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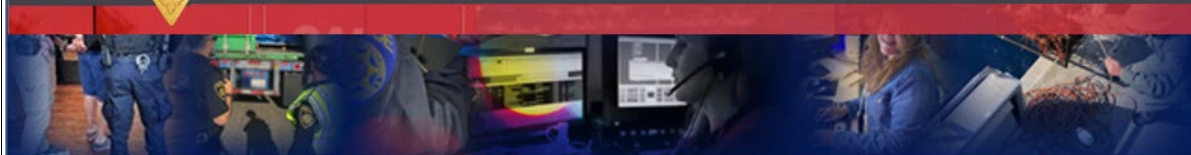
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**California Statewide**  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION

**ALERT**



**October 15, 2024**

**By Alan Barcelona**  
**CSLEA President**



Hello CSLEA Members,

Let me begin by introducing and extending a warm welcome to our newest employee at CSLEA. Senior Counsel Kja Harper-Gopaul joined our CSLEA legal team this month to assist us in representing and defending our members, resolving issues that arise within the departments in which you work, and answering your questions as they pertain to our current MOU. Kja is working in our Southern California office in Huntington Beach.

As we introduce Kja, we also announce the well-earned, well-deserved retirement plans underway by CSLEA Senior Counsel Jim Vitko. Jim has served our CSLEA members for 15 years following his more than 25 years in law enforcement including as a peace officer with California Highway Patrol, Medical Board of California and the California Department of Justice. We were very fortunate to have Jim on our CSLEA legal team and thank him for his accomplishments and contributions on behalf of our members. You can read more about Kja and Jim in articles below.

I'd like to congratulate CSLEA-CABCA member Daniel Felix, a California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agent in the San Jose District Office, for recently receiving a department award for saving the life of a baby at the Salinas Rodeo in July of this year. Agent Felix's quick reaction and life-saving act is an excellent example of what our law enforcement, public safety and consumer protection professionals are capable of, and do to keep Californians safe. We thank all of you for your service!

Looking ahead at the calendar, if you're partaking in Halloween celebrations at the end of the month, be safe and enjoy. Election day is also approaching and I encourage you to exercise your right to vote. Please take a moment to read our legislative update below as well as articles regarding CSLEA and affiliate activities. Thank you.

By Shane LaVigne, LaVigne Strategies



**End of Session:**

Governor Gavin Newsom faced a September 30th deadline to act on over 1,200 bills sent to him this year, providing a clearer view of his political philosophy as he enters his final two years in office. Newsom signed 1,017 bills into law and vetoed 189, giving him a veto rate of just under 16%, slightly above the decade-long average. His decisions reflected a pragmatic, fiscally cautious approach, likely influenced by the state's economic uncertainties.

This year, Newsom's veto messages were often centered around fiscal discipline, with a focus on avoiding additional strain on the state budget. With revenue projections still unclear, he favored legislation with limited financial impact. In this context, the rise in vetoes was understandable, given California's budget constraints.

While the Governor's choices were framed by economic realities, they may also signal a broader political strategy. As he nears the end of his term, Newsom's decisions appear calculated to balance progressive ideals with responsible governance, positioning himself for future opportunities, potentially on the national stage.

The 2023-2024 legislative session itself was dynamic, with leadership shifts in both houses and a pressing \$73 billion budget deficit, which led to the halting of any bills with significant fiscal implications. The session officially closed at midnight on August 31st, but not without some last-minute drama. Political maneuvering on both sides of the aisle meant that some bills never made it to a vote, dying on the floor. CSLEA benefitted from this flurry, as a few bills we opposed were among those caught up in the rush.

Despite these challenges, CSLEA saw great success over the past two years. We were able to block numerous bills that posed risks to public safety, policing standards, and K9 units. While stopping harmful legislation was a major focus, we also helped advance bills that will benefit our members and strengthen public safety across the state.

