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California Sheriffs Working to Address Issues at the Southern Border

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**Association Mission Statement:** To support the role of Sheriff as the Chief Law Enforcement Officer in each county and to speak as a collective statewide voice on matters of public safety. **Foundation Mission Statement:** To provide education and training services to the 58 Elected Sheriffs of California, their departmental employees and other members of the California State Sheriffs' Association.

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- SHERIFF MIKE BOUDREAUX
- TULARE COUNTY

## A Transformative Year

With this final column, my time as President of the California State Sheriffs' Association draws to a close. I want to thank all of you for your support, kindness, and true friendship.

Transparency has always been a goal of mine and, in April 2023, we launched the @CalSheriffs Instagram account to reach as many people as possible about public safety in their communities and talk about legislative bills that affect law enforcement.

Throughout the year, it's been my honor to represent you, the elected Sheriffs in California, as I met with Governor Newsom to give voice to our concerns about public safety.

I encouraged the Governor to push for harsher punishments for retail thieves after way too many brazen robberies have been seen across the state in jewelry stores and other highpriced shops. Creating new laws and expanding criminal penalties for professional thieves will close loopholes that criminals have exploited, and increase felony penalties for smash and grabs, retail theft, and auto burglaries.

As Senate Bill 2 worked its way into law, we pushed against restricting where concealed carry permit holders may carry their weapons. On Jan. 1, SB2 became law, and I said publicly I would not actively seek violators of the law, as many of you did. On Jan. 8, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals put the concealed carry law on hold.

#### NEW OPPORTUNITIES

When I began this journey in April, I never would have guessed I'd be running for Congress part way through my term. It's a juggling act to be sure but I think it's vital to accept this challenge and carry the values of law enforcement and the CSSA to the national level.

My platform is your platform:

- Keep families safe
- Secure our southern border
- Second Amendment rights
- Hold criminals accountable
- Water sustainability
- Lower burdensome taxes.
- Strong military

Most of all, let's support law enforcement – those men and women who strap on their boots and duty belts each day and run into the face of danger to save others. These are the real heroes.

#### THE BRAVE

In December, I honored several heroes of our own when I awarded the Medal of Valor to three of my deputies who entered a burning house to rescue a family.

With no regard for their own safety, they crawled through the home on their hands and knees, pulling people out. They also provided CPR to the victims afterward and helped firefighters try to put the fire out. Although all five victims were breathing on their own when they were pulled to safety, regretfully, the two youngest daughters did not survive their injuries.

In May, we will remember and honor our Fallen Heroes at Peace Officer Memorials throughout California and across the Nation, those brave officers who paid the ultimate price in the line of duty. May we never forget them, their families, and their dedication to duty.

On a personal note, I'd like to wish my good friend and colleague Orange County Sheriff Don Barnes well as he takes over the duties of the President of the California State Sheriffs' Association. I very much look forward to his swearing-in ceremony.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Mike Boudreaux, Tulare County CSSA President 🕸

#### Executive Director's Perspective



M. CARMEN GREEN
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the April 2024 Edition of California Sheriff! This Edition includes:

April 21-27, 2024, is National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVWR): This is a week-long event that honors crime victims and survivors, recognizes the professionals and volunteers who provide critical services to victims of crime, and raises awareness about crime victims' rights and services.

- If you are a victim of crime, or are related to, or know someone who is, there are many rights and services available to help. For more information or to view the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Online Directory of Crime Victim Services website, visit http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices/. This resource is also available to help you locate local services.
- California Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) Program. CSSA has continued to maintain the VINE Program through various grants since 2007. The VINE Program is almost statewide, currently in 56 of the 58 Counties.

VINE is a free and anonymous online portal (www.vinelink. com) and telephone service (877.411.5588) that provides immediate automated notification to victims of crime, and other concerned citizens. VINE provides up-to-date information on the change in custody status or case status of offenders incarcerated in California's jail facilities 24 hours a day 7 days a week. VINE is also available in 16 languages, Bosnian, English, French, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

In addition to being able to call the toll-free number or visit their website, the enhanced version of VINE will give the victim complete control of their information and is also very user friendly. Enhanced VINE will allow the following:

- Create a Confidential Account, secured by password.
- Search to access the offender's information and save information in your confidential profile.

- Register to be notified against your offender from apprehension to release, as well as, any/all transfer, relocations, escape etc.
- Search for a Service Provider such as; Basic Needs, Children's Services, Counseling, Crisis Support, Financial Assistance, Healthcare (Physical), Information About Offender, Legal Assistance, or Victim Assistance. Save service provider information in your confidential profile.

One can also access VINE on their mobile phone by downloading the VINE app. The VINE mobile app allows people to use their



smartphone or tablet to easily check the status of their offender and register to be notified about changes in that status via phone or email simply by accessing VINE on their smartphone or tablet. The app is available for both iPhone and Android devices or by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone.

Do not rely solely on VINE for your safety. If you feel that you may be at risk, take precautions as if the offender has already been released.

**May 5-11, 2024, is Law Enforcement Appreciation Week:** During Law Enforcement Week, the California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation (CSSAF) asks you to salute and remember the heroic men and women of law enforcement during CSSAF's Law Enforcement Appreciation Week May 5-11.

These times provide us a special opportunity to demonstrate our appreciation to those officers who daily serve and protect the public, and those that have lost their lives in the line of duty. We hope that you will join us in recognizing their bravery.

Lastly, I would personally like to welcome all our new members who joined the California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA) in the past three months. It is because of YOU and all our members that we can continue providing the much-needed training to all our Sheriff's Offices across the State, we would not be able to do it without you!

# **CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**



## The California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation is only possible through the continued support of our wonderful members! So, we would like to highlight, you!

