator Stern (D-Los Angeles):** In 2019, Governor Newsom signed SB 542 (Stern) into law. PORAC was honored to co-sponsor this bill, as it is the first legislation to institute a post-traumatic stress injury presumption for certain public safety officers and firefighters. SB 284, also co-sponsored by PORAC, would have built upon SB 542 by expanding the rebuttable presumption to include additional state fire departments, peace officers, public safety dispatchers, public safety telecommunicators and emergency response communication employees.

**AB 2632 by Assemblymember Chris Holden (D-Pasadena):** This bill would have limited the use of segregated confinement and required specified facilities in the state where individuals are subject to confinement or involuntary detention to follow specified procedures related to segregated confinement. Ultimately, AB 2632 would create a situation that will make it nearly impossible for jails and prisons to operate safely, and PORAC actively opposed it.

# 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 they have 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:

- ▶ **Mastagni Holstedt, APC**
- ▶ **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

For more information about the PORAC Legal Defense Fund, please visit [www.poracldf.org](http://www.poracldf.org).



# In Memoriam

## GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

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LAAPOA grieves the passing of the following officers in 2022 and offers our deepest sympathies to their families.

**Richard Clark Adams (Ret.)**

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Sheldon Cotton (Ret.)**

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Raymond Breaux (Ret.)**

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Milton Cox (Ret.)**

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**John Delano Butler (Ret.)**

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Lawrence Scottini (Ret.)**

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

## REMEMBERING FALLEN HEROES

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LAAPOA extends heartfelt condolences to the families of the California peace officers killed in 2022.

**Officer Tyler Ryan Lenehan**

ELK GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EOW: January 21, 2022

**Officer Houston Ryan Tipping**

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EOW: May 29, 2022

**Officer Nicholas Vella**

HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EOW: February 19, 2022

**Sergeant Michael Paredes**

EL MONTE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EOW: June 14, 2022

**Officer Jorge David Alvarado**

SALINAS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EOW: February 25, 2022

**Officer Joseph Santana**

EL MONTE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EOW: June 14, 2022

*We will never forget.*



# LAAPOA

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT  
PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/laapoa](http://www.youtube.com/user/laapoa) ★ Instagram: [www.instagram.com/laapoa](http://www.instagram.com/laapoa)