

The Official Publication of the Riverside Sheriffs' Association

September, 2026

All Points



BULLETIN

Celebrating 83 years of serving
those who serve others



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All Points Bulletin is owned and published by the Riverside Sheriffs' Association (RSA) and is published monthly at 21810 Cactus Ave., Riverside, CA 92518. View it online at www.rcdsa.org.

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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 Director Installation meeting 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."

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.)
- National & State Fraternal Order of Police (NFOP & CAFOP Lodge 951)

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Advocacy, Healthcare & Member Support

Open enrollment & expanding healthcare support.

By Jose Santos
RSA President
CA FOP, Lodge 951



As we head into the final few months of the year, I want to update you on several important issues your Association continues to work on behalf of you and your families.

Open Enrollment begins October 1st. Healthcare remains one of our highest priorities, and I encourage every member to review your coverage, dependents, and options for the upcoming year.

Our focus on healthcare also goes well beyond Open Enrollment. We continue building on our partnership with Crossover Health and our goal of creating a concierge healthcare experience for RSA members and their families.

We want Crossover to be a resource you can turn to for appointments, coordinating care, preventive services, finding the right provider, or simply knowing where to start. Our goal is to make healthcare easier to navigate and more proactive. Public safety professionals often put their own health last because of the demands of the job, and we want to provide resources that make it easier to take care of yourself and your

family before a health issue becomes something larger.

You will continue seeing RSA and the Benefits Trust expand our focus on preventive care, wellness, and member support through Crossover.

We are also continuing our advocacy efforts in Sacramento.

AB 1383 has passed the Legislature and was presented to the Governor on September 9. The legislation includes significant changes to PEPRA retirement benefits, including safety retirement formulas and provisions allowing certain enhanced formulas to be addressed through collective bargaining. It is currently awaiting action by the Governor.

RSA members played an important role in advocating on this issue, with thousands of communications sent to legislators throughout the process. We will continue making sure our members' voices are heard until the process is complete.

We also recently saw AB 1615 signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 14. The legislation provides an additional firearms-training pathway for qualifying county probation peace officers regarding the use of otherwise off-roster handguns as service weapons.

I also want to recognize Supervising Probation Officer Tom Kirk, who worked alongside RSA leadership and our statewide partners to advocate for AB 1615. It is a strong example of what can happen when our members identify an issue and we work together to pursue a legislative solution.

Whether it is healthcare, legislation, wages, working conditions, legal representation, or the everyday issues affecting our members, our responsibility is to continue looking forward and finding ways to make RSA stronger.

Thank you for your continued support of RSA and, most importantly, thank you for the work you do every day serving our communities.

Stay safe and take care of one another. ★





RIVERSIDE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

VOTE BY NOVEMBER 3RD, 2026

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JIM DESMOND
DISTRICT 38

STEVE MANOS
DISTRICT 41

KEN CALVERT
DISTRICT 40

SECRETARY OF STATE

DON WAGNER

SENATE

KELLY SEYARTO
DISTRICT 32

NATHAN MAGSIG
DISTRICT 12

ASSEMBLY

JEFF GONZALEZ
DISTRICT 36

JAMES RAMOS
DISTRICT 45

GREG WALLIS
DISTRICT 47

MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ
DISTRICT 53

LETICIA CASTILLO
DISTRICT 58

ED DELGADO
DISTRICT 60

NATASHA JOHNSON
DISTRICT 63

KATE SANCHEZ
DISTRICT 71

DOM BELZA
DISTRICT 3

CHARLES HUGHES
DISTRICT 34

SAUL AYON
DISTRICT 35

GRACEY VANDERMARK
DISTRICT 72

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CITY OF MORENO VALLEY, MAYOR

DENISE DELGADO
CITY OF COACHELLA, MAYOR

JOHN ECHEVARRIA
CITY OF COLTON MAYOR

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CITY OF CORONA, DISTRICT 5

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MICHELLE PARADISE
SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

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CTIY COUNCIL

KEVIN BASH
NORCO CITY COUNCIL

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BALLOT MEASURES

MEASURE A
RIVERSIDE COUNTY



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RIVERSIDE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

VOTE BY NOVEMBER 3RD, 2026

KEY ELECTION DATES

- **10/05/26 - RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEGINS MAILING BALLOTS TO VOTERS.**
- **10/27/26 - EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING BEGINS.**
- **11/3/26 - ELECTION DAY**

**BALLOTS CAN BE
RETURNED BY
MAIL BEFORE
ELECTION DAY, OR
DROPPED OFF AT
THE COUNTY
REGISTRAR OF
VOTERS OFFICE:**



REGISTRAR OF VOTERS: 2720 GATEWAY DR, RIVERSIDE, CA 92507



(951) 653-5152

WWW.RCDSA.ORG/ABOUT/POLITICAL-ACTION

A New Chapter at RSA

A message from Executive Director Hutchinson.

William Hutchinson

RSA Executive Director

It's an honor to write to you for the first time

as Executive Director of the Riverside Sheriffs' Association.



For those who don't know me, I've spent 28 years at the Palm Springs Police Department. I worked patrol, crime suppression, narcotics, SWAT, and investigations, and spent more than 20 years on my officers' and management association boards, including as POA President. That work taught me the lesson I'm bringing to RSA: an association is only as strong as its trust with its members. I didn't come up through the Sheriff's Department, and I know I have to earn yours. I intend to do that by showing up, listening, and delivering.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:

Accessibility. RSA represents a wide range of professionals: deputy sheriffs, correctional deputies, probation officers, DA investigators, coroner deputies, and welfare fraud investigators. Whatever your assignment, I want to hear from you. Call me, email me, or stop me when you see me.