- For a chance to be featured on our Social Media (Membership Monday), please share with us why you were inspired to join as a member of CSSAF.
- Please send all responses to members@calsheriffs.org
  - » We kindly ask that you include only your First Name and County in which you reside.
  - » No pictures needed .

Again, thank you all for your continued support of the California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation.

#### Legislative Update



CORY SALZILLO
 LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

The California State Legislature returned to the State Capitol on January 3 to begin the second year of the 2023-24 Legislative Session. This year, there were 2,124 bills introduced - 619 Senate bills and 1,505 Assembly bills. In early March, the CSSA Legislative Committee met to review approximately 400 of these newly introduced bills to examine their impacts on Sheriffs' Offices, and the law enforcement profession generally.

These public safety related bills are currently moving through the Legislature's policy committee process. These proposals continue to spotlight mental illness, the fentanyl crisis, and retail theft, to name a few issues.

Of note are a handful of bills that attempt to fix Proposition 47, a measure approved at the ballot box in 2014, that downgraded many offenses like property crimes and drug offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. Many California communities are experiencing the fallout from Proposition 47. Neighborhoods have witnessed an uptick in everything from home and retail burglaries to auto theft. Some contend that because the proposition drastically reduced the penalty for drug offenses, the result is the rampant drug addiction and homelessness that plague many neighborhoods.

In response to their constituents' concerns, in June 2023, the Little Hoover Commission received a letter from the Legislature asking the Commission to look at issues surrounding state retail theft data and report their recommendations to the Legislature. In response, the Commission held a three-part hearing to examine how retail theft and corresponding arrests, filings, and convictions are reported and tracked, and whether there are improvements that could be made to better inform evidence-based decision-making.

Concurrent with the Commission's hearings, on October 25, 2023, Speaker Robert Rivas (D -Hollister) announced the formation of a Select Committee on Retail Theft, chaired by Assemblymember

Rick Chavez Zbur (D – Los Angeles). This select committee also held several hearings around the state to discuss community impacts and solutions related to theft. Discussions are continuing to explore solutions that work and what needs to be done to alleviate retail theft. These hearings examined statewide efforts, local efforts, as well as exploring the concept of fencing and reselling.

Many California communities have also experienced an increase in fentanyl-related deaths and poisonings. Law enforcement agencies up and down the state have seen fentanyl become a growing problem that has devastated entire regions. While legislative efforts to impose harsher punishments on drug dealers who sell fentanyl keep failing in Sacramento, some legislators continue to re-introduce legislation to increase penalties on individuals who are convicted of selling, or possessing with intent to sell, substances containing fentanyl.

Sheriffs face the manifestations of these challenges in their offices and communities daily and will work on legislation to tackle societal concerns by being proactive and creative in their approach to delivering services.

#### **2024 CSSA SPONSORED BILLS**

In addition to engaging in the state budget process and working to defeat or improve several dangerous bills that have been introduced, CSSA will again sponsor legislation that will be beneficial to law enforcement.

MEASURE	ΤΟΡΙϹ	STATUS	BRIEF SUMMARY
<b>AB 2478</b> Ramos, D	Incarcerated persons: health records.	02/14/2024 - May be heard in committee March 15.	Creates the Mental Health Data Sharing and Continuity of Care Act to enhance the sharing of mental health data and improve the continuity of care for inmates with mental health needs as they are transferred between County behavioral health systems and County detention facilities.
<b>SB 1472</b> Limón, D	Firearms: determination of eligibility.	02/20/2024 - May be acted upon on or after March 18.	Establishes a voluntary inclusion and removal system where individuals could place themselves on and remove themselves from a list of persons prohibited from purchasing firearms due to suicidal ideation.

Though California law enforcement faces another challenging year filled with bills that imperil our communities, we remained focused on working with our public safety partners to keep meaningful accountability measures in place while doing all we can to protect our communities.

**Cory Salzillo**, CSSA's Legislative Director, is a partner of the firm WPSS Group, a pre-eminent team of advisors on matters involving state and local government. The firm effectively influences public policy in a broad spectrum of public sector issues.





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#### *Legal Update*



JIM TOUCHSTONE
 GENERAL COUNSEL

## "The Supreme Court Clarifies the Murky Waters of the First Amendment Liability in the Context of Social Media"

n March 15, 2024, the Supreme Court issued its opinion in a case entitled *Lindke v. Freed*. In this case, the Court established a new standard to assess whether a social media account managed by a local, state, or federal government official subjects that public official to a potential First Amendment violation under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for deleting comments or blocking access by certain members of the public.

#### FACTUAL SUMMARY OF THE CASE

In 2008, James Freed created a private Facebook profile. When Freed began nearing the platform's 5,000-friend limit, he converted his profile to a "public page." In 2014, Freed was appointed as City Manager of Port Hurton, Michigan. After his appointment, Freed continued to operate his Facebook page himself and continued to post prolifically (and primarily) about his personal life. Freed also posted information related to his job, such as highlighting communications from other city officials and soliciting feedback from the public on issues of concern. Freed often responded to comments on his posts, including those left by city residents with inquiries about community matters. He occa¬sionally deleted comments that he considered "derogatory" or "stupid."

After the COVID-19 pandemic began, Freed posted about it. Some posts were personal in nature, and some contained information related to his job as the City Manager. Kevin Lindke objected to the content of Freed's posts. He particularly took issue with the City's handling of the COVID 19 pandemic. Initially, Freed deleted Lindke's comments. Subsequently, he blocked Lindke from commenting, but Lindke remained able to view Freed's Facebook page.

