



Vol 065

February 2016

# The CSLEA Alert

## President's Message



By Alan Barcelona  
 CSLEA President  
 FOP Lodge 77 President and State Trustee



Sadly, the California law enforcement community is, once again, mourning the loss of two dedicated crime fighters who were killed when their department's plane, Sheriff One, crashed in Tulare County on Wednesday. Veteran Tulare County Sheriff's Deputy Scott Ballantyne, 52, and pilot James Chavez, 45, had assisted units on the ground with the arrest of a suspect and were returning from the call when their plane crashed. Our thoughts are with the Tulare County Sheriff's Department, and the deputy and pilot's family and friends, all of whom must be devastated.

Also this week, a police officer in North Dakota was gunned down, as was an officer in Georgia. Both of them working to fight crime and protect citizens from harm.

Two things come to mind as we remember our brethren, whose lives suddenly come to an end in the name of public safety:

- One, the paperwork documenting our will and wishes should always be current and in order. Leaving behind spouses-, parents-, and or children-in-mourning to wade through any muddy waters concerning finances, estates, and who gets what is disconcerting. If you are providing for your family or blended-family, be sure there's no question who is provided for in the event of your death.
- Second, ours is a profession to be extremely proud of. Despite the high-profile cases of excessive force and the misguided media, social media, and celebrity outbursts, or displays of distaste for law enforcement that follows, the majority of law enforcement officers are honest, hard-working and would lay down their lives to protect others. There is a small segment of misguided, hateful, noisemaking individuals who have called for the taking of law enforcement officers' lives. These individuals are no better than the perceived evil they claim they want to rid the world of. Law enforcement officers don't run from scenes of crimes, they run toward them. Despite any wide-sweeping negative things you read or hear related to a rare, unfortunate situation involving an officer, stand tall as you don your uniform and perform your law enforcement duties. You are protectors and lifesavers.

I thank you for your service as law enforcement, public safety and consumer protection professionals who work for the state of California. Be safe.

## CSLEA Lodge 77 President Attends California Fraternal Order of Police Board Meeting



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**CSLEA To Award Eight \$1,000 Scholarships**

*CSLEA Foundation 2016-17*



SAN DIEGO- On January 23, 2016, California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 77 President Alan Barcelona attended the California FOP State Lodge board meeting held at the Wyndham Bayside Hotel in San Diego.

[Read more](#)

*Scholarship Applications Are Now Available*

The CSLEA Consumer Protection & Public Safety (CPPS) Foundation Scholarship Application Review Committee is proud to announce it is now accepting applications for scholarships which are available to CSLEA members, their spouses and children.

[Read more](#)

[Application](#)

CSLEA Foundation Social Media:



## CSLEA Negotiations Team Continues Preparation for Upcoming Bargaining



SACRAMENTO- On January 21-22, 2016, the CSLEA Negotiations Team, comprised of CSLEA President Alan Barcelona, Vice-Presidents Tina Brazil, Kenneth Ehrman and Tom Ineichin, CFO Ricardo Sanchez, Chief Counsel Kasey Clark and Senior Legal Counsel Ryan Navarre, began its in depth review of numerous proposals submitted by CSLEA members for consideration for upcoming bargaining.

[Read more](#)

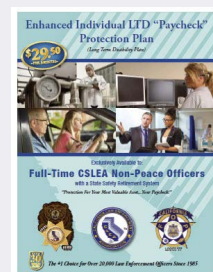
## SEFFA President Steve Bradley Visits Job Sites in Preparation for Contract Negotiations



### CLEA Children's Scholarship Program 2016

California Public Safety Administrators, Inc. provides 4 children of CLEA Participants with scholarships each year.

[Read more](#)



**DON'T MISS OUT!**

**CSLEA Offers First Month Free - Paycheck Protection Plan**



SACRAMENTO- In preparation for upcoming contract negotiations, on January 25, 2016, State Employed Fire Fighters Association (SEFFA) President Steve Bradley met with California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) Senior Counsel Ryan Navarre to prepare SEFFA's contract proposals to be negotiated by CSLEA with the State.

[Read more](#)

### CSLEA Attorneys Hold First 2016 Site Representation Classes



#### Basic and Advanced Training in Northern & Southern California

SACRAMENTO - On February 4-5, 2016, California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) attorneys conducted four site representation classes for CSLEA members who are already assisting CSLEA and their colleagues at work, or who are in training to do so.