Protecting what you've earned:

Our members deserve fair pay for the work and risk they take on. When the County gets it wrong, on premiums, certificate pay, working conditions, or anything impacting our members, we will push until it's made right.

A new chapter for your health:

Our partnership with Crossover. One of the most exciting things happening at RSA right now is the Benefits Trust's partnership with Crossover Health. Crossover doesn't hand you a doctor you see once a year. It gives you a care team that works together on your health: primary care, mental health, physical therapy, health and fitness coaching, and care navigators who help you find the right specialist and handle the scheduling and records when you need one.

It also fits the way our members live. Our people work nights, weekends, and holidays, and nobody can wait weeks for an appointment. With Crossover, you can message your care team, schedule a video visit, or be seen in person. Members can visit Crossover's health centers in Eastvale, San Bernardino and Moreno Valley, or connect virtually from anywhere, whether you're in the desert, the valley, or the west end of the county.

This matters because the job takes a toll that doesn't always show up until years later. Sore backs and knees, poor sleep, and the stress we carry

home all add up. Catching problems early and making care easy to get is how we protect your health on the job and long after you leave it. The work with Crossover is also part of a broader national effort RSA is leading with the FOP and other partners to expand affordable coverage for officers under 65. RSA members are helping set the standard for the rest of the country, and I'll keep you posted as it grows.

Strong public safety across the county. Riverside County is well served by a strong, unified Sheriff's Department and the public safety professionals who work alongside it. RSA will stay engaged with local leaders and in Sacramento so the people doing the work have a voice when public safety decisions are made.

A well-run association. Your dues deserve careful stewardship. I'll work closely with President Jose Santos and the Board of Directors to keep RSA efficient, transparent, and focused on member value.

THANK YOU

To the Board, thank you for your confidence. To the RSA staff, thank you for work that often goes unseen. And to our members, thank you for what you do for this county. I'm proud to work for you.

Stay safe, and I'll see you out there. ★

Ready, Set, Play



Whether your child needs a checkup, sports physical, sick visit or back-to-school well-child exam, your care team is here. Crossover makes it easy to keep your family healthy with simple, convenient visits, often at little to no cost.

Here's how Crossover can help:

*Children (ages 2+):

- Sports physicals: get your child ready for school and sports without the last-minute rush
- Well-child visits: check growth, development and overall health, including vaccines
- Sick care: same-day or next-day visits for things like cough, cold, rash, flu and allergies
- Mental health support: available for teens ages 12 and older

Make it easy on yourself

Skip the stress of fitting appointments into a busy schedule.

With Crossover, you can take care of checkups, sports physicals, and more in one simple visit—plus, you have access to \$0-cost virtual appointments for primary care and mental health services when you need care from wherever you are.

*Pediatrics only available at Crossover Frederick.



Book your child's visit in minutes

Scan the QR code or visit: care.crossoverhealth.com

Chapter 13, Retirees Update

Justino Flores

Chapter 13 Director, Retirees



Greetings to you and I hope you are well.

I hope everyone has been enjoying your summer months and spending quality time with the family. And most importantly, staying cool and hydrated.

These summer months have been extremely hot and the humidity isn't helping either. I feel for our brothers and sisters who reside or work in the eastern part of the county. My hat is tipped to you.

By now you should have seen or received the email blast for the upcoming HR-218 Quals to be conducted in October. The quals will be held at the BCTC range. Please make sure to call Danielle at RSA to be added to the rsvp list. (951)653-5152

Being added to the rsvp list is very important, since it gives us an idea of how much food to have available. Mike Munoz will be bringing the Chow Shack to the range to provide a nice healthy meal. As always, his services are greatly appreciated.

Additionally, soon you should see or receive the email blast for the upcoming Fall Retiree Brunch to be held at the RSA Office in November. When you

see the notice, please make sure to call Danielle at the RSA to be added on the rsvp list.

To all celebrating a special day or event this month, we wish you the best in your celebration(s).

A special request for all, if you have the opportunity to volunteer at least one day a month, Mike Munoz would really appreciate your assistance. It takes a lot of time and effort to prepare the food, cook and serve the deputies still working the streets.

I assure you, anytime you can volunteer to assist Mike, it's very much appreciated. Please reach out to him, by calling the RSA Office and asked to be placed in touch with him.

Our condolences go out to the family(ies) of our fallen retired members:

Retired Sergeant Harry Weakly. Segeant Weakly, passed away on August 11th, 2026

Retired Sergeant Daniel Hinderliter. Sergeant Hinderliter, passed away on August 27th, 2026

As a reminder, if you have any suggestions, comments or concerns, please send me a line(s) at justino@rcdsa.org I will respond accordingly

See you soon.
Justino ★

retiree

Fall Brunch



PLEASE JOIN US

Wednesday November 4th, 2026

RSA Riverside Office

21800 Cactus Avenue

Riverside, CA 92518

Starting at **10:00am**



**RS
VP**

Danielle Griffitts

(951)653-5152

danielle@rcdsa.org

Please RSVP by October 21st

Mark Your Calendars:

–Retiree HR-218 Quals

October 15th, 2026

– Fall Retiree Brunch

November 4th, 2026

*** More Information to Come.**



Chapter 14, Southwest Updates

Jeff Maynard

Chapter 14 Director, Southwest Station

Financial Foundations for the Job – A Three-Part Series

Part 1: Building an Emergency Fund That Actually Works with Law Enforcement Schedules:

A large percentage of our members have not experienced a lack of overtime. With the possibility of restricted overtime, it's important to look at your monthly personal budget and ensure you are operating within your means. The goal is not perfection, it is a workable cash buffer that keeps you from reaching for high-interest credit when something unexpected hits. Practical starting points: Aim first for a smaller, realistic target: one full month of core expenses (rent/mortgage, utilities, food, insurance, minimum debt payments). Once that is solid, expand toward two or three months.

