ALL PONTS



BULLETIN

Celebrating 82 years of serving those who serve others

BRICH GOME THE RSO SHOOTING TEAM



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The QME Doctor's Role In Your Life



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Editorial comments, advertising information, or subscription requests can be sent to our office, listed above, or call us at (951) 653-5152.

Schedule of RSA Board Meetings

General meetings are held on a monthly basis (except December and January). Regularly scheduled general meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month. The annual meeting of the association is held in January of each year. For more information, check the website at www.rcdsa.org.

Important Benefits Notice!!

- · Benefit designations for life insurance are important. Please review them frequently.
- Be sure to enroll a newborn with the Trust within 30 days of birth. Contact the Benefits Office at (951) 653-8014.
- If you marry or enter a domestic partnership, contact the Benefits Office at (951) 653-8014 within 30 days of marriage or entering the partnership.
- If you divorce or terminate a domestic partnership, contact the Benefits Office at (951) 653-8014 within 30 days of divorce or termination.
- If you become a legal guardian, adopt a child, or become legally separated, contact the Benefits Office at (951) 653-8014 within 30 days of the event.
- To ensure coverage, please respect these deadlines. Remember that the department does not notify the Benefit Trust of these changes.
- Please notify the Benefits Office of any changes in your address.
- Please provide dependent substantiation documents to the Benefits Office when requested to avoid cancellation of your dependent's coverage.

RSA Legal Defense Alert!!

Always consult with an association representative/lawyer before responding to any report, letter, memo and/or questions concerning an investigation that could possibly lead to punitive action. If ordered to do so, ask to have it recorded and read the following: Non-waiver statement:

"I have been refused the right to have a representative of my choice. I understand

that I am being ordered to make a report or answer questions and that, if I do not comply with the order, I may be disciplined for insubordination.

Therefore, I have no alternative but to abide by the order. However, by so doing, I do not waive my constitutional rights to remain silent under the 5th and 14th amendments to the United States Constitution and under the protections afforded me under state law."

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RSA Affiliations

- Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement (SCALE)
- California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations (CCLEA)
- Public Employee Staff Organization (PESO)
- Riverside County Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation (RCPOMF)
- · California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation (CPOMF)
- Riverside County Deputy Sheriff Relief Foundation (RCDSRF)
- RSA Legal Defense Trust (LDT)
- Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.)

The RSO Team Shot For Gold At The NPSC



Congratulations to the RSO Shooting Team for winning gold at the National Police Shooting Championships!

The 61st NPSC was held at the Mississipi Law Enforcement Officers Training Academy in Pearl, Mississipi. The September 22-24 competition drew Law enforcement professionals from across the country and spanning multiple agencies.





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O attim a	First login to mobile app	250
Getting	Connect first activity device	200
started	Complete a biometric screening	1,000
	Complete the health assessment	1,000
	Upload steps from your activity tracker (per 1,000 steps)	10
	Do your Daily Cards (2 per day)	20
	Track your Healthy Habits (3 per day)	10
- ·	Track sleep nightly	20
Daily	Sleep > 7 hours in a night	50
	Complete a RethinkCare session	20
	Browse healthy recipes	10
	Complete a step in Journeys®	15
	Win the promoted Healthy Habit challenge	200
Monthly	Complete 20 Daily Cards in a month	200
Monthly	Track Healthy Habits 20 days in a month	300
	Track sleep 10 days in a month	100
	Choose your eating type	250
Quarterly	Choose your sleep profile	250
	Set your interests	100
	Set a wellbeing goal	200
Yearly	Complete the Nicotine-Free Agreement	100
	Invite a colleague to join	50



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Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union Raises Funds For Fallen Officers

os Angeles Police Federal Credit Union (LAPFCU) has served law enforcement professionals and their families across Southern California for almost 90 years. Guided by a board of directors that includes active and retired law enforcement officers, LAPFCU understands the challenges and sacrifices of the profession. The Credit Union stands with those who protect local communities and supports their families in times of need.

From April through July, LAPFCU sold memorial shirts featuring a blue ribbon on the front and the words, "Honoring Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice," as the anchor of a blue-line flag on the back.

Proceeds from the shirts will be distributed among the families of nine officers lost in the line of duty the past year from the following departments: San Diego Police, Los Angeles Police, Los Angeles County Sheriff's, Riverside County Sheriff's, San Bernardino County Sheriff's, California Highway Patrol, and Baldwin Park Police. LAPFCU will present checks totaling \$36,000 to the agencies' foundations.

"Losing so many officers this past year is a sobering reminder of the risks law enforcement professionals face every day," said John Roemer, LAPFCU President and CEO. "These tragedies show the true cost of protecting our communities. We stand with the families left behind and honor the courage, integrity, and sacrifice of those who gave everything in the line of duty. The success of this fundraiser shows our associates' dedication to our mission and our members' strong support for those who protect and serve."

Law Enforcement Credit Union sold memorial shirts to raise funds for families of fallen officers











RSA SUPPORTS THE ONTARIO POA ANNUAL WIDOWS & ORPHANS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

SA helped sponsor the Ontario Police Officers' Association Annual Widows & Orphans Charity Golf Tournament on September 19.

