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September 13, 2024

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

By Alan Barcelona
CSLEA President

Hello CSLEA Members,

On September 24, 2024, your CSLEA directors will meet for a third quarter board meeting at CSLEA headquarters in Sacramento. We have much to discuss and will welcome new CSLEA Director Gunther Scharnhorst. Scharnhorst represents criminalists at the California Department of Justice and is the new president of the CSLEA affiliate Association of Criminalists DOJ (AC-DOJ). As Scharnhorst takes a seat at the CSLEA directors' table, we would like to thank outgoing CSLEA Director and AC-DOJ President Sara Penn for her work on the Board and for all CSLEA members. She joined our Board of Directors four years ago but had been active in AC-DOJ for years before that. She has accepted a promotion at DOJ and we wish her the very best. You can read more about Scharnhorst and Penn in an article below.



Forensic science professionals will be in the spotlight next week as the nation celebrates National Forensic Science Week. These remarkable individuals are vital to criminal justice and public safety and we thank them for their exceptional work in DNA, blood alcohol, firearms and tool marks, crime scene and clandestine lab response, digital evidence, toxicology, drug analysis and latent prints just to name some of the important work they do. Enjoy the spotlight, you deserve it, and thank you for the important work you do.

Open enrollment for health insurance plans begins Monday, September 16th. For our CSLEA peace officer-members, be sure to take a look at PORAC's health plan which is available to you as a CSLEA peace officer member, and may save you money. We have more information below. I relay this information as a courtesy, CSLEA does not receive anything from PORAC as it pertains to health plan enrollments. After reviewing and comparing the PORAC plan to your current one, if you have any questions, please contact PORAC at (800) 655-6397. The PORAC staff is ready and available to answer questions related to benefits and open enrollment. We will send out an open enrollment reminder on Monday to CSLEA peace-officer/firefighter members who have signed up for CSLEA emails.

Also, out of courtesy, I want to let you know CSLEA was made aware of the [Raley's Companies new 10% discount program for retired and active-duty military, first responders](#). This is not a CSLEA

program but we thought we would share the information as we could all use a break on what we spend at the grocery store.

Look for an email from us following our September Board meeting and if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please let us know. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Shane LaVigne, Capitol Advocacy

Overview:

Members wrapped up the legislative session at midnight on Saturday, August 31, passing a record number of bills amidst a flurry of last-minute negotiations and intense debates. The final days were marked by significant tension, particularly as Governor Gavin Newsom made an unsuccessful push for legislation aimed at combating gas price spikes.



Inter-house tensions were also evident, signaling the end of the honeymoon period for Senate President Pro Tem Mike McGuire and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas. Both houses held the other chamber's bills until nearly the bitter end. The intensity of the session culminated in a dramatic bill swap under the Capitol rotunda just before the midnight deadline, with Senators applauding as stacks of bills were rushed through.

In the Assembly, lawmakers raced through bill presentations, and limited debate on issues. In spite of those efforts, some measures failed to reach a vote before the clock struck midnight. This frenzied conclusion highlighted the complexities of navigating California's legislative process, especially when high-stakes issues are left until the final hours.

Looking ahead, Newsom now has until September 30th to sign or veto the bills that made it to his desk, setting the stage for another busy year in California politics.

Public Safety Reform (Prop 47)

Efforts to address organized retail crime took center stage this year, as Governor Newsom and legislative Democrats worked on a reform package that rivaled the DA-backed Proposition 36. Proposition 36, which remains on the ballot, seeks to enhance prison sentences for various drug offenses, including fentanyl possession. Despite missing the early-July deadline to place a competing measure on the ballot, Newsom and the Legislature still prioritized theft-related reforms when they returned to Sacramento in August.

In the final weeks of session, lawmakers passed a comprehensive package of 10 bills aimed at curbing theft and retail crime across the state. Quickly signed by Governor Newsom, the package includes measures to crack down on the theft and sale of stolen goods, increase enforcement and prosecution efforts, raise the felony threshold for combined theft values, and eliminate sunset provisions on retail theft laws. Additionally, the bills target specific crimes such as smash-and-grab robberies and car break-ins, all while enhancing tools for law enforcement to fight back against organized crime.