Automate transfers on payday into a separate high-yield savings account labeled "Buffer: Do Not Touch." Treat it like a bill. When a large overtime check hits your bank account, deliberately park a set percentage (10–25%) into the buffer before lifestyle spending expands.



Keep the account liquid and separate from everyday checking so it is available quickly but not too easy to raid for non-emergencies. A reliable cash buffer reduces stress and protects the rest of your financial plan. Next month we will look at what living within your means looks like when overtime is available but never guaranteed.

Just a quick reminder that open enrollment is coming in October. It is a natural time to check your medical plan choices. If you have questions about plan options or deferred-comp mechanics, reach out to the benefits office or a trusted financial professional familiar with public-safety plans.

Disclaimer: The information provided here is for educational and informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, investment, or legal advice. Please consult with a qualified financial professional before making any financial decisions.

Please feel free to contact Chapter #14 Director, Jeff Maynard if you have any questions.
jlm178@gmail.com or 858-231-4982. ★



\$2 BILLION

in Personal Injury Results

\$300
MILLION

class action settlement
on behalf of consumers
against Epson America, Inc.

\$30
MILLION

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
MILLION

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

\$10
MILLION

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



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\$150 MILLION

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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SUPREME COURT SENDS BODYWEIGHT RETRAIT CASE BACK TO THE NINTH CIRCUIT FOR A SECOND LOOK

Smith v. Scott No. 24-1099
(U.S. Apr. 20, 2026) (cert. granted,
judgment vacated, remanded)

WHAT HAPPENED

Around 3:09 a.m. on March 3, 2019, Roy Anthony Scott, a man with a history of mental illness called 911 from his Las Vegas apartment, reporting that three intruders were outside, one possibly armed with a saw. Dispatch advised the responding officers that Scott was mentally ill. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Officers Kyle Smith and Theodore Huntsman responded.

Officers took Scott to the ground and restrained him prone. They used bodyweight compression on his back and neck for about 95 seconds while handcuffing him. Scott soon became unresponsive, lost consciousness, and was later pronounced dead. His daughter, Rochelle Scott, and a co-administrator of his estate sued the officers and the Department under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

THE NINTH CIRCUIT RULING

In *Scott v. Smith*, 109 F.4th 1215, No. 23-15480 (9th Cir. 2024), the Ninth Circuit affirmed the denial of qualified immunity on the Fourth Amendment excessive-force claim. It held that bodyweight compression on a prone individual can cause compression asphyxia and amount to deadly force, relying on *Drummond v. City of Anaheim*, 343 F.3d 1052 (9th Cir. 2003). The panel emphasized that Scott was not suspected of a crime, was in mental-health crisis, and posed little or no danger and likened the restraint to *Drummond*, where officers pressed their weight on the neck and torso of a handcuffed man as he lay prone.

WHAT THE SUPREME COURT DID

The Court granted certiorari, vacated the Ninth Circuit's judgment, and remanded for reconsideration in light of *Zorn v. Linton*, 607 U.S. 568 (2026) (per curiam). Justices Sotomayor, Kagan, and Jackson would have denied review. The Court did not decide whether the officers are entitled to immunity; it directed the Ninth Circuit to reapply the stricter clearly-established-law standard.

The officers had framed the question as whether they acted reasonably using bodyweight pressure to restrain a potentially armed, actively resisting individual only until handcuffing could be completed and whether *Drummond* was too factually different to give fair notice, since *Drummond* involved a fully handcuffed, non-resisting man. Critically, the panel viewed the facts in the plaintiffs' favor: Scott had complied with commands, dropped the object he was holding, was not suspected of a crime, and posed no apparent threat. The officers' contrary characterization, that Scott was armed and actively resisting, is the factual dispute the remand will test.



WHAT A GVR MEANS

A “GVR” (*Grant, Vacate, Remand*) is not a ruling on the merits. It erases the lower-court decision and requires a fresh analysis under new controlling authority. The Ninth Circuit may reach the same result or a different one, but it must now measure the precedent against the Supreme Court’s insistence that clearly established law be defined with a high degree of specificity, not by broad analogy.

WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU

Bodyweight compression on a prone subject remains legally dangerous ground. Even with this reset, Ninth Circuit precedent has repeatedly warned that sustained pressure on the back, neck, or upper torso of a prone, restrained person can be treated as deadly force, especially where the subject is not a violent felon and poses no immediate threat. The Supreme Court’s remand tightens the qualified-immunity analysis; it does not endorse the technique.

KEY TAKEAWAY

Once a subject is prone and controlled, get them off their chest and stomach as soon as it is safe, prolonged bodyweight pressure on the back or neck of a restrained person can be characterized as deadly force and can kill. Continuously reassess the threat and the subject’s breathing and reduce force the moment resistance stops. The presence or absence of a crime, a weapon, resistance, and mental-health crisis all shape the reasonableness analysis. Train to the technique, document what you saw and why, and never maintain compression on a subdued subject.

BOTTOM LINE

The Supreme Court wiped out a Ninth Circuit ruling that had denied qualified immunity to two Las Vegas officers who used bodyweight compression on a prone, allegedly resisting man. The Court ordered the Ninth Circuit to reconsider the case under the demanding “high specificity” standard it announced weeks earlier in *Zorn v. Linton*. This is a procedural reset, not a final win - but it signals real skepticism of the denial of immunity.

