

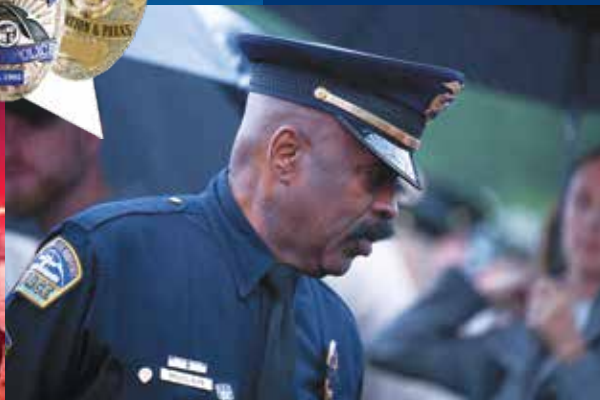
Annual 2025 Report



LAAPOA

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT
PEACE OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION

LAX | VNY | LPR | MPO





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AFFILIATIONS

American Alliance of Airport Police Officers (AAAPO)
California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations (CCLEA)
LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles County Organization of Police and Sheriffs (LACOPS)
Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC)
Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement (SCALE)
Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members: Join me in saying goodbye to 2025 — it was quite a year! We entered 2025 with a new contract, which included well-earned security of improved pay, benefits and retirement provisions. Still, we continue to face familiar challenges while taking on new ones. This year also brought many changes in America, the world, the transportation industry, LAX and the law enforcement community.

Leadership

I believe 2025 will be known as the year of leadership — leadership that has succeeded and leadership that has failed. Leadership at LAWA/LAX is suffering. LAAPOA has a vote of “no confidence” for LAXPD’s Chief Cecil Rhambo.

Chief Rhambo came to LAXPD with much hope, but within a year, he took a leave of absence (during COVID) to run for sheriff of L.A. County. He finished a disappointing fourth, slamming law enforcement and race blaming for his loss. Upon his return to LAXPD, he has been absent figuratively and literally. Rhambo’s professional demeanor runs the gamut, whether it’s glad-handing, shilling for LAWA’s CEO or being outwardly aggressive.

He is not the leader that LAXPD and LAAPOA need as we continue to deal with the fallout from the pandemic, anti-police sentiment, airport and transportation difficulties, and the security challenges of upcoming world events in Los Angeles.

LAAPOA is working to bring change to LAXPD leadership that will benefit all of us and all we protect. We will continue to do so through 2026 and beyond, if necessary, just as we will continue advocating to ensure our ranger members and municipal officers have every benefit and equipment necessary to perform law enforcement duties.

Los Angeles and LAX

It has been a tough year for Los Angeles. There have been fires, riots, homelessness issues, curfews and mass layoffs.

LAX did not fare much better — it was recently ranked as the worst U.S. airport for international travel in 2025. A ground stop took place in October. A serious runway incident happened in September. LAX is continuing its “big, beautiful” construction project, which includes fully shutting down Terminal 5 and relocating all airlines. Even the iconic LAX sign has been removed.

Faith

Through all of the ups and downs of 2025, LAAPOA has stood strong. Our Board and members are fully committed to focusing on our common goals. I have particularly seen a melding of younger



Through all of the ups and downs of 2025, LAAPOA has stood strong. Our Board and members are fully committed to focusing on our common goals.

members and “more experienced” LEOs in 2025, and it has been rewarding and fun. The energy has changed within our group. I see more communication and an openness to understanding and learning new points of view that have made LAAPOA a better organization for doing so.

After a year like 2025, it would have been easy to fold our tents and go to our corners, but we did the opposite at LAAPOA. On behalf of our Board and myself personally, we thank you for leaning in and being part of the conversation, and encourage you to continue to do so.

It strengthens my faith and renews it when I need it. I also thank you for letting me represent your voices. It has been an honor and a privilege.

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.