**2023-2024 Legislative Overview**

Below is an overview of CSLEA's priority bills that we engaged in and helped to successfully stop during the 2-year session:

- **AB 93 (Bryan D)** Consensual Searches – Oppose
- **AB 280 (Holden D)** Segregated Confinement – Oppose
- **AB 740 (Gabriel D)** Drones – Oppose
- **AB 742 (Jackson D)** K9 Restrictions – Oppose
- **AB 793 (Bonta D)** Reverse Demands – Oppose
- **AB 797 (Weber D)** Police Review Boards – Oppose
- **AB 807 (McCarty D)** AG Review of All UOF Deaths – Oppose
- **AB 1090 (Jones-Sawyer D)** County Board of Supervisors Removing Sheriffs – Oppose
- **AB 2441 (Kalra D)** Narcotic Possession in Schools – Oppose
- **AB 2872 (Calderon D)** Department of Insurance – Oppose unless amended
- **SB 50 (Bradford D)** Limitations on Stops – Oppose
- **SB 94 (Cortese D)** Resentencing Special Circumstances – Oppose
- **SB 377 (Skinner D)** Off Roster Handguns – Oppose

Below is a summary of key bills that CSLEA supported and successfully passed during the legislative session:

- **AB 33 (Bains D)** Fentanyl Misuse and Overdose Prevention Task Force – Support
- **AB 88 (Sanchez R)** Criminal procedure: victims' rights – Support
- **AB 791 (Ramos D)** Post conviction bail – Support
- **SB 14 (Grove R)** Serious felonies: human trafficking – Support
- **SB 268 (Alvarado-Gil R)** Crimes: serious and violent felonies – Support
- **SB 1414 (Grove R)** Solicitation of a Minor – Support

**Governor Vetoes Bill Guaranteeing Pay Equity Between California Department of Insurance Investigators and Department of Justice Special Agents**

*Veto message cites interference in collective bargaining process as basis for veto for AB 2872*

SACRAMENTO – On September 20, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom returned AB 2872 to the Legislature by way of veto. The bill would have required immediate pay equivalency between California Department of Insurance (CDI) Investigators (which are presently included in a Statewide class with other Unit 7 peace officers) and California Department of Justice (DOJ) Special Agents (which are designated by a separate class code). The bill also would have required that ongoing parity be maintained indefinitely between the CDI and DOJ peace officers.

[Read More](#)

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CSLEA WORKING FOR YOU

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### **CSLEA Senior Counsel Jim Vitko Announces Plan for Retirement**

SACRAMENTO - After 15 years serving California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) members with representation and legal assistance, CSLEA Senior Legal Counsel Jim Vitko is announcing his plans for retirement.

“Jim is a wealth of knowledge given his decades of experience as a law enforcement officer and attorney,” said CSLEA President Alan Barcelona. “He has been a vital part of our CSLEA legal team, has had a sincere and energetic commitment to assisting our members in their career paths and

challenges, and is all around a very positive person to be around. CSLEA sincerely thanks Jim for his years of dedication to our association and our members.”

[Read More](#)

### **CSLEA Welcomes Senior Legal Counsel Kja Harper-Gopaul**

HUNTINGTON BEACH – On October 7, 2024, the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) announced the hiring of Senior Legal Counsel Kja Harper-Gopaul. Harper-Gopaul is joining the CSLEA legal team in its Southern California office based in Huntington Beach, in preparation for the retirement of CSLEA Senior Counsel Jim Vitko.



[Read More](#)





## **CSLEA Officers and Directors Meet For 2024 Third Quarter Board Meeting**

SACRAMENTO – California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) officers and directors met at CSLEA headquarters September 24, 2024 for their third quarter board meeting of the year. In addition to receiving updates from consultants and staff, the board had the opportunity to listen to, and ask questions of, California Assemblymember Josh Hoover (R-Folsom).

“When an elected official stops by for a short visit to CSLEA headquarters to attend our board meeting, it is a great opportunity for our directors to introduce themselves, learn a little more about the legislator and his/her work, to ask questions and bring up concerns,” said CSLEA President Alan Barcelona. “We very much thank Assemblymember Hoover for taking the time out of his very busy schedule to drop in and meet with us and to learn more about our CSLEA members and the jobs they do.”