RSA was represented at the event, held in Norco's Hidden Valley Golf Club, by Gary Cordry, Mark Foscaldo, James Bow, and Robert Moore



\$2 BILLION

in Personal Injury Results

\$300 MILLION

class action settlement on behalf of consumers against Epson America, Inc. on behalf of eight children and families of sexual abuse scandal

\$62 MILLION

settlement for a wrongful death

\$15
MILLION settlement due to traumatic limb loss and amputation

\$44

on behalf of air crash victims at Long Beach airport in California

\$10 MILLION

\$30

MILLION

for a **construction worker** who suffered **on-site injuries**



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in Employment Law Results

\$13.1 MILLION

for two male LAPD police officers who were discriminated and retaliated against on the basis of their sex

\$10.1 MILLION

for an LAPD Captain who was retaliated and discriminated against

\$4.3 MILLION for a veteran LAPD Lieutenant Officer who was subjected to disability discrimination and retaliation after suffering a severe back injury

\$3 **MILLION** for six LAFD firefighters who blew the whistle on unsafe practices

\$1.5 MILLION for a firefighter who endured more than three years of harassment as a result of an on-duty injury

\$1.5 MILLION for two firefighter recruits who were discriminated, harassed and retaliated against

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Chapter 19, PSU, Update

Charles Roberts Chapter 19 Director, PSU

nfortunately, the months of August and September have brought with them much sorrow. The long-term General Counsel of RSA / LDT and founding partner of Stone Busailah, LLP, Michael Stone, passed away on



August 8, 2025; and our friend / co-worker, Senior Probation Officer Travis Zmotony, died on September 5, 2025.

Mike was a tremendous champion of staff rights and POBRA and his loss will definitely be felt personally and professionally. Three significant / historic cases he fought on behalf of law enforcement were: all Rodney King cases, Rampart CRASH corruption cases, and the Tracy Watson case.

Travis was a friend, mentor, and father. In his 17 year career he worked the institutions and field in the desert, mid county, and southwest divisions from Temecula to Blythe. His quick wit and laughter brightened every worksite.

Please take a minute to say a prayer for them and their families, or simply offer condolences and wish them well during this difficult time.

Stay safe at work and home. *

Chapter 13, Retirees, Update

Lester Harvey Chapter 13 Director, Retirees

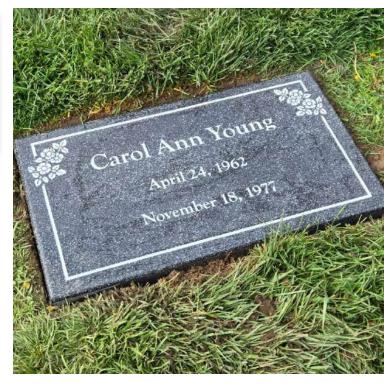
eflecting back over a career devoted to serving the community and keeping those within "safe." That was all we wanted to do, selflessly. We should all be honored and proud to have been a part of such an essential



movement. We were simply a link to a powerful chain within our free society that will never break. There were times we wished we could have done more for those who were afflicted by the demons of society.

In one such case, Retired Sergeant (then detective) Chris Taylor investigated a 1977 murder involving a 15-year-old runaway female from Dallas Texas, who was killed by a Los Angeles County outlaw motorcycle club on Highway 71 near Indian Truck Trail. "Carol" went unclaimed, unrepresented, and buried in an unmarked grave. According to Taylor, no one attended the funeral services. She never received flowers or visitors.

With all of her immediate family members deceased in the following years and decades, Retiree Taylor recently made arrangements to have a flat headstone marker fashioned and placed on Carol's grave. This headstone will memorialize her existence, and recognize her as a human being - with her rightful place on earth for the very short time of her life's journey. Taylor ensured she was not going to be categorized as an "unknown" for eternity.



This act of compassion illustrates the commitment and devotion that we as public safety officers armed ourselves with, and continue to possess. Bless you, Chris Taylor, and all of the unsung retirees who have extended their good will to their fellow human, regardless of the circumstance. We are all is this world doing our best to make each day a little better.

Best regards *

CONGRATULATION SERVICE RETURNING TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER

NAME	CLASSIFICATION Y	EARS OF SERVICE	RETIREMENT
OSCAR IBARRA	CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY II	24	8/6/2025
MICHAEL MCQUEENEY NICOLE BOJORQUEZ	★ SHERIFF CORPORAL ★ CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY II	21 22	8/6/2025 8/6/2025
GERALD FRANCHVILLE	▼ SHERIFF SERGEANT	26	7/25/2025
NATHAN SANCHEZ RANDY POSTOIAN	★ PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFIC ★ DEPUTY SHERIFF	ER II 25 23	7/23/2025 7/23/2025
JEI ROBERTS	★ DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER I	9	7/23/2025
MICHAEL CHEVALIER	▼ DEPUTY SHERIFF	18	7/23/2025



	<u>USCCA</u>	US LAW SHIELD	CCW SAFE	FOP FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE		RSA / LDT RIVERSIDE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION	
Annual Cost	\$399	\$658	\$399	\$117.50	RSA: \$12.00 FOP: \$30.50 INS: \$75.00		RSA: \$12.0 INS: \$60.0
Civil & Criminal Defense Civil Liabilty	UNLIMITED \$2,000,000	UNLIMITED \$1,000,000	UNLIMITED \$1,000,000	UNLIMITED *NOT COVERED		\$100,000 "NOT COVERED	
Coverage in all 50 States	YES	YES	47 States	YES			
Bail Expenses	YES	YES	Additional Cost	YES			
EXTRA EXPENSES	YES	YES	YES	NO			
Loss of Earnings	\$10,000	NO	NO	NO			
ALL LAWFUL ACTS OF SELF-DEFENSE	YES	YES	YES	Firearm Only			
Record Expungement	YES	YES	YES	NO			
Extreme Risk Protection Order	YES	YES	YES	NO]
		Primary		ε	xcess Oi	rly	

^{*}Excess over all other insurance: Pays After other valid insurance.



retired members back together, taking part in an event that not only keeps qualifications current but also strengthens the bonds within our RSA family. We owe a special thank you to Frank Anderson, Lester Harvey, and Joey Thames for the time and effort they put into organizing and hosting the fall quals. Their dedication makes it possible for our retirees to come together for days like this. To all who attended—thank you for your years of service and for continuing to stay connected with us. Your commitment to the profession and to one another is what makes this community so special. We're already looking forward to the next time we'll see you: the Retiree Brunch on October 29th. We can't wait to gather again and celebrate our retirees over good food and great company. Please remember to RSVP to Joey by calling (951) 653-5152 or emailing

joey@rcdsa.org—we'd love to see you there.