■ 2025 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Ky Alicia Thomas Foundation

American Police Beat

HALO Branded Solutions Inc.
— T-shirts and hats fundraiser

Nevada Police and Fire Games

FALEO-LA

Los Angeles Police Revolver
and Athletic Club

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

LAAPOA's **Retiree Medical Trust (RMT)** is a health care pre-funding vehicle that is funded by defined contributions set in the labor agreement and will provide a gap coverage of monthly payments for those retiring between ages 50 and 55, for those who meet the eligibility rules.

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:

- › Calendar and benefits booklet
- › "Eye on Aviation" daily e-newsletter
- › Biweekly BOLO electronic newsletters
- › *The Layover With LAAPOA* video podcast
- › LAAPOA X 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.



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:

- › Avoided any salary or benefit cuts, layoffs or furloughs during the budget crisis
- › Pension enhancement option of LAFPP Tier 6
- › Increase of 18% for pay parity
- › Starting/Academy pay parity
- › Added an additional 5.5% salary for step 7
- › Increased longevity bonus
- › Added retention bonus after five years
- › Increased marksmanship bonus
- › Implementation of compensated time off bank
- › Added additional holiday pay
- › 100% sick time cash out upon retirement
- › Expansion of on-call pay to more members
- › Implementation and expansion of bilingual and sign-language pay
- › Actively working on equipment enhancements for park rangers

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.



2025

YEAR IN REVIEW

January 1

New laws aiming to tackle the rampant increase in theft around the state take effect, including AB 3209, which allows a court to issue a “retail theft restraining order”; SB 982, which makes the crime of organized retail theft permanent and strengthens measures to address retail crime; and AB 2943, which allows an officer with probable cause to arrest a person for shoplifting, even if the act did not take place in the officer’s presence.

January 5

PORAC President Brian Marvel, along with Steptoe advocates Darryl Nirenberg and Rowan Bost, attend the White House signing ceremony for the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 82). This landmark legislation repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset, ensuring that peace officers, teachers, firefighters and other public servants receive the full Social Security benefits they deserve.

January 7

Los Angeles experiences the most destructive wildfires in its history, fueled by strong winds and prolonged drought conditions. Thirty-one people are killed, hundreds of thousands are evacuated and thousands of structures are destroyed in the Palisades and Eaton fires, which continue to burn for days.



January 8

Riverside County Sheriff’s Deputy Timothy Corlew is killed in an on-duty traffic collision.

January 20

President Trump is inaugurated as the 47th president of the United States.

February 4

The Senate confirms Pam Bondi as U.S. attorney general, making her the third woman to run the Justice Department.

March 17

During a pursuit of a stolen vehicle, San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Deputy Hector Cuevas Jr. is killed in a traffic collision.

March 25

The House Judiciary Committee votes to advance two PORAC-endorsed bills, the LEOSA Reform Act (H.R. 2243) and the Improving Law Enforcement Safety and Wellness Through Data Act (H.R. 2240), to the full House. The LEOSA Reform Act would enhance qualification standards and broaden the authority for qualified active and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms across state lines, while the

Wellness Through Data Act mandates that the Department of Justice compile comprehensive data on attacks against law enforcement officers.

March 26

Marysville Police Officer Osmar Rodarte is fatally shot while taking part in a series of search warrants as part of a years-long transnational drug trafficking investigation.

April 29

LAAPOA pays tribute to the 20th anniversary of Los Angeles Airport Police Officer Tommy Scott’s end of watch.

On April 29, 2005, Officer Scott heroically protected our community from a man who had commandeered his patrol car near the airport and was intent on crashing it into an airplane on the LAX runway.



May 4–5

The California Peace Officers’ Memorial Ceremony recognizes three officers killed in the line of duty in 2024 (San Diego P.D. Officer Austin Machitar, Vacaville P.D. Officer Matthew Bowen and LASD Deputy Alfredo Flores) and two who died in past years (Manhattan Beach P.D. Officer Chad E. Swanson and El Monte P.D. Officer Terry D. Long).