Stay Safe!

MEDICAL PROVIDER NETWORKS ARE NOT WHAT THEY SEEM

Daniel J. Palasciano

Law Offices Of Scott O'Mara

At a meeting earlier this summer of the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC), a California advocacy group, the claim was made that the Medical Provider Network (MPN) system instituted over twenty years ago had proved to be an undeniable success in its operation, despite the fact that there are many, many problems endemic to this system. In fact, from the point of view of the injured worker, the MPN system has been anything but a success.

The MPN system in California was primarily brought about by Senate Bill 899 in April 2004, which was promulgated by former Governor Schwarzenegger. While, at that time, medical costs in workers' compensation were undeniably high, the sledgehammer approach to fixing the medical delivery system, which included not only Medical Provider Networks, but also Utilization Review (UR), and later Independent Medical Review (IMR), were not the silver bullet that defendants and employers envisioned, at least as to the delivery of services and treatment to injured workers.

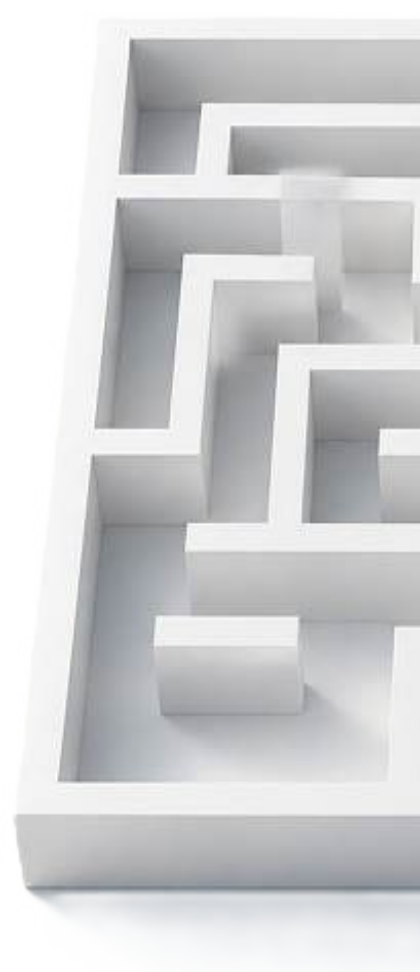
At the CHSWC meeting noted above, advocates for the MPN system claimed that the main problem with the current system was a lack of doctors to participate in the system, rather than the MPN system itself. Their further claim was that the "doctor shortage" applies across the board in California, not just to the workers' compensation system. However, as Catherine Montgomery, the co-founder and CEO of DaisyBill, a workers' compensation management company, pointed out in a recent article, the fact is that the MPN system is failing.

Ms. Montgomery, who presented her position at the CHSWC meeting, points out that while MPNs are allowable under state law, it is exceedingly difficult to actually verify when an MPN may or may not apply to a certain employer, and more so very difficult to figure out which doctors are actually participating in an MPN. She noted this problem is compounded by the fact that the Division

of Workers' Compensation seems uninterested in auditing or doing compliance checks on the MPNs in California. Additionally, she notes that membership in an MPN is also used against medical providers as a way to force them to accept PPO contracts that discount their services.

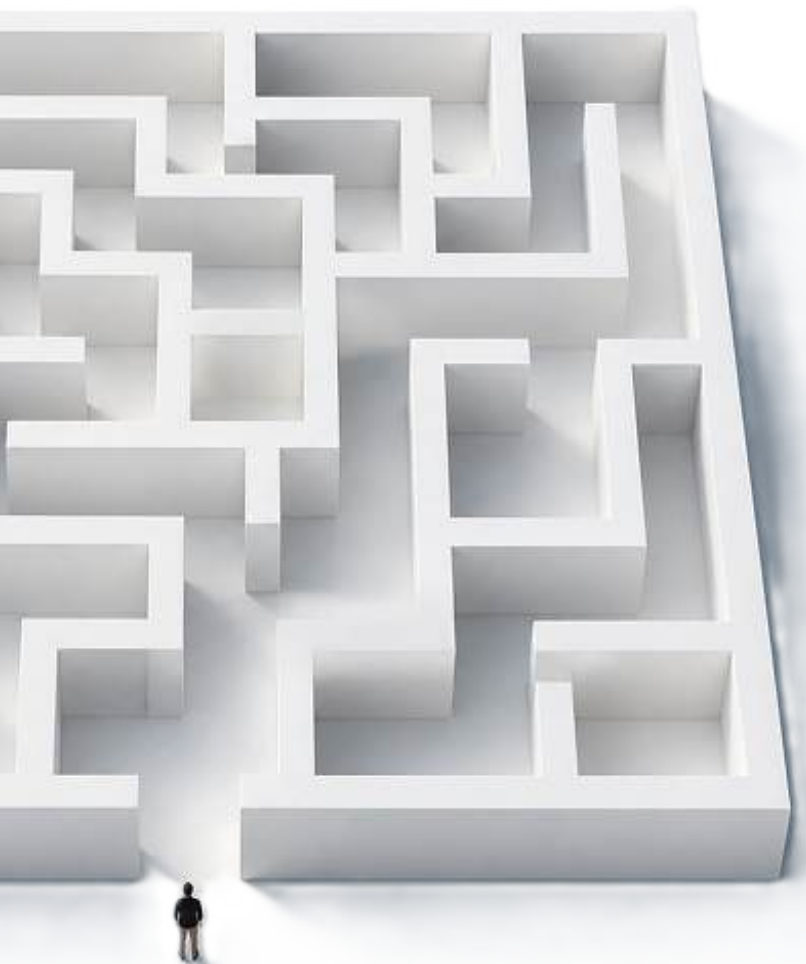
While it seems clear that all of these are real and current problems with the larger MPN system itself, for the injured workers and medical providers on the ground, the day-to-day provision of treatment to injured workers within a MPN presents similar if not greater challenges. Defendants are very aggressive in trying to make sure that if there is an MPN, an injured worker accesses treatment only through the MPN. However, many MPNs do not meet the Labor Code's minimum access standards in terms of the amount of doctors an injured worker has to choose from, especially within certain medical specialties. For example, if a neurologist is needed for a safety member with a traumatic brain injury, it does them no good if the MPN does not contain an adequate selection of neurologists, or even any neurologists in some cases.

