

Fall is upon us! After a long hot summer, we are looking forward to the cool, crisp autumn weather!

The annual FDSA Memorial Golf Tournament is just a few weeks away and we have been busy putting the finishing touches on what will be another great event. We are grateful that once again-the tournament is sold out. If you have any raffle prizes or silent auction items, please get them to the FDSA no later than Tuesday, October 12th. If you want to come out and be a part of it as a helper, please let me know. Its a great cause to support and a great day overall.

Senate Bill 2

Senate Bill 2 is an important bill that you all need to be aware of and paying attention to as we continue to follow the latest developments. This bill was signed last week by Governor Newsom. However, there are still a couple loose ends to figure out in 2022 to further ensure the language is fair.

PORAC and our lobbyist Randy Perry, worked extremely hard to get this bill where it stands today. Countless amounts of hours were put into this bill.

This is a good outline of what we need in our profession as well to ensure we are seen by the public as upstanding.

Many of you have asked me countless questions recently. Please continue those phone calls and in person meetings. That is the best way to really understand what is going on at the state level effecting our profession.

I don't think there's anything to be worried about as long as you are acting within the law and policy throughout your career. If you do not, your license will be up for suspension or revocation.

Please take the time to read the article below from the Associated Press.

This article is one of the most accurate ones I have come across.

California enacts law to strip badges from bad officers

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California has joined the vast majority of states in setting up a way to strip the badges of police officers who act criminally or with bias, a change that was among several criminal justice reforms signed into law Thursday by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

The nation's most populous state was one of just four without such a statewide system alongside Hawaii, New Jersey and Rhode Island. California's reforms also will limit the

use of rubber bullets during protests, bar a type of restraint hold that has led to deaths and detail when an officer has a [duty to intervene](#) to prevent or report excessive force.

“We are in a crisis of trust when it comes to law enforcement right now, across the state, across the nation,” said Attorney General Rob Bonta, Newsom’s fellow Democrat who supported the bills. “We’re delivering concrete solutions from banning dangerous holds that lead to asphyxia to multiple other mechanisms that improve accountability and oversight [and transparency](#).”

Officers can now lose their certification for serious misconduct including using excessive force, committing sexual assault, intimidating witnesses, making a false arrest or report, or participating in a law enforcement gang. Other grounds include “demonstrating bias” based on race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation or mental disability, among other criteria.

Newsom signed the legislation during a sometimes emotional event in a Los Angeles County park where Kenneth Ross Jr., a 25-year-old Black man, was killed in 2018. The officer who shot him was cleared of wrongdoing, but had previously been involved in three other shootings.

“Say his name,” supporters chanted softly as Newsom signed the bills and Ross’ mother, Fouzia Almarou, spoke of her ever-present pain and agony as well as her hope that the new laws will prevent other Black and Brown deaths.

The mother of Angelo Quinto, Sandra Quinto Collins, burst into tears and was hugged by Newsom before other family members told how he died after a San Francisco Bay Area officer pressed a knee to his neck during a mental health crisis just before Christmas last year. A new law will [restrict such face-down holds](#) that can cause what’s known as positional asphyxia.

Newsom also signed a measure setting statewide standards for when officers can use [“kinetic projectiles” like rubber bullets and chemical agents or tear gas](#) to break up peaceful demonstrations. Police also are prohibited from aiming rubber bullets, beanbags and foam rounds at anyone’s head, neck or other vital areas.

During the 2020 racial justice protests some demonstrators acting peacefully were injured by rubber bullets and other projectiles.

The new law also requires training officers to use the less-lethal weapons only when someone is at risk of death or serious injury, or “to bring an objectively dangerous and unlawful situation safely and effectively under control.” Officers will have to give verbal warnings and try other de-escalation tactics first.

Police groups opposed the measure, arguing the less-than-lethal tools are needed to prevent violence and are often better than the alternatives.

The law allowing the decertification of poor officers comes 18 years after lawmakers stripped away that power from a state police standards commission.

That left it to local agencies to decide if officers should be fired, but critics said they could often simply get a job in a different department.