May 11

National Police Week begins, and law enforcement members and supporters gather in Washington, D.C., to honor the 345 U.S. law enforcement officers — 148 who were killed in 2024 and 197 from previous years — who were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

May 13–16

PORAC's Board of Directors travels to Washington, D.C., to engage in discussions with legislators and stakeholders regarding key priorities and opportunities for collaboration. The week is a crucial time for PORAC to unite with the broader law enforcement community in championing public safety initiatives and advocating for increased support for officers across the nation.

May 14

In honor of Police Week, the House of Representatives passes the LEOSA Act (H.R. 2243) by a vote of 229–193. PORAC is a proud supporter of this legislation and has endorsed this effort for several years.

May 31

When Baldwin Park Police Officers Samuel Riveros and Anthony Pimentel respond to reports of a man firing a rifle and a person lying unresponsive in the street, the suspect opens fire, wounding Officer Pimentel and fatally striking Officer Riveros.

June 6

Protests begin in the L.A. area after Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents raid several city locations to detain illegal immigrants. Over the course of the next several weeks, some demonstrations turned violent after protesters clash with local, state and federal law enforcement, a local state of emergency is declared and a curfew is imposed in downtown L.A.

June 14

The U.S. Army celebrates its 250th anniversary with a major event in Washington, D.C., including a military parade, a festival on the National Mall and other special events throughout the week.

June 23

LAPD Sergeant I Shiu Lih Deng is killed in an on-duty collision while assisting victims of a previous crash.



July 1

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act passes the Senate by a 51–50 vote, with Vice President JD Vance casting the tiebreaker vote. The bill is signed into law by President Donald Trump three days later, providing investments to strengthen America's border security and expand resources for law enforcement officers.

July 16

After years of advocacy and support from PORAC, of the HALT Fentanyl Act (S. 331/H.R. 27) is officially signed into law. The bill permanently places fentanyl-related substances as a class into schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act.

July 17

The House Appropriations Subcommittee marks up its fiscal year 2026 bill for the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, which includes Congresswoman Maxine Waters' requested \$963,000 in federal funding to upgrade LAX Police Department's vehicle fleet and equipment.

July 17

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Parole Agent Joshua Byrd is fatally shot inside a parole office by a recently released parolee.

July 18

Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Detectives William Osborn, Joshua Kelley-Eklund and Victor Lemus are killed in an explosion at the Biscailuz Center Training Academy. The incident

represents the largest loss of life for the LASD since 1857.

August 26

The Port Authority Police Benevolent Association (PAPBA), which represents 1,790 officers of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department, endorses LAAPOA President Marshall McClain in his campaign to be the next PORAC president.

August 26

LAAPOA announces that Vice President Rodolfo Bojorquez has been unanimously elected to chair the PORAC Legal Defense Fund, the nation's oldest, largest and most respected public safety legal plan.

September 20

Governor Newsom signs a bill that bans most law enforcement officers from wearing masks during official duties. PORAC and allied associations worked intensively to highlight the bill's flaws and its potential to worsen California's recruitment and retention crisis.

October 1

A shutdown of the federal government begins, the first since 2018, after senators fail to agree on a last-minute funding bill.

October 7

LAAPOA calls for the removal of Chief of Airport Police Cecil W. Rhambo Jr. The Association emphasizes the plummeting morale of LAXPD, staffing crisis levels and unresponsiveness of LAWA leadership.

October 20

La Mesa Police Officer Lauren Craven is killed by an oncoming vehicle while assisting motorists involved in a separate collision.

October 27

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Deputy Andrew Nuñez is fatally shot after being dispatched to a domestic violence call.

November 20–22

PORAC hosts its 73rd annual Conference of Members in San Diego. The event includes several motivating training sessions, discussions of key Association updates and more.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Through our press releases, *BOLO* 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 major victories LAAPOA has had this year and helped our audience stay informed on the complex legal and policy issues affecting law enforcement.