Additionally, after a MPN list is consulted in an effort to find a doctor for an injured worker, it will appear that there are doctors listed who can address an injured worker's specific concerns. However, when an attempt is made to schedule an appointment with the doctor, the doctor's office says they had no idea they were even on the MPN,



and refuses to treat the injured worker. This is a common occurrence, and is in large part a result of larger insurers using HMO and PPO rosters from their non-workers' compensation networks, and simply turning them into a list of workers' compensation providers, often without the doctor's knowledge.

Another example of the daily problems encountered with MPNs is that in wide portions of the State of California, many MPNs lack the necessary specialists needed to adequately treat safety officers, especially for such conditions as traumatic brain injuries, gastrointestinal issues, and other complex and serious injuries. When this situation



arises, some employers will try to force an injured worker to go back to an occupational medicine clinic rather than authorize treatment outside of their MPN.

As Ms. Montgomery also points out in her article, at meetings such as the CHSWC meeting earlier this summer, advocacy groups cherry-pick statistics to try to justify their opinion that the MPN system is an unabashed success. However, for many injured workers, MPNs are

more often an obstacle in the way of getting the treatment they need in order to get back to work as quickly as possible.

It must also be emphasized that while the failures of the MPN system primarily affect the injured workers that the system is supposed to serve, these same failures also affect medical providers, and the employers of the State of California who are negatively impacted by the inefficient delivery of medical services, longer periods of time off of work, and poorer long-term medical outcomes.

Additionally, when serious injuries occur that need immediate action, the MPN can stand in the way of necessary treatment due to the cumbersome process of finding a qualified doctor within the MPN. As a result, oftentimes injuries that need immediate attention do not always receive the same.

Also, even with a doctor successfully chosen from the MPN, necessary treatment is often delayed by the bureaucratic processes that doctors have to go through to request authorization for treatment. A doctor's request for treatment is usually reviewed by a third-party Utilization Review (UR) organization hired by the defendants, to decide whether the treatment is reasonable and necessary. If treatment is denied by UR, an injured worker has to submit a request for Independent Medical Review (IMR), which bakes more time into the process. Additionally, appeals filed by injured workers with the IMR board were denied in approximately 90.1% of the cases filed over the last five years.

As most experienced practitioners within the Workers' Compensation System know, over the long term the most valuable benefit in a workers' compensation case is usually medical care. Medical care is often times awarded on an ongoing basis as a part of an injured workers' case, and, especially for chronic conditions, that treatment can literally go on for decades. As such, the workers' compensation medical delivery system must function fairly and efficiently, and at the present time, the MPN system does not seem primarily directed towards that goal. ★

ANOTHER TOUGH YEAR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT - *SO FAR*

Ryan Sherman

Political Consultant / Advocate



Governor Newsom has until midnight, September 30th to sign or veto the hundreds of bills passed by the legislature last month. He signed a few of the bills we weighed in on, but most of the majority will be decided during the final week of September.

Peace Officer Pension Bill:

AB 1383 (McKinnor) makes various improvements to public employees retirement benefits by:

- Drops the normal retirement age for public safety members enrolled in CalPERS from 57 to 55
- Creates 3% at 55 retirement option, subject to collective bargaining, on a prospective basis
- Increases pensionable compensation cap to align with current IRS limits

Peace Officer Personnel Records Opened For Convicted Criminals?

A last-minute amendment grants ombudspersons within the Office of Youth & Community Restoration unrestricted access to the entire, confidential personnel record of any California peace officer. Current law, W&I Code §2200.7(a) established hiring preferences for ombudspersons for “people who were formerly detained or committed to a juvenile justice facility.” An ombudsperson who receives a complaint, even an anonymous complaint, about a peace officer would be authorized to access that officer’s ENTIRE personnel record, including home address, medical issues, family information, as well as all meritless, unsubstantiated allegations.

By amending Penal Code §832.7, SB 577 (Laird D) provides former youthful offenders – even violent gang members – unlimited access to any and all peace officer personnel records, endangering the safety of the officers and their families.

Some Early Good News:

Governor Newsom signed into law some of the bills we supported this year, including:

- AB 1615 (Nguyen D) allows probation officers to purchase/carry off-roster firearms
- AB 2249 (Irwin D) prohibits labels, packaging and advertising of cannabis products that are attractive to children
- SB 1276 (Rubio D) expands the list of acts that constitute sexual exploitation of a child

Dozens of other good bills remain on the governor’s desk, as do the many anti-law enforcement, pro-criminal bills earlier approved by the Senate and Assembly. However, the legislature acted on its own and killed a few bad bills before they could be approved by the floor in each house.