[Read More](#)



### **CSLEA & CHP-PSDA Visit Dispatchers Training at CHP Academy in West Sacramento**

WEST SACRAMENTO – On October 7, 2024, four California Highway Patrol (CHP) dispatchers training at the academy in West Sacramento received a visit from union representatives California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA) Senior Counsel Andrea Perez and CHP-Public Safety Dispatchers Association Vice President Victor Tovar. Perez



### **Nine New Dispatchers Sign Up for Union Membership at Ben Clark Training Center in Riverside**

RIVERSIDE – The California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA), along with the CHP Public Safety Dispatchers Association (CHP-PSDA), extends a very warm welcome to nine dispatchers who are currently training at

and Tovar conducted a new employee orientation, introducing the dispatchers to their union benefits and services.

[Read More](#)

the Ben Clark Training Center in Riverside and recently signed up for union membership.

CHP-PSDA Secretary-Treasurer Steve Fulton and CHP-PSDA Director David Arriola conducted a new employee orientation for the dispatchers on September 17, 2024.

[Read More](#)

### **CABCA Representatives Conduct Three Site Visits in Southern California**

RIVERSIDE – On October 1-2, 2024, the president, secretary and treasurer of the association California Alcoholic Beverage Control Agents (CABCA) visited licensing representatives and agents at California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) offices in Riverside, Palm Desert and Cerritos.



[Read More](#)

### **The State's New Business and Travel Program Update**

Posted at CSLEA.com on September 16, 2024

As a courtesy, CSLEA is informing its members that the State plans to begin implementing its new business and travel expense reimbursement program on October 1, 2024. This is consistent with the negotiated travel sections (Article 12.1 and Appendix 1) of our Bargaining Unit 7 Memorandum of Understandings (MOU).

Please find below an update and information concerning the new Business & Travel Program that was provided to CSLEA by CalHR.



[UNION UPDATE – NEW BUSINESS AND TRAVEL PROGRAM](#)

[CALHR TRAVEL PROGRAM OVERVIEW](#)

[CALHR REGULATIONS TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT EXCLUDED EMPLOYEE REGS](#)

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## AFFILIATE NEWS

ACE

**Invitation to Attend ACE November Board Meeting**

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CABCA

**Election for CABCA Board of Directors Now Open**

**Voting period today through October 23, 2024**

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CARII

**CARII Board Election Results**



[Read More](#)

FMESA

**Resolving Pay Issues at Cal OES**

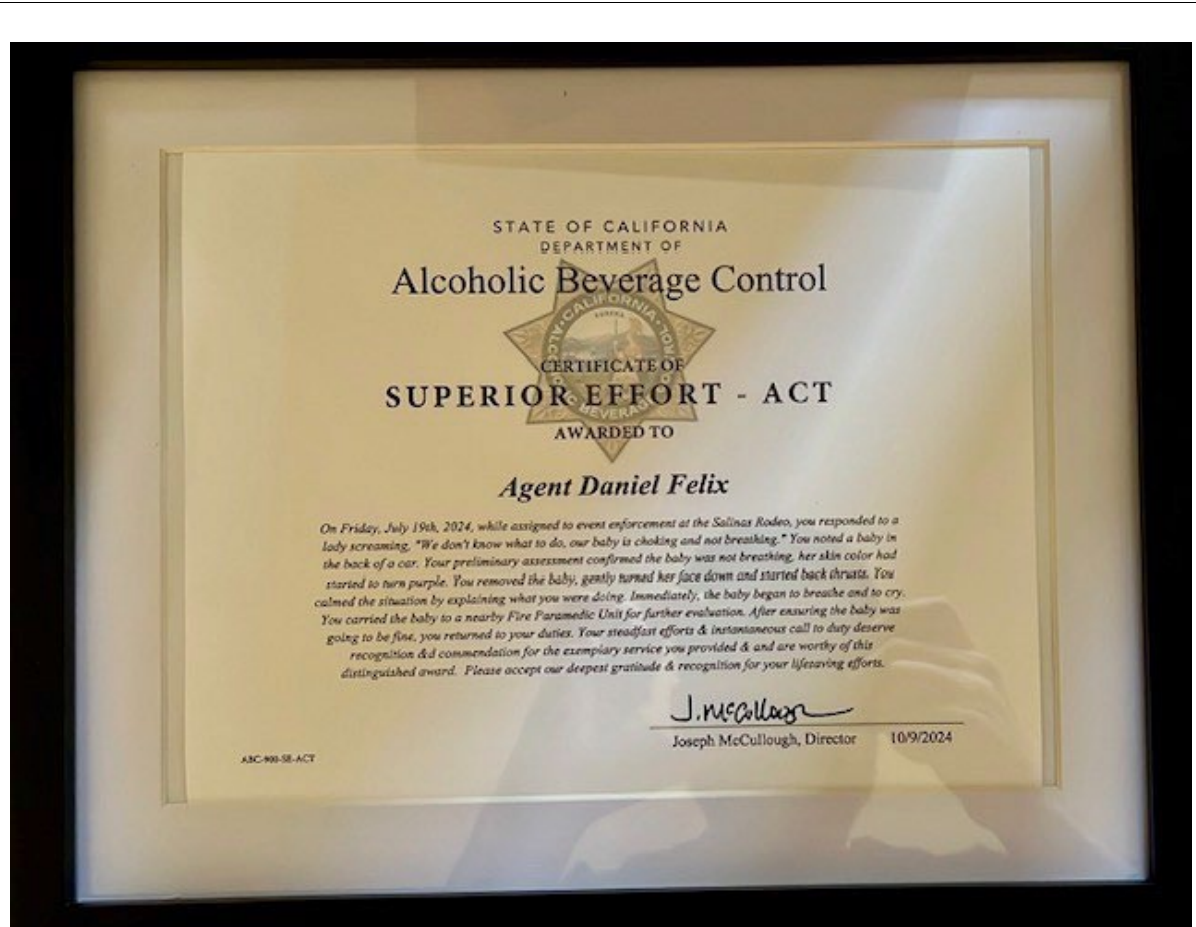
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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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By CABCA Secretary Bryant Pender