LAAPOA Board member
Alejandra Garay

New Year, New Laws

At the start of 2025, LAAPOA compiled a list of **new laws our members should be aware of**, which went into effect on January 1. Some of these bills include AB 3209, which allows a court to issue a "retail theft restraining order"; SB 982, which makes the crime of organized retail theft permanent and strengthens measures to address retail crime; and AB 2943, which allows an officer with probable cause to arrest a person for shoplifting, even if the act did not take place in the officer's presence.

LAAPOA also hailed the historic passage of **H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act**, which was signed into law on January 5 after more than 40 years of relentless advocacy by labor organizations — including PORAC, which LAAPOA is part of. This bill repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), restoring long-denied benefits to millions of law enforcement officers, firefighters, teachers and other public servants.

Uncovering the Silent Threat to Law Enforcement

Heart attacks are consistently ranked as one of the top causes of death in law enforcement, while sudden cardiac deaths account for up to 10% of all line-of-duty police deaths. That's why LAAPOA raised awareness about heart disease among members and law enforcement officers throughout **American Heart Month** in February.

Honoring Women Officers and Dispatchers

In March, LAAPOA celebrated Women's History Month by highlighting **LAAPOA Board member Alejandra Garay**, an LAXPD officer who is one of the many women in LAAPOA and in the Department carrying the torch of those who came before them and inspiring the next generation of female officers.

The following month, LAAPOA recognized the tireless work of dispatchers and emergency call-takers during **National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**, which takes place during the second full week of April each year. These men and women are often regarded as the "first first responders" in our ranks — heard but unseen heroes who work behind the scenes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Remembering Our Heroes in Blue

April 29 marked 20 years since **LAXPD Officer Tommy Scott** was killed while heroically protecting our community from a man who had commandeered his patrol car near the airport and was intent on crashing it into an airplane on the LAX runway. Two decades later, LAAPOA has kept his memory alive through the Los Angeles Airport Police Athletics and Activities League (LAAPAAL) Tommy Scott Memorial Scholarship Fund, which has provided scholarships to dozens of deserving students in his memory.

We continued to remember our fallen heroes throughout the month of May, which has been a sacred time for law enforcement since 1962, when President John F. Kennedy established May 15 as **National Peace Officers Memorial Day** and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Each year, along with Scott, LAAPOA pays tribute to the others within our own ranks whom we lost too soon, including Captain Albert E. Torres (EOW October 12, 2019), the first Los Angeles park ranger killed in the line of duty. During the California Peace Officers' Memorial candlelight vigil on May 4 and the enrollment ceremony on May 5, law enforcement from across

the state honored three officers killed in the line of duty in 2024 (San Diego P.D. Officer Austin Machitar, Vacaville P.D. Officer Matthew Bowen and LASD Deputy Alfredo Flores) and two who died in past years (Manhattan Beach P.D. Officer Chad E. Swanson and El Monte P.D. Officer Terry D. Long).

As part of these memorial events, LAAPOA President Marshall McClain represented the Association and our members in Sacramento, joining thousands of fellow officers and survivors in honoring the fallen at our State Capitol. LAAPOA also brought to light data that shows just how real the risks of law enforcement are. There were 342 officers shot in the line of duty in 2024 — including 19 from California — and 52 of them were killed, marking a 13% increase in firearms-related fatalities from 2023.

In June, LAAPOA joined the nationwide observance of **National PTSD Awareness Month**, continuing its commitment to supporting the mental health and wellness of peace officers. The Association also highlighted the sad fact that more officers kill themselves every year than are killed in the line of duty. In recognition of **National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month** and of **National Law Enforcement Suicide Awareness Day** on September 26, LAAPOA committed itself to bringing attention to and educating our members and supporters about this public health issue and epidemic in the law enforcement profession.