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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Mary Arrizon Government Affairs Manager



RSA-Endorsed Candidates

2026 June Primaries

- Karen Spiegel for Riverside County Board of Supervisors, District 2
- Manuel Perez for Riverside County Board of Supervisors, District 4
- Yxstian Gutierrez for Riverside County Board of Supervisors, District 5
- Jeff Gonzalez for Assembly District 36
- James Ramos for Assembly District 45
- Greg Wallis for Assembly District 47
- Michelle Rodriguez for Assembly District 53
- Chad Bianco for California Governor

We are proud to have supported Natasha Johnson for Assembly District 63



Assemblywoman Johnson sworn in at the State Capitol.

Need to get in touch? Contact

Mary Arrizon
Government Affairs Manager
mary@rcdsa.org
951-653-5152, ext. 1212







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RIVERSIDE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

MEMBER'S GUIDE

Organization RSA Members 4 000+ President Bill Young Area Riverside County



TOP OBJECTIVES OF RSA

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association is the Exclusive Employee Organization representing our members employed by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department is one of the largest Sheriff's Departments in California.

Represent

To not only represent its members but to advance the social economic educational and general welfare of its members. We are committed to fighting for all RSA members.

To seek legislation necessary or conducive and play an active role in the political arena in furtherance of the interests of the membership.

Promote

To promote the professional interest of the members and protect their rights to such economic, educational and other benefits and services as may be desirable.

Assist

To provide aid through the Riverside County Deputy Sheriff Relief Foundation to members and their families facing life changing

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association began as the Riverside County Sheriff's Training Center Corporation in 1943, but since then has evolved into a labor organization that represents members, individually or collectively, in all matters relating to their employer-employee relations, including but not limited to grievances, labor disputes, hours, wages, and to other terms and conditions of employment as prescribed by law.

FUN FACTS ABOUT RSA

We have been able to provide donations to over 50 organizations and/or special events this year up to date.



RSA is one of the largest Sheriffs Associations in California.



RSA has a dedicated staff of 16 people.



We have snacks in our office!



RSA COMMITTEES

RSA currently counts with 12 committees. These committees have been established to carry out the objectives of the Association, and to help carry out the policies and programs established by the Board of Directors and general membership.

- Legal Coverage Appeals Board
- Legal Review Committee
- Legal Defense Trust
- Political Action Committee
- Benefit Trust Board
- Riverside County Deputy Sheriff Relief Foundation
- Special Events & Donations
- Award Review Board
- Collective Bargaining Committee/LEBU
- Collective Bargaining Committee/CDBU
- Collective Bargaining Committee/PSU
- Trailer Committee

Serving Those Who Serve

RIVERSIDE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

WWW.RCDSA.ORG

Corne

Bacon Cheddar Gnocchi Soup



Cook Time: 20 Minutes Prep: 10 Minutes





Serves: 4-6

Ingredients:

- 8-10 Strips of Bacon, Cooked & Chopped
- 1 Tbsp Butter
- 1 Onion, Diced
- · 2 Carrots, Peeled and Sliced
- 4 Cups of Broth
- 2 Tsp Salt

- 1 Tsp Black Pepper
- 4 Cloves Garlic, Minced
- 1/4 Tsp Dried Thyme
- ½ Tsp Chili Flakes, Optional
- 16 oz Gnocchi
- 2 Cups of Heavy Cream
- 2 Cups of Shredded Cheddar Cheese

Instructions:

- Step 1: In a large pot pre-cook your bacon until crispy, remove from the pot and set aside, leaving some bacon grease in the pot.
- Step 2: Add butter to the pot and sauté the diced onions and sliced carrots until vegetables become soft.
- Step 3: Add in your broth and bring to a simmer, incorporate in the dried seasonings. Salt, pepper, garlic powder, dried thyme, and red chili flakes.
- Step 4: Time to cook the Gnocchi, add to the pot and cook per the instructions on the packaging.
- Step 5: Mix in the heavy cream and cheese and lower the heat. Stir until cheese is mixed in.
- Step 6: Stir in the crumbled bacon, saving some for a garnish. Serve and Enjoy!



Tag us on social media with your attempts at the recipes @rsachowshack

AMESSAGE FROM THE CHEF

This Bacon Cheddar & Gnocchi Soup is indulgent on its own, but it also pairs beautifully with simple sides like a crisp seasonal salad, warm garlic bread, or even roasted chicken for a more substantial spread. If you'd like to make the soup itself more protein-heavy, try stirring in shredded chicken or a bit of extra bacon, or swap the broth for a protein-rich bone broth. White beans or red lentils can also melt into the base, adding body without altering the flavor too much. Even finishing it with extra cheddar or a spoonful of plain Greek yogurt boosts both creaminess and protein. Whether served as a cozy bowl on its own or as part of a larger meal, this dish is sure to please.

Til next month, bon-apetit, buen provecho, buon appetito, itadakimasu, and cheers from the RSA Rollin' Smokehouse and Chowshack Team. Enjoy!!!

Also remember to submit your requests for future recipes or if you have a favorite recipe you want to share, please submit them and we'll publish them in this Chef's Corner. You'll receive a special "Smokehouse" prize for your submittals.

..swap the broth for a protein-rich bone broth.