[Read more](#)

### CSLEA Visits Cadets At Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement Academy

#### *Enhanced Individual Long Term Disability for both Sworn and Non-Sworn members of CSLEA*

At the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) we know how important it is to protect your income in the event that you become disabled on or off the job. Long Term Disability (LTD) insurance is particularly important for CSLEA members because many State employees, including those in Unit 7, are not covered by State Disability Insurance (SDI).

[Read more](#)

View our video below:



[Visit CLEA's CSLEA page](#)



#### **CSLEA Membership Encouragement Program**

A \$50.00 thank you!

If your Unit 7 colleague is not a CSLEA member and signs up using your name as a "sponsor" - CSLEA



OROVILLE - On January 15, 2016, representatives from the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA), and its affiliate Resources Protection Peace Officers Association (RPPOA), visited 17 California Fish and Wildlife warden cadets at the Law Enforcement Academy at Butte College in Oroville.

[Read more](#)

## CSLEA Welcomes its Newest Members

SACRAMENTO - The California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) would like to extend a warm welcome to some of its newest members. During the first week of February, new state hospital police officers and CHP motor carrier specialists recognized the benefits of association membership and joined thousands of other law enforcement, public safety and consumer protection professionals as members of CSLEA.



[Read more](#)

## CSLEA Meets With New CALFIRE and DCA Employees



SACRAMENTO- During the week of January 18, 2016, California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) member services representatives met with communication operators beginning their careers with CALFIRE and new hires within the Department of Consumer Affairs and at Napa State Hospital

[Read more](#)

## CSLEA Stands With Assemblymember Cooper in Fight Against Human Traffickers

will thank you with \$50.00.

Members of CSLEA appreciate a great benefit when they have one, so who better to reward for spreading the word?

If your Bargaining Unit 7 colleagues are not full members of CSLEA and upgrade their status because of your encouragement, CSLEA will send you a \$50.00 reward for each upgrade. Ask around.

CSLEA members receive enormous benefits over fair-share members. The difference between fair-share and full-dues is minimal, in most cases just \$5 to \$10 a month.

Full-dues paying members receive a \$15,000 basic life insurance policy and a top-notch, proven Legal Defense Fund, that, as a consumer protection or public safety employee, no one should be without.

Full-dues paying members also receive access to scholarships, the CSLEA Exclusive Member Discounts Program and the Fraternal Order of Police benefits program.

Your fair-share Unit 7 colleagues can upgrade membership status here. Don't forget to have them include your name as the sponsor.



SACRAMENTO - It is called "full-disk encryption" or FDE and it stands between law enforcement and successful investigations and prosecutions. FDE is the new operating systems that cell phone manufacturers began using in 2014. The only way to access data stored on smart phones or tablets using FDE is by using the cell phone user's pass code. Sometimes law enforcement officers gain a suspect's permission to search data and obtain the pass code, but more often than not, the pass code remains secret and investigators lose out on possible evidence that could lead to the arrest and successful prosecution of the suspect.

[Read more](#)

### CSLEA to Join Assemblymember Roger Hernandez at Senior Fraud Prevention Workshop

DUARTE- On Friday, February 19, 2016, CSLEA FOP Lodge 77 Vice President and CSLEA Foundation Chairman Kenny Ehrman will join a panel of fraud prevention experts to help educate senior citizens in Duarte (Los Angeles County) on fraud prevention tips. The Senior Fraud Prevention workshop is hosted by Assemblymember Roger Hernandez.



[Read more](#)

### AC-DOJ Welcomes Two New Board Members

SACRAMENTO - The Association of Criminalists-Department of Justice (AC-DOJ), an affiliate of the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA), very proudly welcomes DOJ Criminalist Danielle Tani and Senior Criminalist Sonya Botero to its dedicated Board of Directors.



[Read more](#)

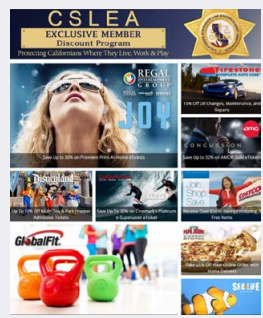
### Remembering the Life of CCC Conservationist Mitch Cox



### FOP Lodge #77 Membership Available to Retirees and Retired Annuitants

SACRAMENTO -Retired CSLEA members now have the opportunity to become members of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) by joining CSLEA FOP Lodge #77. One of the benefits in doing so, allows them to enroll in HR 218 coverage under the FOP Legal Defense Plan as well as to access all other FOP benefits.