After being blocked, Lindke sued Freed under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, alleging that Freed violated his First Amendment rights because he wasn't allowed to post to Freed's Facebook page. As Lindke saw it, he had the right to comment on Freed's Facebook page, which he characterized as a public forum. Freed, Lindke claimed, had engaged in impermissible viewpoint discrimination by deleting unfavorable comments and blocking the people who made them. However, in examining the case, the Sixth Circuit did not find a constitutional violation because Freed managed his Facebook page in his private capacity, and because only "state action" can give rise to liability under Section 1983.

#### THE COURT'S ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL ISSUES

The Supreme Court initially noted, "Courts do not ordinarily pause to consider whether §1983 applies to the actions of police officers, public schools, or prison officials. Sometimes, however, the line between private conduct and state action is difficult to draw." The Court further stated, "Freed's status as a state employee is not determinative. The distinction between private conduct and state action turns on substance, not labels: Private parties can act with the authority of the State, and state officials have private lives and their own constitutional rights—including the First Amendment right to speak about their jobs and exercise editorial control over speech and speakers on their personal platforms. Here, if Freed acted in his private capacity when he blocked Lindke and deleted his comments, he did not violate Lindke's First Amendment rights—instead, he exercised his own."

The Court ultimately ruled that a public official who prevents someone from commenting on the official's social-media page engages in "state action" under 42 U.S.C. §1983 only if the official both: (1) possessed actual authority to speak on the State's behalf on a particular matter, and (2) purported to exercise that authority when speaking in the relevant social-media posts. However, if an official has authority to speak for the state, such as by authority of some ordinance, he may have the authority to do so on social media even if the law does not make that explicit.

The Court further stated, "For social-media activity to constitute state action, an official must not only have state authority, he must also purport to use it. If the official does not speak in furtherance of his official responsibilities, he speaks with his own voice. Here, if Freed's account had carried a label—e.g., 'this is the personal page of James R. Freed'—he would be entitled to a heavy presumption that all of his posts were personal, but Freed's page was not designated either 'personal' or 'official.' The ambiguity surrounding Freed's page requires a factspecific undertaking in which posts' content and function are the most important considerations. A post that expressly invokes state authority to make an announcement not available elsewhere is official, while a post that merely repeats or shares otherwise available information is more likely personal. Lest any official lose the right to speak about public affairs in his personal capacity, the plaintiff must show that the official purports to exercise state authority in specific posts."

The Court raised a cautionary note for those who post about arguably municipal-related actions on their otherwise private social media accounts. Such accounts may be treated as "mixed use," such that blocking someone from posting any comments could subject an individual to liability for blocking posts on "official" matters. "A public official who fails to keep personal posts in a clearly designated personal account therefore exposes himself to greater potential liability."

The Court ultimately remanded the case for further assessment based on the new standard and advised the reviewing court to consider whether Freed had engaged in state action.

#### LIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

For those who operate social media accounts that are personal in nature, the Court provided some guidance on Section 1983 liability avoidance. As noted above, clearly designating an account as "personal" in nature provides a "heavy presumption" that posts on the platform are personal actions and not official State action. In addition, providing links to official communications (such as to a County website) on a platform, rather than making original pronouncements on issues that relate to municipal concerns, further insulates one from potential liability. Finally, maintaining social media accounts as "private" rather than "public" also provides a presumption that the account is personal in nature, rather than an official governmental speech platform. Public officials would be wise to consult with legal counsel to obtain further guidance on structuring social media accounts and crafting their posts in order to minimize Section 1983 liability exposure for impairing First Amendment rights.

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#### Media Update



LAURA COLE, TRANSPARENCY ENGAGEMENT ADVISOR
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## CALIFORNIA SHERIFFS TEST AI'S ABILITY TO TALK TO THE PUBLIC

rtificial Intelligence (AI) has arrived, and some California sheriff's offices have begun exploring whether it can help them communicate with their communities.

Some public information officers have begun experimenting with ChatGPT, a generative AI function which allows the user to feed in information and watch as within seconds, the computer program spits out a story.

These stories produced by chat programs have a lot of good traits. The spelling and punctuation are perfect. The narratives are arranged in a way that makes them easy to read.

But AI is still very new and occasionally invents facts that do not exist, a phenomenon that AI engineers call "hallucination." At a moment when sheriff's offices are building bridges of trust with their communities, they can not afford hallucinations. That is why these messages are being rigorously fact-checked and double-checked before they go out to the public.

"Speaking from a media relations perspective, we are just now starting to dip our toes in the AI pool," said Tony Cipolla, Public Information Officer for the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office. "At this time, we have not found a lot of applications for us where AI would be helpful, for instance, using it to generate copy for a press release. We have begun to experiment with ChatGPT when creating posts for our different social media platforms. But as with any AI product, great care must still be taken to make sure everything is factual, well-reasoned, and reflects the values of our organization." AI is robotic, so sometimes its writing can be soulless.

Tara Moriarty, the Director of Communications for the San Francisco Sheriff's Office, said the chatbot she has tested is wordy and repetitive and doesn't quite sound the way real people would write.

"It tends to use words like 'foundation' and 'foster.' I wouldn't use those words for every media release I write, but a chatbot can be useful to generate ideas on concepts to communicate," said Moriarty.

The AI tech community insists that AI is in its infancy and that these programs will improve as they continue to learn from their human users. But right now, AI is struggling with striking the right tone and showing empathy.

"What it lacks is personalization," Moriarty said. "I have seen the sheriff in situations where he has used tangible examples to connect with his audience. But AI can't do that because it doesn't have any real memories, so it falls short."

Moriarty adds that, of all its problems, AI's accuracy is the main drawback right now.