This year also marked the 24th anniversary of the deadliest terror attack ever to happen on U.S. soil. On **Patriot Day**, LAAPOA mourned the thousands of lives tragically cut short on September 11, 2001, and saluted all the brave first responders who answered the call to action.

We Stand Together

In June, LAAPOA reaffirmed its solidarity with law enforcement officers across Los Angeles — local, state and federal — who united to protect the community during a week of civil unrest. The Association condemned political interference that undermined public safety and called for stronger leadership and collaboration among agencies. “Witnessing the interference of politics into the public safety work of law enforcement officers and the denigration of those who serve is beneath our country and has put officers, their families, the people, the communities, and the property they protect under siege. It must stop now,” McClain said.

In September, LAAPOA used **Labor Day** as an opportunity to highlight the importance of solidarity among workers — including peace officers — and to reaffirm that the Association remains as dedicated as ever to fighting for equity in wages, benefits, equipment, training and working conditions for our members.

Big Win for LAXPD

In July, LAAPOA welcomed long-overdue progress when Congresswoman Maxine Waters secured \$963,000 in federal funding to help modernize LAXPD’s aging vehicle fleet and equipment. Waters noted that the goal was to enhance the ability of the Department to protect the safety and security of the physical structures, passengers, commerce and thousands of people who work and pass through LAX daily. The funding request underscores an irrefutable fact: The LAXPD must be properly funded, trained and equipped to keep pace with the ongoing expansion and modernization of LAX, currently ranked the seventh-busiest passenger airport in the world.



Sounding the Alarm on LAX Leadership

As crucial as it was to secure the \$963,000 in federal funding, LAX still has a long way to go if it hopes to be ready for the 2026 FIFA World Cup and 2028 Olympics. LAAPOA continued to sound the alarm that LAX remains unprepared to meet the growing demands of international travel and global security. Despite rising traffic and staffing shortages, airport leadership under CEO John Ackerman has failed to act, even as he received a \$250,000 raise and added over 20 new executive positions.

Another leader who has failed the Department is **Police Chief Cecil Rhambo Jr.** The Association called on Mayor Karen Bass to replace Rhambo, who took a leave to run for sheriff within a year of becoming chief and has done nothing since then to address plummeting morale and crisis-level staffing numbers. Under his rule, LAXPD has suffered a 33% attrition rate, with 171 sworn officers departing — an average of 34 per year. Of those, 90 sworn officers resigned. “Self-proclaimed King Rhambo needs to hear from those he supposedly represents,” McClain said. “It is time to go. We have given you every chance to lead us. It has not happened.”

Strengthening Leadership and Influence Within PORAC

LAAPOA leaders continued to strengthen their statewide influence this year within PORAC, as **Vice President Rodolfo Bojorquez** was unanimously elected chair of the PORAC Legal Defense Fund, representing over 160,000 members nationwide, while **President McClain** was re-elected to the PORAC Executive Committee and endorsed by the Port Authority Police Benevolent Association in his campaign for PORAC president. Together, they reinforced LAAPOA’s leadership and commitment to advancing the rights and interests of peace officers across California and the nation. “I am dedicated to representing my association, my region and our more than 84,000 peace officer members throughout California, and I look forward to the opportunity to further expand my service to our members, our profession and our communities by guiding PORAC into the future,” McClain said.

Keeping Members Informed on Key Labor Issues

Throughout 2025, LAAPOA updated members on important law enforcement labor developments through expert legal analysis from Mastagni Holstedt, APC. The issues highlighted included an update on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision on mental health calls; PORAC’s amicus brief in support of a petition for certiorari to review the constitutionality of New York’s new concealed carry law; understanding no tax on tips and overtime provisions in the One Big Beautiful Bill; David Mastagni’s powerful testimony in opposition to SB 627; and more.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY

For the past 43 years, LAAPOA has played a major role 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 2025, LAAPOA continued its crucial work of promoting proposed bills that would benefit public safety and opposing bills that would threaten it.