[Read more](#)



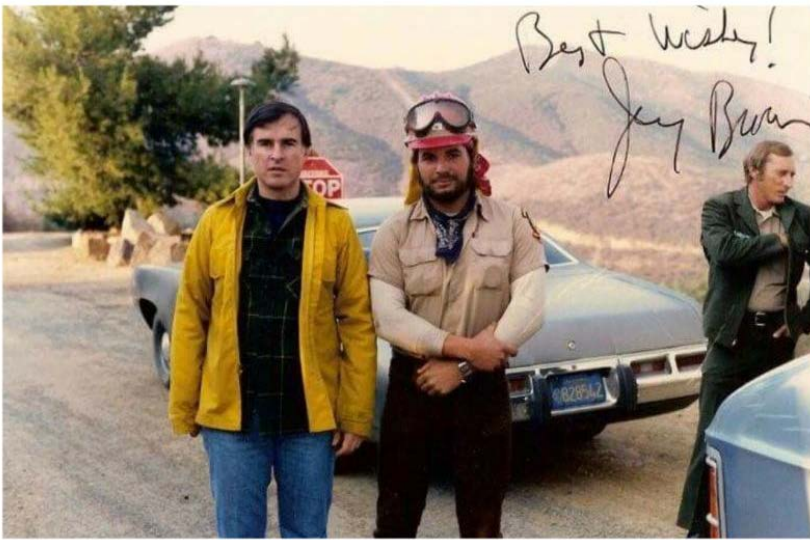
### CSLEA Exclusive Member Discounts Program

Be sure to check out the many discounts available to you as a CSLEA member.

One of your many discounts is at Sierra at Tahoe under the CSLEA tab. Save up to 30 percent on lift tickets.



[For more information about our CSLEA Exclusive Member Discounts Program](#)



**HOLLISTER-**

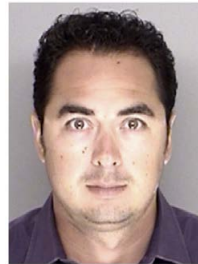
It is with great sadness that the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA), and its affiliate Association of Conservationists (ACE), has learned of the passing of CSLEA-ACE Member Mitchell B. Cox. Mitch, 55, passed away at his home in Hollister on January 24, 2016 of a heart attack.

[Read more](#)

**CSLEA Member, Investigator Tamara Kessler Recovers \$650,000 for Elderly Victims of Insurance Fraud**

SANTA BARBARA- Kudos to our California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) Fraternal Order of Police Member, California Department of Insurance Investigator Tamara Kessler, who secured \$650,000 in refunded money for two elderly victims of insurance fraud by ex-insurance agent Joseph Anthony Mele, 31, of Ventura.

"The most enjoyable and rewarding part of my job is when I can help prevent unscrupulous insurance agents or brokers from taking advantage of vulnerable victims, such as the elderly," Investigator Kessler.



[Read more](#)

**DOJ Criminalists Assist Mendocino County Sheriff's Office With Identifying Suspect**

UKIAH - Kudos to Mendocino County Sheriff's deputies and California Department of Justice (DOJ) criminalists whose efforts, together, led to the arrest of Jerry Mac Bivin, 46, of Ukiah. One can only suspect what Bivin's intentions were, he was allegedly making lewd attempts to engage in sex with children. Deputies arrested Bivin on February 1, 2016, after a three month investigation that included sending evidence to DOJ criminalists, high profile patrols and undercover surveillance.



[Read more](#)

**Online Snitch Tries to Sabotage CSLB's Undercover Sting**

MORENO VALLEY - Contractors State License Board investigators experienced an added twist to their otherwise, routine undercover sting to catch unlicensed contractors in Moreno Valley January 27-28, 2016. Someone tried



California State Parks Lifeguard I  
(Seasonal)

[Ocean testing dates and information](#)



**A Conversation with California's Legislative Leadership**

Ever wonder what California's legislative leadership deems as important issues? Above is an abbreviated discussion held January 28, 2016 in Sacramento at the Public Policy Institute of California 2016 Speaker Series on California's Future. Simply click on the video to view.

to blow the whistle on the operation by posting a warning about the sting on Craigslist.

[Read more](#)



## Doctor Sentenced Following Landmark Murder Convictions in Prescription Drug Overdose Case

**California Medical Board, lead investigative agency in this case**

LOS ANGELES - On February 5, 2016, Hsiu Ying "Lisa" Tseng, 46, a Rowland Heights doctor, was sentenced to 30 years to life in state prison for prescribing large amounts of addictive and dangerous drugs to patients with no legitimate need, three of whom died of overdoses in 2009.

[Read more](#)



## Glendora Doctor Pleads Guilty In Los Angeles Med Clinic "Pill Mill" Case

LOS ANGELES - On February 4, 2016, Dr. Madhu Garg, 64, of Glendora, pleaded guilty to the illegal distribution of powerful, addictive painkillers. She also pleaded guilty to money laundering for transferring the money she was paid for supplying illegal prescriptions to a Malaysian bank account..