SAN JOSE – On October 10, 2024, California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Agent Daniel Felix of the San Jose District Office received ABC’s “Life Saving Award” for his work in saving the life of a baby at the Salinas Rodeo.

On Friday, July 19, 2024, ABC agents were assigned to work at the Salinas Rodeo which is the largest rodeo in California and attended by thousands of guests each day. As agents were citing underage patrons at the rodeo for possessing alcohol and being in possession of a false ID, a woman frantically ran toward the agents telling them there was a baby not breathing and pointed toward the street. Without hesitation, Agent Daniel Felix sprinted toward the area and observed two adults opening the doors to their vehicle screaming to Agent Felix, “We don’t know what to do our baby is choking and not breathing.”

[Read More](#)

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PORAC

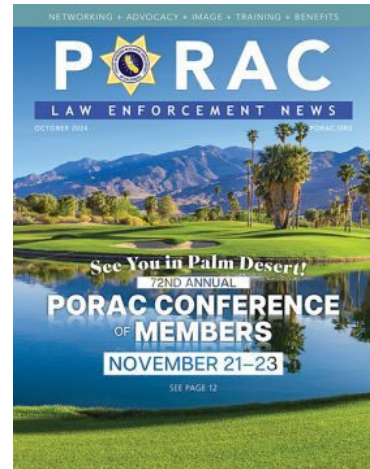
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## PORAC Monthly News Magazine

October 2024

[Articles](#)

[Flipbook](#)



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NEWS FEED

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### DOJ Fentanyl Enforcement Program Assists Davis PD with Search Warrant

73 illegally possessed pistols, rifles and shotguns, over 25,000 rounds of ammunition and narcotics found in...

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### All Clerks Checked IDs in ABC and Greenfield PD Minor Decoy Operation

"An undercover decoy operation in which no clerk sells to the decoy is deemed an absolute success! We than...

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### GRIDLEY MAN PLEADS TO ILLEGALLY DROWNING A DEER

A CDFW Investigation "We are grateful that citizens use CDFW's tip line to inform wildlife officers of the illegal...

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### Human Trafficking Tip Line Call Leads to Pimping and Pandering Charges

The California Department of Justice assisted with this investigation "Kudos to the citizen who reported his suspci...

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### Pleasanton Police Arrest Woman Suspected of Murder

The California Department of Justice assisted with this investigation PLEASANTON – On September 12, 202...

[Read More »](#)



### Tracy Woman Sentenced Stealing California Unemployment Insurance...

California EDD – Investigation Division assisted with this investigation "The crimes committed to fraudulently...