The legislation will create a mandatory new state license, or certification, that can be permanently revoked. Allowing decertification will end “the wash, rinse, repeat cycle of police misconduct,” Democratic state Sen. Steven Bradford said.

“Many times it’s said Black and Brown people hate the police,” said Bradford, who is Black. “We don’t hate the police. We fear the police. We fear the police due to lack of trust.”

[His new law](#) was driven in part by last year’s murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis policeman, yet the legislation stalled at the end of last year’s session, as did the rubber bullets bill.

The decertification measure still struggled to gain support in the Assembly this year until Bradford agreed to allow suspending the license as a lesser punishment and beefed up other safeguards.

Unions representing officers in Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Jose declared victory with those changes to a bill they said would originally have allowed ending officers’ careers “for infractions as minor as a jaywalking ticket.”

Law enforcement organizations and Republican lawmakers objected that the bill is still biased because just two of the nine members of a new disciplinary board will represent police, while the remaining seven will have professional or personal backgrounds related to police accountability.

Supporters including Bradford said that isn’t stacked against officers because the 18-member Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training is mostly composed of law enforcement professionals and will make the final decision.

Both California Police Chiefs Association president Abdul Pridgen and Brian Marvel, president of the rank-and-file Peace Officers Research Association of California, said they hope to continue working out what they say are lingering flaws and vagueness in the bill, while supporting the overall goal.

“We cannot allow officers who demonstrate gross misconduct to continue to be members of the law enforcement profession; their licenses must be revoked,” Marvel said.

Covid News in CA to Follow

The Los Angeles City Council will consider an ordinance this Wednesday to require people to show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination before entering indoor restaurants, bars, gyms, shopping centers, entertainment venues and personal care establishments beginning Nov. 4. Starting Oct. 21, indoor public spaces that fall under the ordinance would be required to display advisory notices of the vaccination requirement. The ordinance would apply to: establishments that serve food or beverages, including restaurants, bars, fast food establishments, coffee shops, tasting rooms, cafeterias, food courts, breweries, wineries, distilleries banquet halls and hotel ballrooms; gyms and fitness venues, including recreation facilities, fitness studios (including for yoga, pilates, dance, and barre), boxing gyms, fitness boot camps and facilities that hold indoor group fitness classes; entertainment and recreation venues including movie theaters, shopping centers, concert venues, performance venues, adult entertainment venues, commercial event and party venues, sports arenas, convention centers, exhibition halls, museums, malls, performing arts theaters, bowling alleys, arcades, card rooms, family entertainment centers, pool and billiard halls, play areas and game centers; and personal care establishments, including spas, nail salons, hair salons, barbershops, tanning salons, estheticians, skin care, tattoo shops, piercing shops and massage therapy locations, unless medically required.

Sarah Voit likes to keep 10 to 15 rapid test kits on hand in case any of the residents of the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition in Hayward need to be tested for COVID-19. They've had some infection scares, and the antigen tests — which return results in minutes — have been crucial to curbing the virus in the family shelter. But in recent weeks, the staff has struggled to purchase enough rapid test kits. The local Walgreens and Costco have started limiting sales to one per customer. "We ran into the same issue at the beginning of the pandemic when we were trying to buy Clorox wipes and hand sanitizer," said Voit, the shelter's program director. Three weeks ago, a child living at the shelter was sent home from school after a classmate contracted COVID-19. Voit's team used the rapid tests on the whole family. They all came back positive. "Because we had those kits on hand, we were able to send them immediately to the isolation and quarantine hotel the county runs," she said. "Otherwise, it could have taken three to five days to get those results and many more families could have gotten sick."

Negotiation Progress

My plan is to have a ratification meeting this month for a successor MOU between the FDSA and the County of Fresno. We are still working through the details and discussing the issues that will affect your wages and benefits.

This information will be distributed through the email addresses on file through the FDSA website.

If you have not signed up on the FDSA website, it's easy and convenient. Just go to our website: www.fresnods.org and sign up. You control the user name and password information.

Truly,

Eric Schmidt