"AI can be used as one of many tools in your communications arsenal, but it's flawed to the point that I would not trust it to write anything beyond a first draft," said Moriarty.

Right now, sheriff's offices are finding artificial intelligence to be too undependable to get their message out to the public in any effective way. The future is promising as the robots learn to speak like humans. But so far, AI is not yet ready for prime time. \$\$\$

# RIGHTS VIEW

RIME VICTIMS' RIG

Options, services and hope for crime survivors.

HOW WOULD YOU HELP?

very year in April, California joins the nation in honoring our victim and survivor community during National Crime Victims Rights' Week (NCVRW). This year, NCVRW is scheduled during the week of April 21 – 27, 2024, with the theme **"Options, services and hope for crime survivors. HOW WOULD YOU HELP?"**. To honor the victim community and the families tragically impacted by crime, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Office of Victim and Survivor Rights & Services (OVSRS), will host an information webinar which will review the options and services available to victims' post-conviction.

OF CORRECTIONS AND

DEPART

Over the decade, the CDCR has taken steps to proactively change the perceived reputation of a strictly state prison system to one that is an agency of transparency working with the entire community including law enforcement, victims, the incarcerated population, and the families of both. These efforts have led to the expansion of integral services and programs for victims of crime, as well as, making the information about these services more accessible and readily available for victims. CDCR has embarked on a once-in-a-generation transformation to begin to shift and change culture in the state's prison system by developing and implementing the "California Model." The goal? Building safer communities through rehabilitation, education, restorative justice for victims and seamless reentry. The California Model aims to develop a humancentered culture of healing, positive staff-inmate communication, and improved living and working conditions. In cohesion, these principles will improve public safety, rehabilitation, and reentry. Victims and survivors are encouraged and invited to be part of this transformation by participating in many restorative justice programs.

CDCR continues to enhance and update the main CDCR webpage to include a vast number of services including resource pages for victims and the public. Those services allow for victims, next-of-kin, witnesses, family members of specific incarcerated persons (certain crimes apply) to request special conditions of parole, notification of death or escape, general release notification, email notification of prison location transfer, notification of hearings and collection of restitution. Victims can register for services easily with the click of a button. The website gives victims and their families the ability to complete the Request for Victim Services form (CDCR 1707) at any time and from any location. The e1707 link also allows for easy updates of contact information such as address, email, or phone numbers. To access the e1707 system 24/7 please visit: https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/victim\_services/application.html

As we celebrate National Crime Victims' Rights Week, it is important that we pause and ask those that have been harmed what services and/or support do they need. OVSRS offers a range of support services as victims navigate the path toward healing. Victims may want to meet with the person that harmed them, a victim may desire to share their story and volunteer to be a victim impact speaker at a CDCR facility, they may want to request the support of a well-trained trauma informed CDCR Victim Services Representative to accompany them to a parole board hearing, or they may have questions regarding their court ordered restitution. The wide variety of OVSRS services can assist in creating a wholeness for the victim and makes the incarcerated person/population truly aware of the impact of their actions.

Our office understands and respects the unique and complex issues faced by victims of violent crimes and CDCR will continue to strive to improve **options**, **services and hope** for crime victims and survivors throughout California. For more information, please visit the CDCR website - https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/ 🌣

#### Wellness Update



DR. CHERYLYNN LEE

It was early on a Tuesday evening, approximately 1800, when I stepped out of my car and took in a deep breath of cool ocean air. I surveyed the world in front of me. The waves were slow and methodical, the sand was cool and the last rays of sunlight were just starting to disappear over the horizon. Another day, come and gone. I grabbed my rucksack out of the trunk, took a gulp of water and headed down to the beach. A few months back, a team of cops and I started training for one of those ridiculously bougie spartan races. I've always enjoyed exercising — yes, some of us psychologists do more than read books and ask you invasive questions. I even continued to show up after learning what a "sugar cookie" is. (If you don't know what that means, the best way to find out is most definitely at 1800 at the beach.) What I couldn't make sense of — what I couldn't wrap my head around — was: How is it that I am outpacing some of these guys?

Now, I'm no spring chicken. I am in my late 30s and have had two kids in the last four and a half years. Yes, exercise is important to me; however, being in shape does not have a direct impact on my ability to do my job, much less survive my workday. You wouldn't go on patrol if your duty weapon wasn't working properly. So, what would the career of an officer look like if we had the same standards for mental and physical conditioning?

I'm not suggesting cops need to have their own pinup calendars (leave that to the firemen, seats taken!). But what I am wondering is: When did it become OK for you to lower your own standards and expectations? Why hasn't our profession demanded more of you? I recently heard a story of a guy on night shift buying a tuna fish sandwich at 7-Eleven. To eat. Please, if you ever find yourself in a similar situation, call me and I will personally mail you some almonds or a protein bar. No questions asked.

As a police psychologist, I see folks in my office for a variety of reasons: trauma, failing relationships, substance abuse, organizational stress and more. No matter the reason you're in therapy, we are going to talk about diet and exercise, and here is why. There are three things all of the above have in common. First, there is a true or perceived lack of control over each event and situation. Second, these situations are common in police work, some might even say normal. Third, they suck. The million-dollar questions become: "If these are common, what can we do to prevent some of this?" and "What can we do when it's right in front of us and we're dealing with it?"

#### **GETTING AHEAD OF IT**

When you exercise, your body regulates stress hormones and releases endorphins and other chemicals in your brain that regulate mood, sleep, attention, body temperature and heart rate. When you have an exercise routine, your body gets used to releasing these chemicals and regulating itself without you needing to think about it. In other words, you're at a better baseline. In other other words, when you come home after work, you don't snap at your kids right away. You have more resilience. More in your tank. More for your family. You can avoid some of the angst that becomes behavior that becomes habit that becomes the catalyst for more serious problems like clinical depression. Fun fact: Research shows that a good exercise routine can be just as effective, if not more effective, than antidepressant medication. I'm not saying that if you exercise every day, you don't need any other supports. What I am saying is that exercise sets you up for mental success. It is something you do have control over. And it is a great tool to have in your toolbelt.