Looking ahead, the campaign to defeat Proposition 36 is expected to intensify, with Newsom, legislative leaders, and the California Democratic Party officially opposing the measure. However, despite their opposition, public sentiment in favor of stronger crime penalties may still tip the scales toward its passage, given the growing concerns about crime rates among Californians in recent years.

Summary

As the 2024 legislative session comes to a close, attention now shifts to Newsom, who will determine the outcome of the many bills passed in these final days. This session saw a wide range of important issues addressed, from energy reform to healthcare and AI regulation, reflecting the complexity of California's legislative landscape. In the coming weeks, we will be watching closely as Newsom reviews these measures and will keep you updated on the key decisions and their implications for the state.

Legislative Update of Remaining Bills

AB 2872 (Calderon) Department of Insurance: sworn members: compensation – Oppose Unless Amended

This bill would require that sworn members of the Department of Insurance who are rank-and-file members of State Bargaining Unit 7 be paid the same compensation as the corresponding rank-and-file sworn peace officer employees of the Department of Justice. While we are always supportive of efforts to enhance the pay and benefits of Unit 7 classifications, we are not supportive of the bill's efforts to tie compensation between classifications via a parity requirement. We would be supportive of this bill if the Legislature either studied the potential pay disparity for DOI Investigators or provided the DOI Investigators a one-time pay increase. This bill passed and was sent to the Governor's desk.

AB 3241 (Pacheco) Law enforcement: police canines – Support

This bill would require the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to adopt uniform, minimum guidelines regarding the use of canines by law enforcement and certify courses of training for all law enforcement canine handlers and those enforcement supervisors directly overseeing canine programs. This bill was moved to inactive and is dead for the year.



CSLEA Director Sara Penn Steps Down Following DOJ Promotion

New AC-DOJ President Gunther Scharnhorst to attend first CSLEA Board meeting as CSLEA Director on September 24th



SACRAMENTO – On September 9, 2024, California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) Director and Association of Criminalists – Department of Justice (AC-DOJ) President Sara Penn announced that she is stepping down from her association positions as a result of a promotion she has accepted as Criminalist Supervisor at the Department of Justice in Ripon.

[Read More](#)



CSLEA and SPPOAC Welcome to Membership 38 Cadet Rangers Training at Academy

OROVILLE – On September 3, 2024, California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) and State Park Peace Officers Association of California (SPPOAC) representatives conducted a New Employee Orientation for 41 State Park peace officer ranger cadets at the academy at Butte College.

[Read More](#)



CSLEA Meets with EDD Investigators in Sacramento

SACRAMENTO – On August 28, 2024, CSLEA Chief Counsel Kasey Clark and Field Representative Marco Castro met with the statewide staff of Employment Development Department investigators at their Headquarters Office in Sacramento.

[Read More](#)



State Park Peace Officer Lee Hawkins Retiring After Two Decades with Parks

It is time for me to say goodbye to my California State Park and CSLEA colleagues after 23 years as a State Park Peace Officer (Ranger). California State Parks are interesting places filled with interesting people. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to meet, interact, and work with many quality folks over the years. My spouse recently retired after 29 years as an analyst with a state agency. I am looking forward to joining her and enjoying the retirement benefits CSLEA helped negotiate.

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CABCA

**Self-Nomination Period Now Open for Two Vacant Positions
on the CABCA Board of Directors**

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CACI

CACI Announces Scholarship Recipients for 2024

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CARII

**CARII BOARD ELECTION
Electronic Voting Period Through September 20, 2024**

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT



California Statewide Law Enforcement Association -
CSLEA



August 29 at 8:41 AM · 🌐

Thank you to our CSLEA member Tyler Leamer, state park peace officer-lifeguard for working to keep beachgoers safe!