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### **Mendocino County Jury Convicts Armed Carjacker**

The California Department of Justice's Latent Fingerprints Unit assisted with evidence in this case "California DOJ..."

[Read More »](#)



### **More Than 100 Arrested in Sacramento County Human Trafficking &...**

The California Department of Justice Human Trafficking Team assisted with this operation "This type of operation..."

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### **DCC Assists Fairfield PD with Investigating Illegal Grow Houses**

"DCC works to investigate those growing and selling marijuana illegally. These law enforcement investigations..."

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### **California ABC Agents and Auburn PD Conduct Two Operations in September**

AUBURN – On October 1, 2024, the Auburn Police Department announced the results of two operations it...

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### **Hughson Woman Indicted in \$1.4 Million Embezzlement Scheme**

The California Franchise Tax Board assisted with this investigation "With the effort of state and local investigato..."

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### **\$2.3 Million in Illegal Cannabis and Toxic Pesticides Seized in DCC...**

"This is an example of law enforcement officers and departments on the local and state level working together to..."

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### 11th Defendant Sentenced in Large-Scale Cocaine and Heroin Trafficking...

The California Department of Justice assisted with this investigation “This sentencing and the sentencing of 10...

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### Man Convicted in in 1989 Stockton Murder Case

California DOJ identified suspect “The forensic personnel at California DOJ crime labs are absolutely key in solvin...

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### Unlicensed Marijuana Operations Targeted in Mendocino County

“Targeting illegal marijuana operations is imperative to public and environmental safety, and is necessary...

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### Porterville Man Pleads Guilty to Making Destructive Devices and...

FRESNO— On October 7, 2024, Joseph Marcus Silva, 28, of Porterville, pleaded guilty to possessing an unregistered...

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### Former Lake Forest Insurance Agent Convicted of Insurance Fraud

“When consumers pay for insurance, they trust that they are covered should they need to file a claim. When an age...

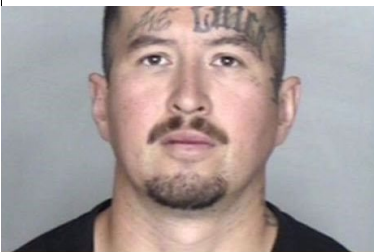
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### CSLB Targets Illegal Contracting in Riverside County

RIVERSIDE COUNTY— On September 24-25, the Contractors State License Board’s Statewide Investigative Fraud...

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### Chico Gang Member Convicted of Shooting

Department of Justice Criminalists in Chico conducted firearms analysis  
"Prosecutors rely on the vital..."

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### California ABC Agents Conduct Statewide Sweep Following New Hemp...

"California ABC agents work to protect the public from harm and to educate ABC licensees, particularly as it applies..."

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### Elk Grove Man Sentenced to 228 years-to-Life After Conviction in Davis...

Yolo County DA praises the Department of Justice for expert assistance throughout the case "Criminalists wit..."

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## CSLEA LEGAL

### 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](mailto: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](#)

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[KNOW YOUR RIGHTS VIDEOS](#)

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Alternate Work Schedules Featuring CSLEA Legal Counsel Andrea Perez

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THE CSLEA ELECTRONIC MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

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CSLEA SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

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Earning \$100 is easy  
when you sponsor new  
members

#### 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](#)

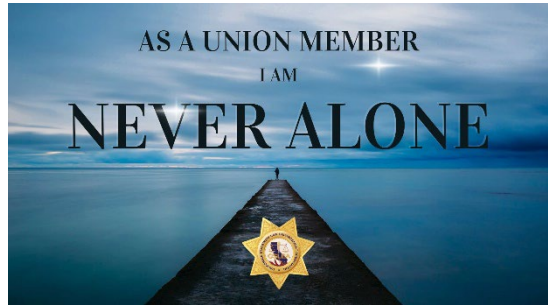
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ADDITIONAL CSLEA INFO

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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**

[To Learn More](#)

**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.



**Insurance Coverage at  
CSLEA Membership  
Rates! Learn more.**



**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](mailto: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](mailto: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?

Connect with California Casualty by [clicking here](#) to visit [www.calcas.com/cslea](http://www.calcas.com/cslea) or call 1-866-680-5142

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

by [California Casualty](#)

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