• SB 1013 (Cervantes D) During the final night of the legislative session, this bill died on the Assembly Floor. SB 1013 would have capped ALPR data retention at 60 days maximum for all law enforcement entities. There have been some high-profile cases reported in the media of this data being misused by some peace officers, leading legislators to support further limits on this effective crime-solving technology. An identical bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom last year.

• AB 2697 (Pellerin D) The legislature also killed a bill authorizing drive-thru cannabis dispensaries in California. This was truly a bizarre piece of legislation since state law prohibits selling alcohol via a drive-up window. B&P § 23790.5(d)(3)

LEGISLATURE TARGETS FEDERAL ACTIONS & ICE

This has been our main focus in Sacramento. As the current administration expanded its aggressive efforts to identify and deport immigrants, state lawmakers pushed back, leaving California peace officers caught in the middle. The various legislative efforts, most of which passed both the state Assembly and Senate, await a signature or veto from Governor Newsom.

These bills were written with the intent to either restrict the ability of federal officers to carry out their directives or punish them by attaching civil or criminal liability to their on-duty actions. Unfortunately, these bills will also apply to state and local peace officers in order to be compliant with the Equal Protection clause of the 14th amendment which mandates that similarly situated persons are treated the same under the law. Since these bills apply to all law enforcement officers, they hope a court will rule it does not violate the 14th amendment.

If compliance with the 14th amendment was the only constitutional concern here, then these bills might have a chance at being upheld by the courts. However, the Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution and numerous U.S. Supreme Court cases have made crystal clear that state laws impairing the operations of the federal government or its officers cannot be lawfully enforced.

Masking re-do

We saw examples of this last year after the governor signed SB 627 - the “no secret police” bill authored by Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco). The bill sought to prohibit ICE agents from covering their faces with masks while seeking to arrest suspected immigrants or conducting crowd control operations. Prior versions of SB 627 applied to all in law enforcement, including those at the local, state and federal levels. Wiener acknowledged that local and state officers weren’t the problem, but that he had to include them in order to treat all in law enforcement the same. By doing so, he argued that the courts would not invalidate SB 627 for violating the 14th amendment’s guarantee of equal protection under the law. Wiener continued to ignore SB 627’s more egregious violation of the “supremacy clause” but quietly added a “severability clause” to the bill which allows the rest of the legislation to remain valid in the event other parts are ruled unlawful by the courts.

SB 627 was later amended to remove state peace officers from the mask prohibition before final passage. Wiener still argued that there was no need to include state cops and that the bill was constitutional. However, in early 2026, a federal district court disagreed with him and ruled that the bill violated the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment.

Unnecessary & Unconstitutional

In response, SB 1004 (Wiener D) was amended to prohibit state peace officers from wearing masks. Wiener argued that by enacting his SB 1004, the mask prohibition in SB 627 would apply to all cops in California and courts would find no equal protection violation.

However, in April of 2026, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals struck down a similar law, SB 805, which required all peace officers in California - including federal officers - to wear visible name tags and department identification badges. The 9th Circuit held that SB 805, as applied to federal officers, violates the supremacy clause. As a result, SB 805 now only applies to state and local officers. If SB 1004 is enacted, the same appellate court is expected to rule that the mask prohibition is similarly not applicable to federal officers, due to the supremacy clause.

Some may think Senator Wiener and other like-minded legislators are either uninformed or simply don’t care about the U.S. Constitution or historical court rulings. It would be a mistake to misjudge them in that way. Certainly there are some in public office who secured their elected position based on qualities unrelated to experience, intelligence and ability. Senator Wiener is not such a legislator. He’s a lawyer by training and understands how courts examine state laws seeking to impose limits or requirements on federal officials. He also knows that state laws that adversely impact federal officers are patently unconstitutional. Every first year law student is taught this principle in Constitutional Law. Federal pre-emption and related case law has been consistently decided.

But bills such as SB 1004 aren't about really about trying to reign in rogue ICE agents. Instead, they are a calculated, media-ready response to national events such as mass ICE raids and questionable uses of force which have led to the injury or death of immigrants and citizens. This is about public relations and the opportunity for state lawmakers to be seen taking a stand against what they view as an unaccountable and out-of-control federal administration.

Presuming these bills get signed, the legislators and the governor can take full credit for successfully fighting back against Washington D.C. And when the courts later invalidate these laws as applied to federal officers, California's politicians can blame administration-friendly courts for the loss and still take credit fighting the good fight.

Below, we have taken some of the more consequential bills related to law enforcement and divided them into broad categories. At the end of the article, we include a link to the legislature's official website for those who would like to read more about the bills discussed.

Equipment Restrictions:

Prohibits or restricts state and local peace officers from using certain equipment or technology. However, if signed, the courts are likely to invalidate these laws as applied to federal officers - the very persons the legislature seek to impact.

- AB 2760 (Sharp-Collins D) Law enforcement: wearable electroshock devices
- SB 627 (Wiener D) Law enforcement: masks- passed last year
- SB 937 (Gonzalez D) Law enforcement: flash-bangs/explosive breaching charges
- SB 1004 (Wiener D) Law enforcement: masks

Authority Changes / Info Limits:

Placed on state/local law enforcement entities, including ability to maintain law enforcement status and/or share info with federal law enforcement entities

- AB 2257 (Hart D) Corrections: jail administrators instead of sheriff's department
- SB 577 (Laird D) Public entities: peace officer personnel records access
- SB 691 (Wahab D) Body-worn cameras: policies
- SB 1013 (Cervantes D) Automated license plate reader: data caps - failed passage
- SB 1105 (Pérez D) Law enforcement - joint task forces information access
- SB 1379 (Cervantes D) Separation of the Riverside County Sheriff & Coroner offices

Increased Liability:

Seeks to hold officers more accountable by increasing civil liability for their official actions or inactions. If enacted, these bills would impact state and local peace officers and will likely be challenged in court as applied to federal officers.