KSBW.COM

Lifeguard tower destroyed in early morning fire in Santa Cruz

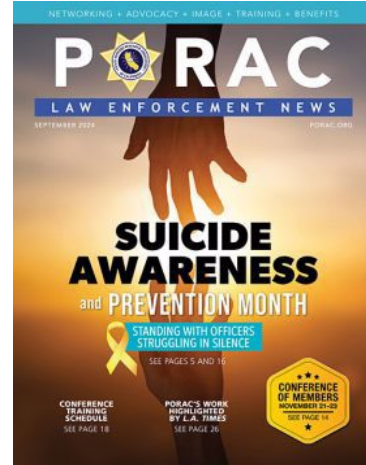
PORAC

PORAC Monthly News Magazine

September 2024

[Articles](#)

[Flipbook](#)



The PORAC Health Plan

Open Enrollment Now
Through October 11, 2024

For CSLEA Peace Officer and Firefighter Members

Can Bargaining Unit 7 peace officer and firefighters save money by switching health plans? **YES!**

One of the great benefits of CSLEA membership is that as a peace officer or firefighter, you also are a member of PORAC and are eligible for the PORAC Health Plan – which is less expensive than many of the more popular health plans offered by the State.



[PORAC
Health
Plan
Comparis
on Chart](#)

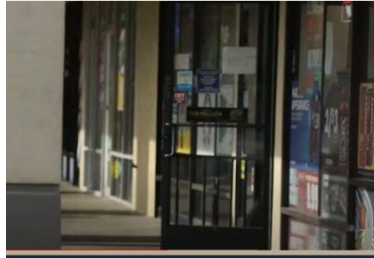
NEWS FEED



Vocational School Owner and Counselors Arraigned in Insurance Fraud Case

“Investigating cases of suspected insurance fraud can be a complicated and time-consuming process. We are...

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ABC Agents and Sutter County Sheriff's Deputies Cite Three Clerks in Deco...

SUTTER COUNTY – On August 2, 2024, California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agents teamed with deputies wit...

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CSLB Sting Operation Exposes Unlicensed Contracting in San Jose

“Consumers can feel extremely vulnerable and sometimes intimidated when embarking upon home...

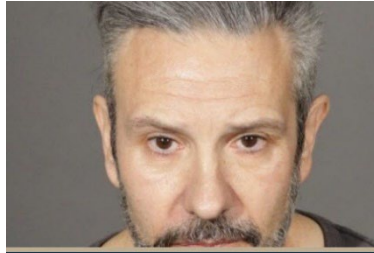
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Familial DNA Leads to Arrest in 1973 Cold Case Homicide

“The arrest of a suspect in this rape and murder committed 51 years ago is a testament to the incredible work...

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Man Charged for Allegedly Performing Surgery Without a License in Los...

LOS ANGELES -On August 23, 2024, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced that Cristian Perez...

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ABC Agents and Redding Police Officers Cite Clerk for Selling Alcohol to a...

REDDING – On August 23rd, 2024, California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agents and Redding Police...

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Woman Pleads Guilty to First Degree Murder in Shasta County

California DOJ criminalists confirmed gun in then-suspect's possession was the murder weapon "California DOJ..."

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Two People with Warrants Arrested During Shoulder Tap Operation in Sutter...

"California ABC agents encounter all kinds of law enforcement situations in their work combatting underage..."

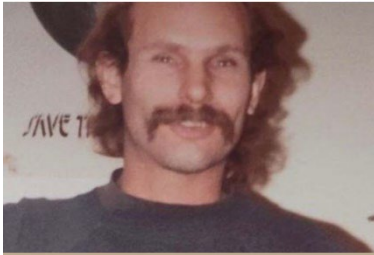
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Mastermind of \$5 Million Unemployment Fraud Scheme and Accomplices...

California Employment Development Department Investigative Division assisted with investigation "We appla..."

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California DOJ Assists Solano County in Identifying John Doe from...

"Mysteries and crimes are being solved due to the dedication and work of investigators and forensic scientists. ..."

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12 Unlicensed Contractors Caught During Bakersfield Sting

"Unlicensed contractors are a risk to consumers who hire them to assist with home improvement projects. Licensed..."