[Read more](#)



## Long Beach Couple Sentenced for Their Roles in \$1.5 Million Medicare Fraud Scheme

**California DOJ's Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse assisted in investigation**

On January 29, 2016, the former owner and the former operator of a durable medical equipment supply company based in Long Beach, were sentenced for their roles in a \$1.5 million Medicare fraud scheme.

[Read more](#)

## Man Convicted & Sentenced For Illegally Reimbursing Campaign Contributors

**A FPPC and Orange County District Attorney's Investigation**

SANTA ANA- On February 5, 2016, Son Truong Nguyen, 39, of Fountain Valley, pleaded guilty to 10 misdemeanor counts of unlawful contribution and was immediately sentenced to three years of informal probation, must contribute \$5,000 to Victim Witness Emergency Fund, perform 40 hours of community service in lieu of jail, and is prohibited from being involved in any political campaigns during the duration of his probation.

[Read more](#)



The CSLEA APP

Download the CSLEA APP and you can:

- \* Have the LDF Hotline at your fingertips
- \* Contact CSLEA
- \* View Unit 7 contract
- \* View "Know Your Rights" videos
- \* Update your contact information
- \* Follow our news feed
- \* Catch up with us via social media
- \* See our CSLEA calendar
- \* E-mail us your photos
- \* View our photo gallery
- \* Meet our Board & staff
- \* Access GPS directions



**CSLEA Know Your Rights Videos**

The CSLEA Legal Defense Fund Featuring CSLEA Chief Counsel Kasey Christopher Clark

## 13 New Indictments in Operation Backlash



### Department of Insurance investigates one of the largest workers' compensation health care insurance bribery schemes in the department's history

SAN DIEGO - Operation Backlash first made headlines back in November, when eight suspects, including doctors and their associates, were indicted in a bribery scheme that ripped off insurance companies and led to millions of dollars in fraudulent workers' compensation insurance claims.

[Read more](#)

## Casino Operator Agrees to Plead Guilty to Charges of Violating Anti-Money Laundering Statutes

### Investigation conducted by California Department of Justice's Bureau of Gambling Control and IRS

LOS ANGELES -The operator of the Normandie Casino in Gardena agreed, in court papers filed on January 22, 2016, to plead guilty to charges that it violated anti-money laundering provisions of the Bank Secrecy Act. As part of an agreement with federal prosecutors, the casino agreed to pay nearly \$2.4 million for failing to report large cash transactions to federal authorities.

[Read more](#)

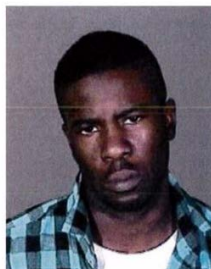


## Kia Dancing Hamster Sentenced in Disability Fraud Case

LOS ANGELES- On January 21, 2016, Leroy Barnes, 29, the actor who portrayed a dancing hamster in Kia car commercials pleaded no contest to insurance fraud, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

This was a California Department of Insurance investigation that resulted in Barnes' arrest back in 2014. Barnes received state disability benefits between September 2010 and September 2011, claiming he was not employed. Investigators, however, discovered him performing as a hip-hop dancing hamster in Kia car commercials.

[Read more](#)



## ABC Agents Spend New Years in Below Freezing Temps For Snow Globe Assignment

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE/STATELINE- Fourteen California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agents packed their bags for a long New Year's holiday assignment in South Lake Tahoe and Stateline in order to enforce



### CalPERS Benefits Education Event in Seaside

Friday, February 26 and Saturday, February 27, 2016.

SACRAMENTO, CA - The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) is hosting a CalPERS Benefits Education Event (CBEE) in Seaside during February to inform members in an eight-county area about programs and benefits available to them. This event will take place at the Embassy Suites Monterey Bay on Friday, February 26 and Saturday, February 27, 2016.

[To Learn More](#)



### Have A Story Suggestion For ALERT?

Email:  
[Teri Cox](mailto:Teri.Cox@cslea.org)  
CSLEA Director of Communications & Public Affairs





alcoholic beverage control laws and assist local agencies with the annual Snow Globe event and the increased number of party-goers.



[Read more](#)

The California Statewide Law Enforcement Association

Fraternal Order Of Police  
CSLEA FOP LODGE #77



**Thank you for your interest in the  
January ALERT.**

THE CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION  
PROTECTING CALIFORNIANS WHERE THEY LIVE, WORK & PLAY



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