- AB 2318 (Elhawary D) Law enforcement: facilitating medical care
- AB 2286 (Bryan D) Law enforcement: attorney visits in medical settings - signed
- SB 747 (Wiener D) Civil rights: deprivation of federal constitutional rights

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Peace Officer Hiring Limits:

Restrictions, making it more difficult for federal immigration officers to become peace officers or public employees in California in the future. Because these bills were significantly narrowed during the legislative process, some may survive legal scrutiny.

- AB 1537 (Bryan D) Peace officers: secondary employment with ICE
- AB 1627 (Ávila Farías D) Public employment: disqualifications for previous misconduct
- AB 1896 (González, Mark D) Public employment bar for previous ICE employment
- SB 938 (Menjivar D) Peace officers: training requirements

Increased Liability:

- AB 2411 (McKinnor D) 2028 Olympics/Paralympics: law enforcement staffing.
- There has been a lot of discussion about this bill which creates a funding plan to allow cops from all over California to work at the LA Olympics in 2028. There will also be potential "clean-up" language for next year related to permitting out-of-state cops, allowing reserve officers to be paid and a waiver of the 960 hour cap for retired annuitants, if needed.

To check on the status of these and all other bills, please go to leginfo.legislature.ca.gov

Another update will be provided after the deadline for the governor to veto or sign bills has passed on 9/30/2026.

Until next time, be safe. ★



Firearms and Tactical Equipment for Law Enforcement Professionals

PROMOTION ENDS 10/31/2026

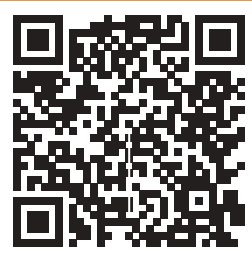
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Chef's Corner

Herb Roasted Chicken



Cook Time: 45 Minutes



Prep: 10 Minutes



Serves: 2 - 4



Ingredients:

- 4 Chicken Thighs or Breasts
- 1 Tbsp Olive Oil
- 1 Tsp Dried Rosemary
- 1 Tsp Dried Thyme
- Salt & Pepper

Instructions:

- **Preheat:**
 - Heat oven to **400°F (200°C)**.
- **Season:**
 - Rub chicken with olive oil, herbs, salt, and pepper. (**5 min**).
- **Roast:**
 - Place chicken in the baking dish and roast for **40 - 45 minutes**.
- **Check:**
 - Chicken is done when the inside reached **165°F (74°C)**.
- **Rest:**
 - Let it rest for 5 minutes, then serve.



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

Riverside County Deputy Sheriff Relief Foundation

The Deputy Sheriff Relief Foundation Donations at Work.



RCDSRF SEPTEMBER UPDATE:

This past month, the Relief Foundation was able to assist two members with funeral expenses following the loss of an immediate family member. The Foundation also provided support to a member whose son is bravely battling cancer.

We are grateful to all the generous RSA members whose continued support makes it possible for the Relief Foundation to be there for our members and their families during some of life's most difficult moments.

Thank you for making a difference.



"I HAD ENOUGH!"

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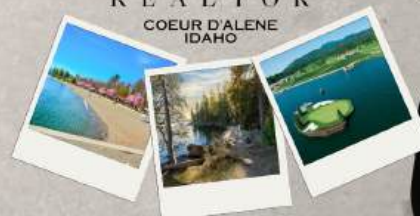
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Los Angeles Dodgers First Responder's Night

RSA was excited to be able to provide the membership with tickets to attend First Responder's Night at Dodgers Stadium in Los Angeles. Make sure to OPT IN to email notifications to get information on these kinds of experiences and association information.



Sponsor Events



In September, members of the Riverside Sheriffs' Association proudly represented RSA at several events hosted by our partner organizations. By contributing to these events through sponsorships, tickets, and tournament participation, we are able to pass along valuable opportunities to our membership while supporting our extended public safety network. Keep an eye out for our email blasts for opportunities to participate in future events!



SEPT 14TH ALADS GOLF TOURNAMENT
Newport Beach, Pelican Hill
Daniel Brown, Ryan Avila, Gary Cordry
and Jon Tolentino



SEPT 14TH ALADS GOLF TOURNAMENT
NEWPORT BEACH, PELICAN HILL



RIVERSIDE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

MEMBER'S GUIDE



Organization **RSA**
Member **4,900**
President **Jose Santos**
Area **Riverside County**

TOP OBJECTIVES OF RSA

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association (RSA) is the exclusive employee organization representing eligible sworn and public safety personnel throughout Riverside County, including members of the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, and Welfare Fraud Investigations Unit. Sworn representation includes personnel below the management ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain.

REPRESENT

To represent and advocate for our members while protecting their rights, interests, and overall welfare. **We are committed to fighting for all RSA members.**

SEEK

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 growth, development, and well-being of our members through access to education, resources, benefits, and opportunities that strengthen their careers and quality of life.

ASSIST

To provide aid through the Riverside County Deputy Sheriff Relief Foundation (**RCDSRF**) to members and their families facing life changing crises.

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

RSA is proud to give back to our members and the Riverside County community by supporting local organizations, programs, and events throughout the year.

RSA has a dedicated staff of 20+ people.

RSA is one of the largest Sheriffs Associations in California.