New Mask & ID Mandates For Law Enforcement

Ryan Sherman Legislative Consultant/ Advocate





tion, California became the first state in the nation to impose requirements on how immigration officers enforce federal law. Supporters say these bills serve as a "forceful declaration" that the practice of anonymous, masked agents is "wrong and must stop." Critics decry the unwarranted threat the bills pose to officer safety, calling them an unconstitutional "... symbolic gesture directed at federal immigration policy."

ADDRESSING IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT CONCERNS

The authors and their supporters testified before legislative bodies and made public comments that the bills respond to public concerns over aggressive and anonymous law enforcement operations, especially those tied to immigration enforcement.

"The No Vigilantes Act responds to troubling immigration enforcement activities in which masked agents have seized people off the street without showing an agency name, personal identification, or badge number." SB 805 will, "... protect and inform our immigrant communities in the face of the federal administration's cruel and escalating immigration enforcement operations in our state." (Senator Sasha Perez Press Release, 9/20/2025)

"As this authoritarian regime seeks to demolish our constitutional rights and engages in a straight up terror

The authors and their supporters testified before legislative bodies and made public comments that the bills respond to public concerns over aggressive and anonymous law enforcement operations, especially those tied to immigration enforcement.

> campaign, California is meeting the Trump Administration's secret police tactics with strength and defiance," Wiener announced. "No one wants masked officers roaming their communities and kidnapping people with impunity." (Senator Scott Wiener Press Release on SB 627, 9/20/2025)

"America should never be a country where masked "secret police" grab people off the streets and throw them into unmarked vans and speed away." [SB 627 Signing Message, September 20, 2025]

Whether the state has the ability or authority to impose its laws on federal immigration authorities is addressed below.

"NO VIGILANTES ACT"

SB 805 by Senator Sasha Renee Perez (D-Alhambra) Chapter 126, Statutes of 2025, states that, "A law enforcement officer operating in California that is not uniformed, shall visibly display identification that includes their agency and either a name or badge number or both name and badge number when performing their enforcement duties." The bill also strengthens laws against impersonating peace officers and prohibits bounty hunters from making immigration related arrests, but our focus has been on the potential impacts to law enforcement officers.

SB 805 DEFINITIONS

"Law enforcement officer" means a peace officer as defined in Section 830, and any federal law enforcement officer.

"Enforcement duties" are defined as "active and planned operations involving the arrest or detention of an individual, or deployment for crowd control purposes."

"Visibly display identification" means "to wear externally on the uniform in a size and location such as to be reasonably visible to member of the public with whom the officer interacts."

APPLICABLE EXEMPTIONS

Numerous amendments, many of which are helpful to law enforcement, were adopted by Sen. Perez in an effort to mitigate unintended harm to officers and enforcement operations. We are grateful to the Senator for her willingness to consider and address many of the concerns raised by law enforcement. These additional exemptions significantly improved the bill, leading some law enforcement organizations to remove their opposition to the bill and at least one peace officer association to actively support SB 805.

- An officer engaged in active undercover operations or investigative activities;
- An officer engaged in plainclothes operations who is employed within the California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, California Health and Human Services Agency, California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, California Natural Resources Agency, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Transportation Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency, California Government Operations Agency, or within any department, board, commission, or other entity in those agencies or the federal equivalents of these state agencies;
- An officer wearing personal protective equipment that prevents display;
- Exigent circumstances, involving an imminent danger to persons or property, or the escape of a perpetrator, or the destruction of evidence, including if the officer is responding to those circumstances while off-duty;
- An officer assigned to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) or tactical team units and actively performing their SWAT or tactical team responsibilities;

An officer engaged in protective operations involving elected officials, judicial officers, or other designated dignitaries where the display of identification would compromise the safety, anonymity, or tactical effectiveness of the protection detail.

While these amendments properly exempt many nonuniformed officers, some law enforcement groups remain concerned with the mandate to "visibly display identification" as applied to plainclothes officers and other safety concerns.

NO EXEMPTIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING

- Officers or agents of the California or U.S. Department of Justice
- Officers engaged in plainclothes (non-undercover) operations
- "When there is a specific, articulable, and particularized reason to believe identification would pose a significant danger to the physical safety of the peace officer." While this provision is intended to be addressed via law enforcement agency policy, unlike the other applicable exemptions, it is NOT codified in the Penal Code, nor is the safety of an officer's family is a permissible factor for exemption consideration.

"NO SECRET POLICE ACT"

SB 627 by Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) Chapter 125, Statutes of 2025 "bans federal and local law enforcement, including ICE, from wearing ski masks and similar extreme masks," Wiener announced. The intent and purpose of the bill was clear when he explained that, "ICE's secret police tactics, under Trump and Stephen Miller, are raining fear and aggression down on California and requiring us to adapt in real time."

He coined the ominous-sounding phrase "extreme masking" which he defines as wearing facial coverings worn by law enforcement to obscure their identity while on duty.

Numerous amendments, many of which are helpful to law enforcement, were adopted by Sen. Perez in an effort to mitigate unintended harm to officers and enforcement operations. We are grateful to the Senator for her willingness to consider and address many of the concerns raised by law enforcement.

Equal application of these bills to all in law enforcement was the strongest argument in favor of finding them constitutional. Chemerinsky made this point clear when he wrote, "It is crucial that SB 627 does not regulate only federal agents, but rather applies to those engaged in policing at all levels of government."

NO EXEMPTIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING

- Plainclothes operations
- Protection of identity during arrests, enforcement actions
- "When there is a specific, articulable, and particularized reason to believe identification would pose a significant danger to the physical safety of the peace officer."

While California's law enforcement officers have not traditionally worn facial coverings to obscure their identity while on duty, SB 627 goes overboard by ban-

ning the practice without regard to officer safety.