#### **DEALING WITH IT**

Whether you're on patrol, detectives or motors, or you've successfully promoted yourself into the underbelly of department politics and management, you have periods of time within your day when you experience stress. For some, stress is felt physically (fast heart rate, tightness in your chest, stomach pain); for others, stress is experienced as thoughts (shoulda, woulda, coulda and what if?). Most have a mix of the two. When you are under stress or experience a traumatic incident, you don't always have time to process what you just went through. This is an adaptive quality in police work - being able to compartmentalize. It's how you are able to conduct death notifications and not fall apart on scene. The problem is that, over time, the stress and trauma don't always dissipate on their own, and if they're not dealt with, they can turn into post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI). Because stress is felt both physically and mentally, you need to engage in routines that involve both physical and mental conditioning to try to mitigate the negative effects of your job. You need to release the pressure valve and make a habit of it before it becomes something you are no longer able to contain or control.

#### **SET YOURSELF UP FOR SUCCESS**

If you have been eating gas station tuna fish sandwiches by moonlight, and your daily exercise routine consists of getting in and out of your black-and-white, therapy is not going to be as successful as it could be if you were taking care of yourself. Remember, therapy is typically one to two hours a week, and that leaves a whole lot of time for you to work on you. When your diet and exercise are on track, you are more focused, your memory works better and you can process information more quickly. You will absorb more of what we're discussing. You have more mental space to talk about and process the things that are hard. Not to mention the positive effects on your self-esteem, your self-efficacy and the tactical advantages that go along with being in shape. If for no other reason, you're less likely to be outpaced by the department shrink during PT...

So why wait? In the wise words of Gordon Graham, "If it's predictable, it's preventable." If you don't have an exercise routine, what would it look like if you started one? Start small if it's been a while. Walk 20 minutes a day four times per week, and when that becomes comfortable, add in some strength and conditioning. Talk with a buddy and hold yourself accountable. Challenge yourself. When it comes to mental conditioning, you can learn to work with your thoughts instead of avoiding them. Just because you think it, that doesn't mean it's true. What would be different about your headspace if, before you left work every day, you set a timer and journaled for five minutes about whatever is on your mind? Or if, on your way home from work, you identified an offramp where you "leave" the stress of your workday (so to speak) and pick it up on your way to work the next day? Remember, the intention here is to develop a physical and mental routine that releases the pressure valve.

At about 1900, we concluded training and stood along the shoreline drinking chewable coffee (my favorite). We accomplished our mission. Together. After a few minutes of catching our breath and conversation, it was time to go our separate ways. I packed up my car and thoroughly appreciated the 30-minute drive home with no kids and no work calls. Just me, my thoughts, my music and the picturesque drive between Ventura and Santa Barbara County. What would the career of an officer look like if the profession treated your mind and body with the same care and concern as it does your duty weapon? What would your life look like five years from now if you started implementing mental and physical conditioning today? My guess is it wouldn't look worse. You've got this.

Dr. Lee is a Police Psychologist and a full-time employee of the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office. She is the first Behavioral Sciences Manager for the organization and oversees the Behavioral Sciences Unit (BSU). The BSU houses four mental health co-responder teams, provides Crisis Intervention Training for all local law enforcement, conducts behavioral threat assessments, and houses the departments wellness unit and peer support team. Dr. Lee is a member of the county's threat management team and serves on the crisis negotiation response teams for both the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office and the Santa Barbara Police Department. She provides instruction for the FBI 40-hour negotiations course in the areas of mental health, suicidal subjects, and officer wellness.

Dr. Lee is a subject-matter expert with CA Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) on both officer and dispatcher wellness and has contributed to several state-wide projects promoting wellness for law enforcement agencies. She is a published author with PORAC, Police1 and American Police Beat Magazine, and sits on the California State Sheriffs Wellness Board.

Dr. Lee is contracted with The Counseling Team International and offers individual counseling and emergency response services across the state of California. She has led over 40 critical incident stress debriefings for OIS, LODD and natural disasters for local and state agencies. Dr. Lee maintains a private practice in the Santa Ynez Valley where she exclusively works with first responders and specializes in trauma, post-traumatic stress, resilience, and work performance improvement.

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY'S NEW WELLNESS COORDINATOR AND PART OF THE CSSA WELLNESS COMMITTEE

ow do you keep a team of deputies, correctional officers, and professional staff healthy and well? That's the challenge that the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office faces every day, and they have found an amazing person to help them with it. Meet Danielle Kawash, the new Health and Wellness Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office. Danielle has a wealth of experience and knowledge in health and nutrition, and she is passionate about helping law enforcement professionals achieve their wellness goals. She will be designing and implementing various programs and initiatives to support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the Sheriff's Office staff, such as:

- Fitness assessments and training plans to help them stay fit and reduce injuries
- Nutrition education and counseling to help them eat well and feel energized
- Stress management and resilience training to help them cope with the challenges and demands of their work
- Wellness events and activities to help them have fun and connect with their colleagues

Danielle is eager to get to know the Sheriff's Office team and tailor her services to their needs and preferences. She believes that



Danielle Kawash

wellness is not a one-size-fits-all concept, but a personal journey that requires motivation, commitment, and support. She is ready to be that support for the Sheriff's Office staff and help them thrive in their careers and lives.