LAAPOA is part of the **Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC)**, which advocates for its public safety association members on the statewide and national levels. **Perry Strategies** is a lobbying firm used locally and in Sacramento. For lobbying on national and global transportation issues, LAAPOA utilizes the services of **Iseman & Associates** in Washington, D.C.

This year began with a historic milestone. On January 5, PORAC leadership was at the White House for the signing of the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 82), which repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). This landmark legislation — decades in the making — ensures that peace officers, firefighters, teachers and other public servants receive the full Social Security benefits they have earned. PORAC's leadership, coordination with the West Coast Coalition and targeted outreach to California's congressional delegation were pivotal in building bipartisan support for the bill's passage, culminating in near-unanimous backing from the state's representatives.

Several members of Congress also introduced bills to classify fentanyl as a Schedule I drug under the Controlled Substances Act and to sanction Chinese producers of precursor chemicals. Notably, this included the reintroduction of the HALT Fentanyl Act (S. 331/H.R. 27), which received PORAC's renewed support and passed the House on February 7. After years of advocacy and support from PORAC, the bill was officially signed into law on July 16.

In March, PORAC also endorsed the Public Service Employer-Employee Cooperation Act (S. 636), which aims to ensure that states uphold existing labor agreements and provide public safety officers with essential workforce protections. Later in the month, the House Judiciary Committee voted to advance two PORAC-endorsed bills, the LEOSA Reform Act (H.R. 2243) and the Improving Law Enforcement Safety and Wellness Through Data Act (H.R. 2240), to the full House.

On May 13–16, PORAC returned to Washington, D.C., to advocate before Congress and the Trump administration on critical

law enforcement issues during Police Week. The main legislative initiatives PORAC discussed during this crucial week included building support for the Providing Child Care for Police Officers Act (H.R. 3304); increasing support for Representative Rutherford's Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act (H.R. 2094/S. 978); securing a Republican co-lead for the First Responders' Care Expansion (FRCE) Act; and much more.

On July 4, after months of deliberation in Congress, President Trump signed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) into law. The Department of Justice (DOJ) is slated to receive \$3.3 billion for a number of initiatives, including the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs. The bill also establishes a new \$3.5 billion "Bridging Immigration-related Deficits Experienced Nationwide" Reimbursement Fund to assist state and local governments in tracking, detaining and prosecuting undocumented immigrants.

When the clock struck midnight on September 30, the federal government officially shut down — and remained closed until November 12. As negotiations unfold, PORAC will remain engaged at the federal level to urge that state and local law enforcement grant programs resume operations with minimal interruption.

In California, one of the most concerning measures this year was SB 627, the so-called No Secret Police Act (Senator Scott Wiener), which undermined longstanding officer protections under the guise of addressing immigration enforcement. While it does nothing to restrain federal agents or prevent racial profiling, the bill instead targets California's local law enforcement agencies, exposing officers acting in good faith to civil and criminal liability — even for routine duties like wearing protective gear. PORAC and allied associations worked intensively to highlight the bill's flaws and its potential to worsen California's recruitment and retention crisis. While the governor ultimately signed the bill, his signing message and personal assurances recognized PORAC's advocacy and committed to addressing the bill's most problematic sections next year.

Rather than casting a wide net that risks criminalizing local officers, PORAC worked with Senator Sasha Renée Pérez on SB 805, a more targeted and effective approach to promoting transparency and accountability. The bill responds to growing concerns about federal impersonators, citing incidents where masked, unmarked individuals posing as ICE agents have caused public panic. Thankfully, PORAC worked to ensure this measure was successfully chaptered.



PORAC and allied associations worked intensively to highlight SB 627's flaws and its potential to worsen California's recruitment and retention crisis.

Another PORAC-supported measure that was chaptered was SB 487 (Grayson), which expanded access to workers' compensation benefits for peace officers. Both represent important wins that strengthen protections for those who serve and help preserve public confidence in law enforcement and public safety.