KEY PROVISIONS

- Makes it a crime for a law enforcement officer to wear a facial covering in the performance of their duties, unless its agency has complied with the above policy requirements.
- Mandatory civil penalty beginning at \$10,000 against officers accused of wearing a mask while allegedly engaged in certain tortious (non-criminal) acts. Assertion of "qualified immunity" is impermissible for these purposes.
- Requires any law enforcement agency operating in California to, by July 1, 2026, to maintain and publicly post a written policy limiting the use of facial coverings.
- Defines law enforcement officer as anyone designated by California law as a peace officer who is employed by a city, county, or other local agency, any officer or agent of a federal law enforcement agency or law enforcement agency of another state, or any person acting on behalf of a federal law enforcement agency or agency of another state.

APPLICABLE EXEMPTIONS

- State-employed peace officers (Highway Patrol, DOJ,
- Active undercover operations or assignments authorized by supervising personnel or court order
- Tactical operations where protective gear is required for physical safety
- Applicable law governing occupational health and safety
- Protection of identity during prosecution
- Applicable law governing reasonable accommodations
- N-95 masks
- An officer assigned to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team units while actively performing their SWAT responsibilities.

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

Senator Wiener was asked repeatedly if California Legislative Counsel Bureau (the legislature's internal law firm) had notified him that SB 627 was likely unconstitutional. This is a routine legal notification sent to legislators. Sen. Wiener refused to answer the question, asserting instead that the bill is "defensible" in court. He also had Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean of the UC Berkeley Law School and nationallyrecognized expert on constitutional law, write an op-ed for the Sacramento Bee stating an argument could be made supporting the bill's legality, even while recognizing it is not very persuasive.

STATE'S POLICE POWERS BASIS TO ACT

Advocates in favor of SB 627 & 805 point to "state police powers" based on the U.S. Constitution's 10th Amendment which recognizes a state's inherent authority to enact laws and regulations to protect the public's health, safety, and general welfare.

In fact, Section 1 of the bill forcefully declares, "The state has the authority to establish identification requirements for law enforcement operating within the state and "the state has a compelling interest in identifying and verifying who is and who is not validly claiming or operating under law enforcement authority within the state."

Dean Chemerinsky also acknowledged that states are permitted to enact legislation that applies to all persons equally, including federal officers, such as traffic laws, domestic violence and theft. Equal application of these bills to all in law enforcement was the strongest argument in favor of finding them constitutional. Chemerinsky made this point clear when he wrote, "It is crucial that SB 627 does not regulate only federal agents, but rather applies to those engaged in policing at all levels of government."

So in hopes of getting around these general prohibitions, the bills applied to all law enforcement officers (including federal officers) operating in the state. However, later amendments exempted state law enforcement officers and no longer "applies to those engaged in policing at all levels of government."

"Although the ultimate outcome in the courts is uncertain, the California Legislature should pass the bill. If nothing else, the law would be a forceful declaration by this state's elected representatives that the practice of ICE agents operating in masks and without identification is wrong and must stop," Chemerinsky concluded.

When impacting federal rights or authority, state police powers can be significantly curtailed by other controlling provisions of law including the Supremacy and Equal Protection Clauses of the U.S. Constitution in addition to more than 200 years of SCOTUS rulings re-affirming the limits of states' powers.

EQUAL PROTECTION

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits states from denying any person within their jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws and ensures that all people are treated the same by the government. This is one of the reasons the bills as originally introduced applied to all in law enforcement, so as to not treat some in law enforcement different from others.

In the findings and declarations section of the bill, the author states that the limits it imposes on federal officers serves a compelling government interest (knowing who is and who isn't a cop) and is narrowly tailored to achieve that interest (mask ban or required ID). This is language the court uses to determine whether an alleged equal protection violation is permissible. Different standards or tests apply ranging

> Federal authorities have not indicated that they will sue the State of California for passing what they believe to be unconstitutional laws. Instead, they have announced that their officers will not comply with them.

from "compelling interest with narrowly tailoring" to one "rationally related to a legitimate government interest."

While the introduced versions of the bills may have been facially compliant with the Equal Protection Clause, the enacted versions, which removed state law enforcement officers, make the bills more vulnerable to legal challenge.

Remember Chemerinsky's warning when he wrote, "It is crucial that SB 627 does not regulate only federal agents, but rather applies to those engaged in policing at all levels of government." This "crucial" requirement no longer exists.

SUPREMACY CLAUSE AND PREEMPTION

Article IV of U.S. Constitution states that the Constitution and federal laws are the "Supreme Law of the Land," and take precedence over conflicting state laws. The SCOTUS has also declared that state laws cannot interfere with federal operations. In 2020, the SCOTUS reiterated that state laws which interfere with uniform national policies regarding a matter of federal concern are invalid. The Supreme Court has affirmed the federal government's exclusive authority over immigration, leading to the preemption of state laws that attempt to regulate immigration. This is the insurmountable hurdle between these bills their lawful enforcement.

Even Dean Chemerinsky noted in his op-ed that "A state cannot directly regulate the federal government," yet that's exactly what these two bills seek to do.

SB 627 prohibits immigration and other federal officers from wearing masks to obscure their identity. SB 805 mandates immigration and other federal display visible identifying information including agency and badge number or name during enforcement or crowd control activities. Both bills explicitly seek to directly regulate the federal government.

Both the authors, supporters and Governor Newsom made numerous public comments about the true intent and goal of these bills - to impose mandates on federal immigration officers.

Federal authorities have not indicated that they will sue the State of California for passing what they believe to be unconstitutional laws. Instead, they have announced that their officers will not comply with them.