Sheriff Jonsen had the opportunity to sit down with Danielle and learn more about her background, vision, and plans for the Sheriff's Office. He was impressed by her enthusiasm, expertise, and dedication. He also shared his own views on the importance of wellness for law enforcement agencies and how he hopes to create a culture of wellness in the Sheriff's Office. Their conversation was insightful, inspiring, and informative. We are excited to share it with you in this newsletter. Read on to find out more about Danielle Kawash, the new Health and Wellness Coordinator for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office.

#### WHAT DREW YOU TO PUBLIC SERVICE?

Six years ago, I worked in a medical practice that was asked to provide a health and well-being program for the academy of a local fire department. Looking back, we needed more preparation for this task. We had extensive knowledge about sleep, nutrition, stress response, and fitness, but we needed to understand the unique challenges faced by firefighters, law enforcement officers, and other first responders. We made suggestions such as "make sure to get 7-9 hours of sleep every night", "go to bed and wake up at the same time every day," and "eat on a consistent schedule." Although these were all fantastic health tips, they're difficult to achieve, especially for a firefighter at a busy station.



The following year, we were asked to do a similar program for another fire department. In addition to the original program, we added a module on cancer risk reduction. I was tasked with developing this module, and it was in researching this topic that I began to truly understand the dangers and collateral damage our first responders face in protecting our communities. I continuously asked, "Who is caring for our first responders?" So, I decided to be part of the answer. I quit my job, researched, and talked to anyone in the fire and law enforcement community who would speak to me. I set out to do whatever I could to support our first responders, and my passion for working with and for first responders has continued to grow.



#### PLEASE SHARE A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND AND WHY IT'S SO WELL SUITED FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT WELLNESS.

I feel that my 25 years of experience in health and wellness practice has been for the specific purpose of serving the men and women who tirelessly serve us. I specialize in Functional Medicine, sports nutrition, and health and well-being coaching, and I use this integrated, performance-based approach as the foundation of my work with first responders and their families. I have a master's degree in Nutrition and Food Science, a diploma in Performance Nutrition, a certification in Personal Training, a Board Certification in Health and Wellness Coaching, and a POST certification in Peer Support. I've worked as a Clinical Dietitian, a Diabetes Educator, a functional medicine nutritionist, and a performance specialist. I've also taught several classes at the university level and developed three doctorate-level functional medicine classes for Huntington University of Health Sciences. I have co-authored three books and authored several journal articles on various topics.

In 2020, I co-founded First In Wellness to develop health and well-being programs for first responders. Our mission was simple: provide resources and culturally appropriate solutions to protect the health and well-being of first responders. In addition to program development, my work included creating and delivering articles, handouts, webinars, and online classes for outlets including Light House Wellness, Crackyl Magazine, Peer Connect, and NW3C.

## WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED FOR OUR FANTASTIC TEAM IN THE UPCOMING YEAR?

I've developed the following task list for the next year:

#### **1. DATA COLLECTION**

Our first task is to gather information about the health and well-being needs of employees in the agency. To better understand their unique needs and preferences, we will be conducting a followup survey to the previous county and sheriff's office assessments. In addition, I am actively engaging with our personnel through patrol ride-alongs, sit-alongs with dispatch, attending meetings,



debriefings, group workouts, and 1-on-1 lifestyle sessions. This information will be used to compile reports and develop employeedriven health and well-being programs.

#### 2. WELLNESS COMMITTEE

We plan to revamp and expand our Wellness Committee, ensuring greater participation and efficacy in organizing, promoting, and executing events and programs. This committee will help organize, promote, and run events and programs.

#### **3. PEER SUPPORT TEAM**

Strengthening and growing the Peer Support Team is a priority. We will standardize training, facilitate regular meetings, and provide ongoing support to its members. Moreover, we will host a peer support and mental well-being event next year to showcase the team's role in SCCSO's mental well-being services.

#### 4. COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

I'm distributing weekly emails with tips on various health and well-being topics. A monthly newsletter will delve deeper into the five pillars of health: nutrition, sleep, fitness, stress modulation, and connection. Additionally, I will be providing regular workshops and lectures on relevant topics to personnel and their families.

#### 5. 6-MONTHS OF WELLNESS, JANUARY – JULY 2024

In 2024, SCCSO will embark on an exciting journey celebrating health and well-being with a monthly focus on each of the five pillars. We will have special events, competitions, prizes, and resources to support our personnel. The journey will culminate in a grand agency-wide health fair in July.

#### 6. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AMBASSADORS

To further strengthen our well-being initiatives, we are planning to launch a Health and Well-being Ambassador training program at the end of 2024. As I cannot do this alone, we will offer a trainthe-trainer program to equip our ambassadors with the skills and knowledge to promote well-being in our agency. If possible, I'd like to get this POST certified.

#### 7. WORKOUTS, 1-ON-1 LIFESTYLE COACHING, WORKING WITH DIVISIONS

In addition to our broader well-being initiatives, I offer personalized 1-on-1 sessions to discuss employees' health and wellness goals. Additionally, for those who prefer a more active approach, I'm available to meet for a workout. Lastly, I'll provide wellness workshops on various topics to divisions during trainings and meetings. Example topics: sleep, fueling for mental and physical performance, quick decompression techniques, transitioning from work to home, making fitness part of the workday (or night), and increasing energy and focus.

#### **SOUNDS LIKE A LOT FOR YOUR FIRST YEAR?**

It is! But the energy and excitement at SCCSO is contagious. People are eager to feel better, support their work performance, and feel more connected. I don't need to tell any of you that working in law enforcement is not always compatible with keeping one's health and well-being. It's our mission to create a proactive program within our agency to build mental and physical resiliency, provide additional support to those who are struggling, and create small, attainable ways for our employees to continue to nurture their health and well-being.





# SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME THROUGHTECHNOLOGY

#### CASSIE DROCHELMAN, M.ED.

ccording to the National Crime Victimization Survey, 2.6 million people are victims of serious violent crime, and nearly half of women and a quarter of men will experience some form of intimate partner violence during their lifetimes, according to the CDC. It is crucial to raise awareness about what victims face, which is why the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) instituted National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) in 1981 — a week in late April that seeks to elevate the voices of crime survivors and the service providers and advocates who work to support them. During NCVRW, victims, survivors, advocates, and law enforcement professionals both in California and all over the country are encouraged to share their stories, offer support and resources, and educate others within their communities.

#### USING TECHNOLOGY TO HELP EMPOWER AND INFORM VICTIMS

Under the Crime Victims' Rights Act of 1984, in the aftermath of a serious crime, victims and survivors have a number of crucial rights, including the right to notification and information, the right to be present, the right to be heard, the right to full and timely restitution, and the right to speedy proceedings. These rights are ones that have been provided and are protected by the U.S. government to reduce further harm, prioritize safety, and empower victims and survivors.

For nearly 30 years, CA VINE has helped keep victims and survivors in California safe and informed through timely notifications any time an offender's incarceration status changes. This technology platform, powered by Equifax, exists to support victims in their journey toward peace of mind. In support of victims' rights, VINE is available to victims with their safety and well-being in mind. It works to alert victims when their offender has been released from jail or moved to another facility. Additionally, VINE Courts and VINE Protective Order, two solutions built into VINE's platform, inform and alert victims as they move through the court process and provide status changes that occur throughout the lifecycle of the protective order, respectively. Through VINE, victims have access to timely notifications about their offender's status, court and protective order updates, and 24hour support via our call center, free of charge to users.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is a time of celebration and of reflection. It is important to be proud of the accomplishments of the victims' rights movement. It is also a time for our nation to reflect on additional methods we may employ to remove barriers to the achievement of justice for all victims of crime. Victims have stories and experiences that many of us only see or hear about from our screens, but there are lessons that we can learn, people we can support, and resources to know about in case we or someone we know ever needs them. Through technology, victim resources like VINE help people every day access the information they have the right to know, so they can live their lives with a greater sense of peace of mind.

Cassie Drochelman is an experienced victim advocate and educator who works for the VINE team under Equifax in Louisville, Kentucky. She has more than 15 years of experience in the movement to end intimate partner violence.

#### **CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS'** Association Foundation

Law Enforcement Appreciation Week May 5-11, 2024

**Respect** • Honor • Remember



very May, the California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation (CSSAF) devotes special time to honor the dedication and bravery of our law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Throughout California's Law Enforcement Appreciation Week, observed from May 5-11, thousands will gather at our State's Capitol to pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the line of duty during the preceding year and acknowledge the profound sacrifice endured by their loved ones.

This designated week presents a valuable opportunity to acknowledge the courageous men and women currently serving in law enforcement, who diligently protect our communities. There are numerous ways to honor fallen officers and express gratitude to those currently serving in law enforcement. In doing this, we are also showing our appreciation for those courageous officers who put their lives on the line daily. We hold them in the highest regard and respect them for the important work they perform.

Amidst such solemn occasions, it is crucial to also remember the families left behind in the aftermath of these tragic losses. While we can never fully repay the bravery of these officers, their families, and loved ones, we can honor their valor and their invaluable contributions. We invite you to join us in recognizing their unwavering courage and expressing our heartfelt gratitude.



Please note that this is a separate donation from your membership dues. We never solicit by telephone, and do not share your personal information with other organizations.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK DONATION FORM

Your donation is tax deductible (Federal Tax ID#59-3813461).

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE.
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□ OTHER \$ Method of Payment: Check: Payable to California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation

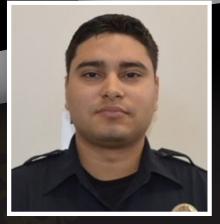
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Address					- CALL to donate over the phone with a
City			State	Zin Code	credit card at 800-761-2772 or 916-375-8000

# 2024 Honored Officers



**DEPUTY DARNELL CALHOUN** *Riverside County Sheriff's Office EOW: Jan 13, 2023* 



**OFFICER GONZALO CARRASCO, JR.** Selma Police Department EOW: Jan 31, 2023



**DEPUTY RYAN CLINKUNBROOMER** Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office EOW: Sep 16, 2023



**OFFICER TUAN LE** Oakland Police Department EOW: Dec 29, 2023

## CALIFORNIA SHERIFFS WORKING TO ADDRESS ISSUES AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The concerns taking place at our Southern Border have a profound impact on the quality-of-life for each of our 58 counties. Sure, there are degrees and scale to the problems but there is no denying the impacts of fentanyl, human trafficking, and large-scale marijuana grows that leave waste and contaminated soil behind for others to clean up.

he Sheriffs that represent our 58 counties are by nature, problem solvers. Each Sheriff is aware of the impact to their local area but globally, it's difficult to fully understand the challenges. Depending on the media outlet, some say; there is overcrowding or no crowding at all, the border wall is effective or more wall is needed for security purposes, cartels and drug trafficking create a dangerous environment or it has all been blown out of proportion. So, what do you do when something isn't clear? Go to the source and ask the experts, the ones working to address the issues.

In November 2023, the California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA) coordinated a three-day training for top level executives to hear and see firsthand what issues exist at our Southern Border. This training took place in San Diego County and was hosted by San Diego

County Sheriff Kelly Martinez. Law Enforcement Professionals from twenty-seven counties, two Police Departments and the United States Marshal's Service were all represented at the training. The training was not only an excellent educational opportunity but, additionally, a chance to network and problem solve these complex concerns collaboratively.