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Crossover Health is now available to eligible active members of the RSA Benefits Trust, offering convenient access to personalized primary care, preventive care, and wellness support.



crossoverhealth.com

RSA COMMITTEES

RSA currently counts with 13 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.

- AD HOC Bylaws Committee
- Collective Bargaining Committee / PSU
- Collective Bargaining Committee / CDBU
- Collective Bargaining Committee / LEBU
- Awards Review Board
- Special Events & Donation
- Legal Defense Board of Trustees
- Legal Review Committee
- Trailer Committee
- Political Action Committee
- Legal Coverage Appeals Board
- Financial Oversight Committee
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Print this page, write the page numbers you found the Cups of Coffee in the box on the right, and email it to taylor@rcdsa.org.

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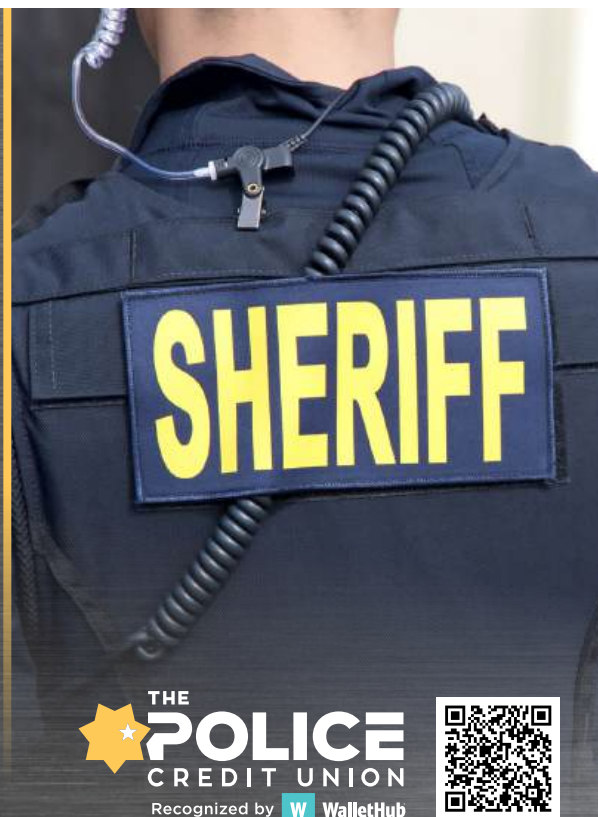
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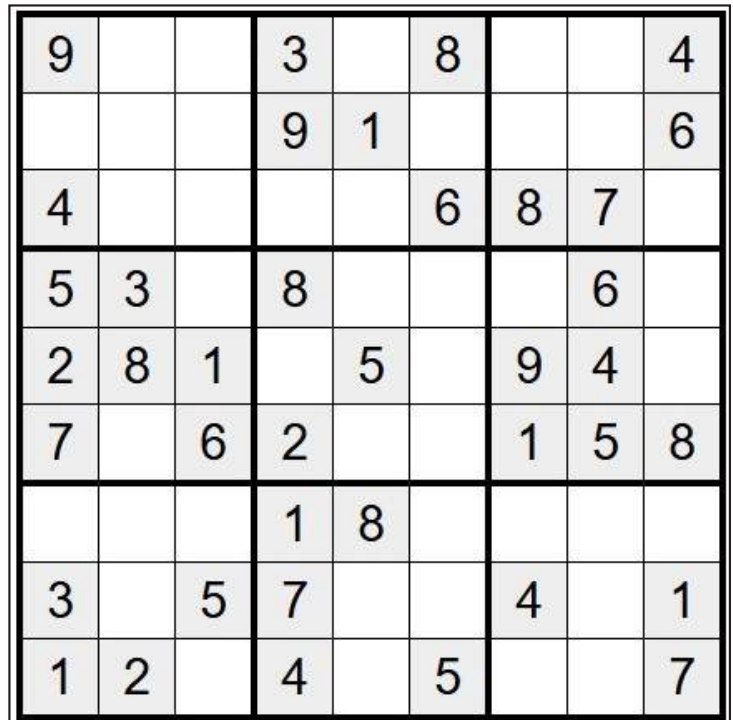
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In Remembrance

"Greater love hath no one than this, that they lay down their life for their friends." — JOHN 15:13

SEPTEMBER REMEMBRANCES



Theodore Crossley
EOW: September 22, 1921



Henry F. Nelson
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 2026

Officer Brian Liles
California Highway Patrol
EOW: September 28, 2026

Deputy Aaron Armstrong Caldwell County Constable's Office EOW: January 4, 2026	Officer Stephen Laporta Uxbridge Police Department EOW: January 7, 2026	Officer Elijah Garretson Copperas Cove Police Department EOW: January 11, 2026	Agent Anibal Morales Aponte Puerto Rico Police Department EOW: January 13, 2026
Officer Senior Pradeep Tamang Gwinnett County Police Department EOW: February 1, 2026	Deputy Christopher Ohlmeyer Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office EOW: January 30, 2026	Deputy Sheriff Richard Haggard Lee County Sheriff's Department EOW: February 2, 2026	Officer Brian Elliott Beech Grove Police Department EOW: October 27, 2025

California Peace Officers' Memorial: www.camemorial.org • National Law Enforcement Memorial: www.nleomf.com
Riverside County Peace Officer Memorial Foundation: www.rcpomf.org

The RSA offers a referral service for members to offer their skills for hire. Have a business on the side, or a talent you would like to market?

To include your business, contact the RSA at (951) 653-5152 and ask for Julie or email julie@rcdsa.org.

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