SB 627 & SB 805 - BOTTOM LINE

- Most or all California state-employed peace officers are exempted from these laws.
- Neither bill is enforceable against federal law enforce-
- As a result, the bills will only apply to city, county and other local law enforcement officers.

We will update you if these bills are challenged in court. Until next time, be safe. *



Wellness For All Members

By Matt Hill, Esq.RSA Chief Counsel, Wellness Unit

hroughout a member's career a focus on "wellness" often takes a back seat to other responsibilities and priorities. It is also increasingly clear that a member's overall wellness leads to a

successful (and hopefully long) law enforcement career. Intertwined in a member's wellness is the reality of

encountering the physical and mental demands of the job. Usually misunderstood is the member's connection to

benefits available to them. There are numerous studies and peer reviewed articles regarding various occupation injuries suffered by law enforcement members; however, it's often lost on how to access the resources available to all members when encountering a work-related injury.

The function of RSA's Wellness Unit is to provide a unique and comprehensive resource for all members who find themselves in need of assistance when encountering a work-related injury. From a question regarding need for treatment or what medical providers are available, to a complex consultation regarding legal rights, the Wellness Unit is here as a resource for all members.





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COURT SHOOTS DOWN CALIFORNIA'S

"ONE-GUN-A-MONTH"

LAW

AS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

In a recent legal decision, a federal appellate court struck down California's "one-gun-amonth" law, ruling it unconstitutional under the Second Amendment. The law, which barred most individuals from purchasing more than one firearm in a 30-day period, was challenged in the case of *Nguyen v. Bonta*.

The plaintiffs (including prospective gun buyers, licensed firearm dealers, and Second Amendment advocacy groups) argued that the law infringed upon the constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

The trial court agreed, concluding that the law violated the Second Amendment. The State of California appealed the decision, but the appellate court affirmed the decision: the restriction was unconstitutional.

Key Takeaways:

The appellate court emphasized two key points:

- 1. Second Amendment Rights Upheld: The court made clear that the right to own multiple firearms is protected under the Constitution. Arbitrary delays on lawful purchase are not supported by legal precedent.
- 2. No Historical Support: The court found no relevant historical precedent for laws restricting how often someone can purchase a firearm. Such a regulation, it rules, does not align with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation.
- 3. Implications for Law Enforcement: While this ruling does not change background check procedures or existing prohibited person laws, it does underscore the importance of applying firearms regulations within constitutional boundaries.

This case reinforces a broader legal trend: courts are applying more rigorous scrutiny to modern gun control laws. For gun owners, it affirms their right to responsibly acquire firearms without unnecessary state-imposed delays.

Stay Safe and Informed!



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COURT NARROWS OFFICER PRIVACY IN USE OF FORCE CASES:

NAMES MUST BE DISCLOSED

City of Vallejo v. Superior Court of Salano County

A recent appellate court decision in *City of Vallejo v. Superior Court of Solano County*, may impact officers' privacy rights in relation to public records requests. The case marks a shift toward greater transparency in law enforcement, potentially narrowing the scope of officer privacy protections under CA Public Records Act.

The case stemmed from allegations that some Vallejo police officers were bending the tips of their star-shaped badges to commemorate fatal officer-involved shootings.

The police department retained an independent firm to investigate these allegations but refused to publicly release the full findings. The American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California (ACLU) requested records related to

the investigation under the California Public Records Act (CPRA). The police department released some records but withheld others, citing the *Pitchess* statutes and claiming the records were confidential peace officer personnel files.

The ACLU challenged the withholding in court. The Solano County Superior Court ordered partial disclosure -with redactions. Both sides appealed.

The appellate court considered whether the materials sought by the ACLU were records "relating to" the "report, investigation, or findings" of "an incident involving the discharge of a firearm at a person by a peace officer or custodial officer," and therefore subject to public disclosure 832.7(b). The court also considered whether redaction of officers' names was proper.

The court concluded that the documents sought were **not** confidential personnel records and were **subject to public disclosure** under section 832.7(b). The court similarly concluded that the redaction of officer names was not proper.

The court interpreted section 832.7(b)(1)(A)(i) broadly, concluding that the records related to the investigation of officer-involved shootings are subject to public disclosure. The court emphasized the legislative intent behind Senate Bill 1421, which aimed to increase transparency





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regarding officer misconduct and use of force. And the legislative history indicated a desire for greater public access to records involving serious police misconduct and officer-involved shootings.

The court also concluded that the superior court's decision to redact officer names was an error because the records are not confidential personnel records under section 832.7(a). The court noted that the mandatory redaction provisions in section 832.7(b)(6) favored the disclosure of work-related information about officers, including their names.

The court found that the public's interest in disclosure outweighed the privacy interests of the officers involved and that the records sought by the ACLU were within the scope of the legislative intent to increase transparency and public access to information about police conduct.

Summary of Key Takeaways:

- 1. **Not Confidential** Investigative reports and related records are not confidential under section 832.7(a) and are subject to disclosure under section 832.7(b).
- No Name Redactions—the redaction of officer's names was improper. Section 832.7(b)(6) requires name disclosure unless doing so would pose a specific

- safety risk which the city failed to demonstrate.
- Legislative Intent Matters The purpose of Senate Bill 1421 was to ensure public access to information about officer misconduct and use of force. This transparency, the court reasoned, outweighs the general privacy interest of individual officers.

This ruling reinforces a growing legal and political trend: public interest in police accountability is now a dominant factor in determining what law enforcement records must be disclosed. Agencies can no longer use vague claims of confidentiality to shield misconduct for internal investigations from public scrutiny. Transparency is not optional when it comes to police shootings.

Stay Safe and Informed!

Muna Busailah is managing partner of Stone Busailah, LLP and has been representing public safety personnel for 27 years.