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Rangers and Wardens Respond to Mountain Lion Attack at California State...

"We are thankful that the child who was attacked is recovering and that no one else at the park was injured. We very..."

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CDFW Assists MCSO with Illegal Marijuana Cultivation Operation

“Illegal marijuana cultivation operations can cause harm to our environments and fish and wildlife. In...

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CDFW Assists Stockton PD with Alligators Discovered During Service of Search...

STOCKTON – On September 6, 2024, Stockton Police officers executed a search warrant at a residence in the 30...

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Undercover Operation Leads to Bartender Busted for Drug Dealing in...

A California ABC and NCSO investigation “This investigation highlights some of the undercover work that ABC agents...

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California ABC Agents Investigate Two Liquor Store Owners for Selling...

“This is another example of the type of undercover work that is conducted by California ABC agents. They work to b...

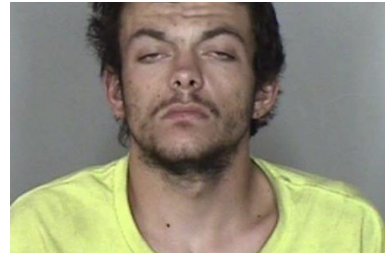
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Mother of Newborn Found Dead 37 Years Ago Arrested

California DOJ assisted Riverside Police Department with investigation “We very much appreciate the combined...

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Oroville Man Pleads Guilty Following Thompson Fire Incident

CDFW wardens arrested him after he was found wandering in fire evacuation area “CDFW wardens were assisting...

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Our Legal Team

We employ a staff of five attorneys. Our mission is to defend Unit 7 members in disciplinary proceedings and to enforce the collective bargaining agreement between CSLEA and the State of California.

Meet the Team



The CSLEA Legal Division

Each member of the CSLEA Legal staff has been designated as a principle point of contact for job classifications and representation issues. Email contactus@cslea.com to learn who your individual point of contact is. If your contact is unavailable, any of our available attorneys can assist you

[To learn more about CSLEA's Legal Division](#)

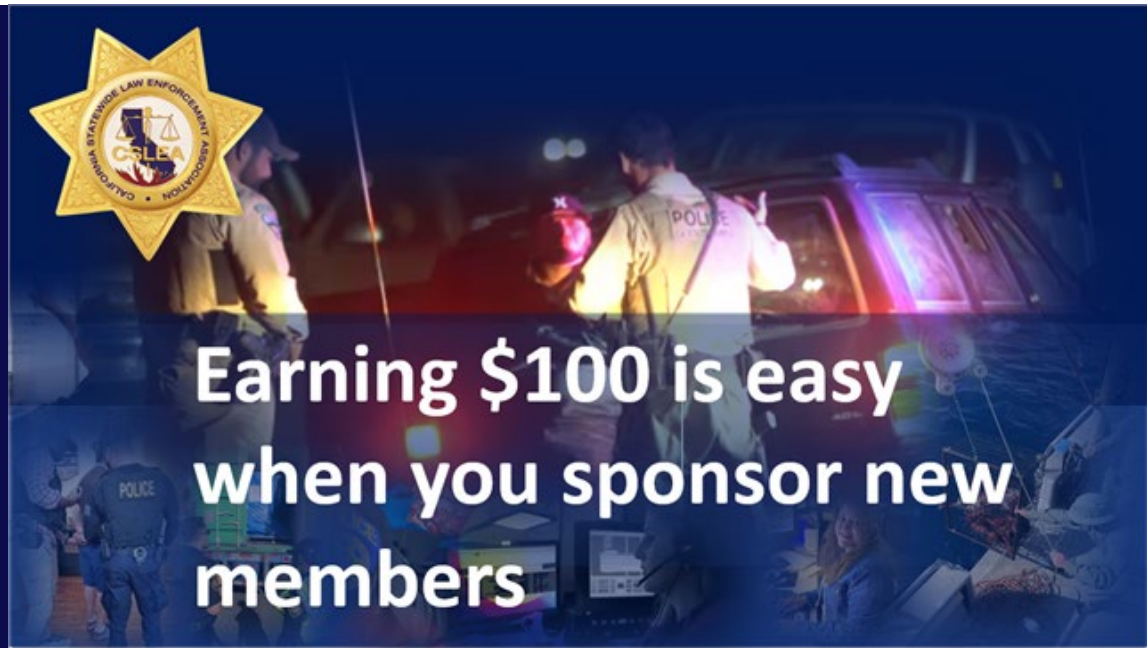
[KNOW YOUR RIGHTS VIDEOS](#)