PORAC's Defeated Priority Opposed Bills

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

SB 277 by Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (D–San Diego): This bill sought to significantly limit officers' ability to request consent searches without reasonable suspicion. Recognizing the need for balanced reforms, this bill was paused for further discussion.

AB 1231 by Assemblymember Elhawary (D–South Los Angeles): This bill would have created a broad felony diversion program allowing repeat offenders to evade accountability. It was ultimately killed on concurrence, a rare and significant win that underscored the strength of PORAC's statewide coalition.

SB 274 by Senator Sabrina Cervantes (D–Corona): This bill would have restricted automated license plate recognition. It also would have required the DOJ to conduct annual random audits of agencies using license plate readers "to determine whether they have implemented a usage and privacy policy in compliance with the law."

SB 357 by Senator Caroline Menjivar (D–San Fernando Valley): This bill would have "reimagined" the juvenile justice system in L.A. County by granting the Board of Supervisors the ability to delegate partial duties and responsibilities of the Probation Department to another county entity, granting that entity the ability to review juvenile case files if it chose to do so.

PORAC's Successful Co-Sponsored Bills

The following are some of PORAC's co-sponsored bills that were signed into law.

SB 459 by Senator Tim Grayson (D–Concord): This bill extends confidentiality protections to group peer support sessions, helping officers access mental health resources without fear of disclosure.

SB 734 by Senator Anna Caballero (D–Merced): This bill ensures officers aren't disciplined, fired or stripped of their policing licenses due solely to a judge ruling in favor of a suspect under the California Racial Justice Act.

SB 385 by Senators Kelly Seyarto (R–Murrieta) and Aisha Wahab (D–Hayward): This bill advances education and training standards that elevate professionalism statewide.

AB 992 by Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin (D–Thousand Oaks): This bill expands and formalizes minimum education and training standards to improve professionalism and consistency statewide.

These measures highlight PORAC's steady focus on officer wellness, fairness and accountability, ensuring that California's peace officers are supported, respected and held to the highest standards of professionalism.



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.

IN MEMORIAM

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



LAAPOA grieves the passing of the following officers in 2025 and 2024.*

2025

AIRPORT POLICE SERGEANT **Jesse Oliver**

AIRPORT POLICE OFFICER **Phyllis Massey**

AIRPORT POLICE OFFICER **John Karpati**

AIRPORT POLICE/PORT POLICE OFFICER **Bill Fletcher**

2024

AIRPORT POLICE/PORT POLICE OFFICER **Cheryl Morris**

AIRPORT POLICE OFFICER **Jeanne Kathary**

PARK RANGER **Ryan Bernaldo**

**Those listed in 2024 passed away after the 2024 Annual Report went to press or were inadvertently omitted.*

REMEMBERING FALLEN HEROES

LAAPOA extends heartfelt condolences to the families of the California peace officers killed in 2025.

Deputy Timothy Corlew

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

EOW: January 8, 2025

Sergeant I Shiou Lih Deng

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

EOW: June 23, 2025

Detective William Osborn

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: July 18, 2025

Deputy Hector Cuevas Jr.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: March 17, 2025

Parole Agent Joshua Byrd

CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS
AND REHABILITATION

EOW: July 17, 2025

Officer Lauren Craven

LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

EOW: October 20, 2025

Officer Osmar Rodarte

MARYSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

EOW: March 26, 2025

Detective Joshua Kelley-Eklund

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: July 18, 2025

Deputy Andrew Nuñez

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: October 27, 2025

Officer Samuel Riveros

BALDWIN PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

EOW: May 31, 2025

Detective Victor Lemus

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

EOW: July 18, 2025

Officer Alec Sanders

ALHAMBRA POLICE DEPARTMENT

EOW: November 20, 2025

We will never forget.

**As of December 8. List of fallen officers from California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation.*



LAAPOA

LOS ANGELES AIRPORT
PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



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