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The QME Doctor's Role In Your Life

By Scott A. O'Mara Law Offices Of Scott A. O'Mara

ith job-related injuries, a critical aspect of garnering care and treatment to cure or relieve the effects of the injury is through medical care. The medical care has to be recommended by the treating physician. This recommendation for care by the treating physician goes through a process of acceptance by the third-party administrator, the adjuster, validation as to the relationship of the job-related injury and whether the medical care is necessary to cure or relieve the effects of the injury. The workers' compensation system has various elements that must be met before the approval is garnered. If not unilaterally approved by the adjusting agency at the onset, the usage of a qualified medical care, Qualified Medical Evaluator (QME) can come into play.



In the workers' compensation system it is not uncommon for the employer, or employee, to dispute the findings of the treating doctor. When this dispute occurs and if the parties cannot agree to the care and treatment or usage of an Agreed Medical Evaluator (AME) a panel of three Qualified Medical Evaluator's are selected, not by the employer or by the worker, but by the California Division of Workers' Compensation who has established a panel of three doctors to review and provide their medical opinion as to the causative factors and/or extent of treatment, and/or payments for lost time of work.

The Qualified Medical Evaluators, QME, are doctors who have been certified by the California Division of Workers' Compensation. The certification is that the doctors that are performing the medical evaluations or recommendations for treatment meet crucial standards justifying either the job-relatedness, and/ or the need for medical care.

If the parties are not able to come to an agreement, (i.e., the injured worker and the workers' compensation carrier), a Qualified Medical Evaluator (also known as a QME) is one of three doctors on a panel at the request of either the worker, or the employer to the California Division of Workers' Compensation (known as the DWC). The DWC provides a list of three physicians that have been certified by the DWC.

The QME doctors are physicians provided by the DWC are to conduct a comprehensive review of medical

records and evaluate the patient for determination if this is a job-related injury potentially for the extent of the residual impairment and the eligibility for additional care, treatment and payments for being off of work.



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The California Qualified Medical Evaluators are required to pass tests that are given by the DWC.

In the event that the worker does not have legal representation the worker will make a selection of one of the three participants in the panel doctor to evaluate him/her. If the patient has counsel, the council will, based upon education, knowledge and experience as to who the participants are will remove one of the doctors that they feel is least likely to be balanced and be a good evaluator. The employer then can select one of the two remaining doctors to do the evaluation, or the roll can be reversed where the employer first eliminates one of the three doctors and of the two remaining the representative of the employee can make this determination as to who the evaluator is going to be.

The system is very complex relative to the individual knowledge that the parties must have as to who the doctors are in the panel and knowledge that the doctor has. There are some doctors that have great strength and understanding in the various medical and legal systems, but not all doctors have this knowledge. There are some doctors that have limited knowledge as to what the current case laws indicate regarding the elements of causation. There are some workers that obtain an attorney who are in a position to evaluate the doctors. There is a checks



and balance that must occur relative to their QME doctor's opinion because if there is no counsel to make this review to ensure that the information provided to the doctor is medically appropriate, this can cause a major failure. The doctor's determination must be a correct determination based upon medical evidence and/or the presumptions that exists for safety members.

The panel medical evaluator or QME doctors are an instrumental element and if the worker does not have the knowledge and information as to who the panel participants are this allows the employer to make the selection. Great power is put in the employer's hand at the expense of the



The panel medical evaluator or QME doctors are an instrumental element and if the worker does not have the knowledge and information as to who the panel participants are this allows the employer to make the selection. Great power is put in the employer's hand at the expense of the worker.

Continued

worker. (The employer is not to provide a recommendation to the worker as to which one to select; this would be a failure of the system.) Again, the doctors known as a QME are required to provide an impartial assessment of the worker's injury and the length and type of treatment needed.

One of the ancillary issues that some of the doctors do not want to develop is the secondary problem that may develop for the job-related injury. The secondary problem would be if you injured your right knee and you depend upon the left knee to compensate, and if the left knee becomes symptomatic the left knee can be a compensable consequence, and then becomes jobrelated. Another element is if you are receiving medical care for the job-related injury and the medical care causes another medical problem, which then becomes the responsibility of the employer. These are simple factors that are not developed by the adjuster in 90% of the cases. The panel doctors that have been selected and are not subject to review by the worker's attorney if there is not an attorney involved.

If the worker seeks an appointment via their counsel and if the Panel QME is unable to provide an appointment within 90-days of the appointment request the worker could waive that right and accept an appointment later no more than 120-days from the date of the initial panel request. In some situations because of whom the panel doctor is, and the attorney's awareness as to this doctor, the attorney can allow the appointment to be extended as long as it is no more than 120-days from the initial request.

The employer will monitor this and look at the time limit. There are certain situations where the worker and the employer can waive the 120-day rule. In another situation depending upon the doctor it can be to the benefit of the worker.

The workers' compensation system has become very complex. The participants in this system, whether that is the injured worker, the employer, or the medical evaluators, many times will have different avenues that they would like to see the case approach.

The request for re-evaluation at a later stage also has some time limits of no more than 120-days from the date of the applicant's request for re-evaluation. These timelines and the qualifications and the understanding of the panel doctors are very strong elements that the attorney will on a continuum evaluate and re-evaluate to ensure there is fairness and appropriate determinations made by the panel doctor.

The findings as to the panel doctor can go to causation, types of medical care, nature and extent of disability, time off from work and in many situations they determine if the worker is able to return back to do their substantial duties. The workers' compensation system has become very complex. The participants in this system, whether that is the injured worker, the employer, or the medical evaluators, many times will have different avenues that they would like to see the case approach. For the injured worker their goal is to get medical care to cure or relieve the effects of the injury. In the vast majority of all cases the workers want to be able to return back to their substantial duties. The employer has a strong drive to continue to contain and control costs. There are numerous articles as to what the employers have done to contain and control costs. This is by not going forward with medical care that may have caused ancillary problems such as problems that are related to the treatment itself, and/or conditions

that develop because of the job-related injury and/or medical involvement.