Off-duty misconduct featuring CSLEA Legal Counsel Jim Vitko

THE CSLEA ELECTRONIC MEMBERSHIP GUIDE





The CSLEA Special Enhanced Sponsorship Program

CSLEA's Limited Time Offer - Special Enhanced Sponsorship Program could very well put a smile on your face and money in your pocket! For our members who understand the importance of union membership, in protecting pensions, bargaining power and career insurance - keep talking, keep sponsoring, because the benefit of signing up members has increased substantially. If you've never sponsored a new member but want to know how, keep reading! **Earn \$100 for each new member you sponsor.**

[Read More](#)

Looking for new wallpaper or screen saver for your desktop? How about one of these?



CSLEA's Exclusive Member Discounts Program has an app:

AENITY PERKS

Haven't enrolled in the program yet? Check it out, [here](#).



CSLEA Foundation

Consumer Protection & Public Safety

[To Learn More](#)

CSLEA Exclusive Member

Discounts Program

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CSLEA is a Member Association of PORAC

[To Learn More](#)



CSLEA's Mobile App

CSLEA's Mobile App is available at Google Play and the Apple Store.

The app can help you access everything CSLEA including:

- the CSLEA LDF hotline
- contacting CSLEA
- membership benefits and information
- the Unit 7 contract
- keeping up-to-date with CSLEA news
- knowing your CSLEA board of directors
- CSLEA attorneys who represent you
- accessing CSLEA.com and social media
- updating your member contact info

The app is a great way to stay in touch with your union and for your union to stay in touch with you! Be sure to allow push notifications as well and CSLEA will notify you of important events and information.





**As a member of CSLEA,
you have a \$15,000 Life Insurance Benefit.
To Update Beneficiary Information:**

Contact: Catherine Ross

Executive Assistant

Myers-Stevens & Toohey & Co., Inc.

880-827-4695 ext. 610

cross@myers-stevens.com



CSLEA MEMBERS

Additional Member Benefits

Allstate Benefits

Workers compensation has reduction of benefits after 22 day elimination period.

No California SDI, only NDI (starting @\$135 per week).

Leave time is valuable, don't use it all before you get benefits.

**24 Hour paycheck protection for Accident and Sickness
and Cancer Insurance**

Benefits paid from day one for accident, day seven for illness. Plans are through payroll deduction and are portable; they go with you if you change jobs or retire and you retain the same group rate.

Accident and Sickness Coverage Highlights:

On and Off Job Accident Disability Income coverage No Medical Exams Required

Covers Dislocations/Fractures, Ambulance & Expenses Up to \$60,000 accidental death insurance

Maternity Disability Income available (ask agent) Benefits paid after tax, when you need income

Cancer and Specified Disease Protection Coverage Highlights:

Progressive benefit at initial internal cancer diagnosis No Medical Exams required

Annual benefits for treatment (i.e. radiation & Chemo) Bone Marrow Transplant

Wellness Benefit pays for annual checkups Hospital and Intensive Care Benefits

Hospital Indemnity Policy and Heart/Stroke Coverage also available.

For more information contact Jay McDonnell at 760-734-4406

Or email jaymcdonnell@msn.com





CSLEA Members Deserve the Exceptional Service California Casualty Offers

CSLEA Members deserve unparalleled service, rates and coverages when it comes to their auto/home/renters insurance. That's what you'll get with California Casualty, and why customers choose to renew their policies with us year after year, at a rate far exceeding the industry average. Want to learn more about a company that works as hard as you do?

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[10 Self-Care Tips for First Responders](#)

by [California Casualty](#)

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