



June 14, 2007

Honorable Jose Solorio, Chair  
Assembly Public Safety Committee  
1020 N. Street, Room 111  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 566 – Sponsor and Support

Dear Assembly Member Solorio:

The Riverside Sheriffs Association, which represents over 2,800 rank and file Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Probation Officers, Deputy Correctional Officers, District Attorney Investigators, and Deputy Coroners – the entire law enforcement team of Riverside County - is pleased to sponsor and support SB 566.

Current law establishes the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST Commission) which consists of 14 members appointed by the Governor.

Pursuant to legislation sponsored by ALADS, PORAC, and other rank and file organizations and authored by then Assemblymember Bob Epple (AB 401, Chapter 1257, Statutes of 1992), rank and file officers were added to the POST Commission so that labor would have a voice in the training and standards the Commission promulgates for peace officers. Current law set forth in Penal Code Section 13500, applicable to rank and file peace officers seeking an appointment to POST, requires the following:

(3) Four members shall be peace officers of the rank of sergeant or below with a minimum of five years' experience as a deputy sheriff, city police officer, marshal, or state-employed peace officer for whom the commission sets standards. *These members shall have demonstrated leadership in their local or state peace officer association or union. (Emphasis added)*

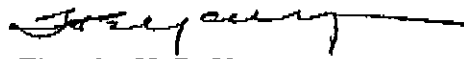
At the time that AB 401 was enacted, "Association" was intended to refer to the Peace Officers' Research Association of California (PORAC) which, although its membership is made up of unions, PORAC itself was not a bargaining unit for peace officers. Since

AB 401, every Governor's rank and file appointments to POST has been a leader of a peace officer bargaining unit. Recent appointments of ethnic or fraternal "association" members to POST, are in derogation of the intent, if not the letter of current law and necessitate clarification of this statute.

Very truly yours,



Pat McNamara  
President



Timothy H. B. Yaryan  
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: Members, Assembly Committee on Public Safety  
Consultants, Assembly Committee on Public Safety  
Senator Mark Ridley Thomas  
RSA