The unrepresented worker does not have the library of information that the employer maintains as to the doctors qualifications and their predisposed perspectives.

Preparation for the educated worker prior to the medical evaluations are paramount elements. These elements can advise the worker as to areas of examination and questions that the QME doctor will engage in or their staff. If the worker has information as to these areas the response that is provided to the doctor and staff is one of substance and will provide a substantial foundation for the care to cure or relieve.

Therefore, after you have filed your workers compensation case, and the adjuster is talking to you about selecting a particular doctor to do a medical evaluation, be cautious of that. They are not allowed to do that and if they try to communicate as to who they think is the better doctor is, again, have caution. Your goal is to cure and relieve your injuries, and protect yourself and your family. *

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s	W	Κ	О	Х	В	K	Z	s	С	F	ı	Q	W	W
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Quarterback **Pumpkin** Costume Fall Apple Season Pie School September

September Sudoku

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	2	5	8		6		9	
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3	1					9	7	
2	5					3		4

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Print this page, write the page numbers you found the pumpkins in the box on the right, and email it to taylor@rcdsa.org.

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Page Numbers With Pumpkins

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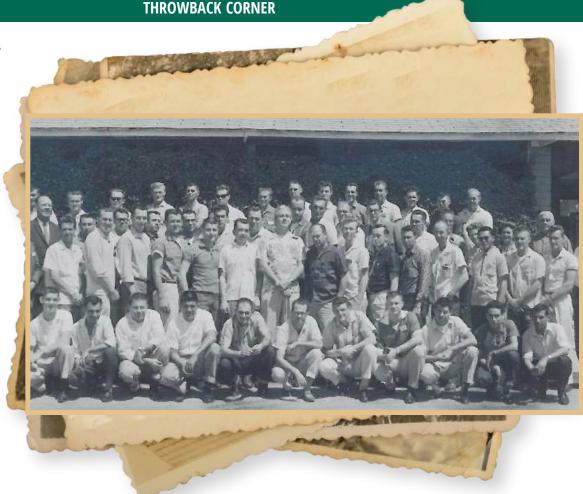
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Take a look back in time to spotlight our law enforcement heritage. The APB highlights an image each month.

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In Remembrance

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SEPTEMBER REMEMBRANCES



Henry Fredrick Nelson EOW: September 22, 1921



Theodore Crossley EOW: September 22, 1921

Frank Hamilton EOW: April 9, 1895 William Fredrick Carter, Jr. EOW: May 20, 1969 Michael P. Haugen EOW: January 5, 1997 Terrell D. Young EOW: April 2, 2020

Preston Van Buren Swanguen EOW: December 24, 1907 Edward Michael Schrader EOW: July 11, 1974 James W. Lehmann, Jr. EOW: January 5, 1997 Harry Cohen EOW: October 18, 2020

Leroy H. Tripp EOW: April 10, 1916 James Bernard Evans EOW: May 9, 1980 Eric Andrew Thach EOW: October 8, 1999 Julio Beltran EOW: November 14, 2020

Henry Fredrick Nelson EOW: September 22, 1921 Dirk Alan Leonardson EOW: October 4, 1980 Jim W. Purkiss EOW: April 16, 2001 Steve Taylor EOW: February 24, 2022

Theodore Crossley EOW: September 22, 1921

Michael David Davis, Sr. EOW: October 24, 1988

John Towe EOW: February 15, 2002 Isaiah Cordero EOW: December 29, 2022

Howard R. Scheffler EOW: February 29, 1956 Randy Robert Lutz EOW: June 22, 1989 Brent Jenkins EOW: March 18, 2003 Darnell Calhoun EOW: January 13, 2023

Roger Allen Strong EOW: August 7, 1961 Kent A. Hintergardt EOW: May 9, 1993 Bruce Lee EOW: May 13, 2003 Brett Harris EOW: May 13, 2023

William Joseph Rutledge EOW: May 14, 1969

Mark S. Kemp EOW: November 9, 1994 Manuel Villegas EOW: March 19, 2007 Timothy Corlew EOW: January 8, 2025

IN MEMORY 2025

Deputy Timothy Corlew
Riverside County Sheriff's Department
EOW: January 8, 2025

Officer Osmar Rodarte Marysville Police Department EOW: March 26, 2025 Sergeant Shiou L. 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
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
EOW: March 17, 2025

Officer Samuel Riveros
Baldwin Park Police Department
EOW: May 31, 2025

Parole Agent Joshua Byrd
CA Dept. Of Corrections And Rehabilitation
EOW: July 17, 2025

Detective Victor Lemus
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
EOW: July 18, 2025

Detective Joshua Kelley-Eklund
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
EOW: July 18, 2025

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Riverside County Peace Officer Memorial Foundation: www.rcpomf.org

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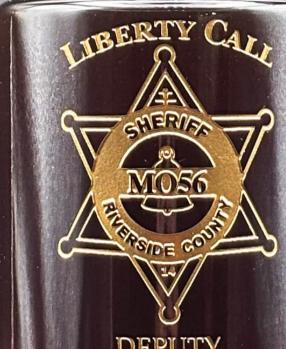
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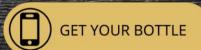
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To access the news & information center members are required to log on and register by clicking on the "RSA Members Only" link then follow the instructions. Once registered members will also be able to update their own on-line profiles at anytime (email addresses, user name & password, etc). Members are urged to keep their information current at all times to avoid missing important updates from the Association.

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