To get a complete perspective of the challenges occurring at the border, CSSA reached out to our local, state, and federal partners for assistance. Some of the presenters included the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, the Imperial County Sheriff's Office, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Unites States Attorney's Office.



The training consisted of a high-level synopsis of the issues and the great work being done by our CSSA Law Enforcement Partners. There was an overview of Title 42, as well as a presentation on high intensity drug trafficking and law enforcement responses. Other topics included air operations, search and rescue operations, human trafficking, fentanyl abatement and the impacts on our correctional facilities.

One of the highlights of the training was a panel discussion with Sheriff Kelly Martinez and Imperial County Sheriff Fred Miramontes, whose jurisdictions border Mexico. They were joined by representatives from the US Attorney's Office, the DEA, the FBI, and the United States Border Patrol.

The training included site visits to numerous areas being impacted near the border. Those in attendance went to the San Ysidro Point of Entry to view the intake process of detainees. Attendees also visited the border wall, the Otay Mesa Detention Center, and a soft sided facility where detainees are processed and provided a court appearance date before being released into our communities. It was notable that only about 2% of those coming into the United States were considered Mexican Nationals. There is a large influx of people coming to the United States from Central America and China. According to data from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection webpage (www.cbp.gov), the number of Southwest Land Border Encounters reached roughly two and a half million contacts in 2023.

It was crucial to CSSA that this training was not only informative but served as a starting point for meaningful conversations and an opportunity to influence change. Part of the presentation included a "next steps" discussion by those in attendance. One such suggestion included legislative remedies to 2017's Senate Bill 54, commonly referred to as the "California Values Act." SB 54 has created obstacles to sharing information with our federal partners, even on issues of public safety or criminal behavior. CSSA will also work on messaging and getting more information out to our citizens about the issues we saw firsthand during our visit to the border.

CSSA is committed to supporting our Sheriffs with their goal of ensuring the safety of those communities they serve CSSA believes education and collaboration are essential components of finding common sense solutions to what we see occurring at our Southern Border. We look forward to continuing to work with our Law Enforcement Partners on the complex issues that face our State.



Brandon Barnes Sheriff, Sutter County Second Vice-President California State Sheriffs' Association









#### California Sheriffs History – Orange County

## ALICE CHANDLER

In February of 1980, President Jimmy Carter declared the month of March as "Women's History Month." In Honor of Women's History, the Orange County Sheriff's Department wanted to highlight the life and career of one of its first female deputies - Alice Chandler.



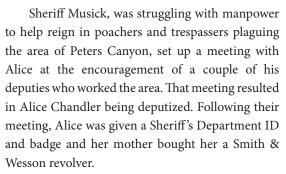
he County of Orange in Southern California is surrounded by Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. Its Sheriff's Department, the Orange County Sheriff's Department, was founded on August 1st, 1889, and charged with maintaining law and order for the nearly 800 square mile area it covers. At the time, only 13,000 people were living there, and the Sheriff's Department consisted solely of two sworn members: Sheriff Richard Harris and Deputy James Buckley.

As years passed, the population in Orange County grew and so did the Sheriff's Department. In 1897, the spike in population caused Sheriff Joe Nichols to open the department's first jail. That same year, a wealthy business group which included James Irvine of The Irvine Company, purchased 2 ranches totaling 96,000 acres. A portion of that land became known as Peters Canyon after it was leased by the Irvine family to a barley and bean farmer named James Peters. The area was filled with wildlife, green hills, and dense foliage.

As areas with similar topography, Peters Canyon became a popular area to fish and hunt which in turn brought its share of crime in the form of trespassing and poaching. It was these law violations in Peters Canyon which helped pave the way for Alice Chandler to become one of the first female Deputy Sheriffs in the history of the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

Alice's large family lived on James Peters leased land. Her father was a gardener there and their family's small home was located near what is now known as Peters Lake. On her 16th birthday, Alice was gifted a horse by her mother, and she took every opportunity thereafter to learn how to ride. By the time Alice was 21, her reputation as an accomplished equestrian had spread to those in the local area including the then Sheriff of Orange County - James A. Musick.





In 1949, when Alice started her tenure as a Sheriff's Special Deputy, there were nearly 200,000 residents living in Orange County and the Sheriff's Department had less than 80 sworn. Alice's assignment consisted of patrolling the area around Peters Lake on her horse. While on duty, she had full deputy powers, was always on-call, and told she could call Santa Ana for additional help if necessary.

For the better part of three years, Alice patrolled the Peters Canyon area without ever having to draw her gun. Alice believed detractors became aware there was a Deputy Sheriff patrolling the area and chose to stay away. Alice's tenure as a deputy ended when her family moved away from the area.

In June of 2008, Sandra Hutchens became the first female Sheriff of Orange County. It was this same year; Alice's story was brought to light. After hearing her story, Sheriff Hutchens arranged a meeting with Alice, and it was at this meeting Alice provided Sheriff Hutchens with her original gun, badge, and ID card.

Alice passed away on June 10th, 2023, but her story will never be forgotten by those working in the Orange County Sheriff's Department.



## GIVING YOU PEACE OF MIND WHEN IT'S NEEDED MOST

We are honored to offer our End of Watch Debt Forgiveness Benefit exclusively for our members who are active full-time sworn peace officers and reserve peace officers.

- Provided at no cost<sup>1</sup> to qualifying members
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# THE CSSA CLOUD

#### PIONEERING A NEW ERA OF CONNECTED LAW ENFORCEMENT IN CALIFORNIA

Law enforcement information sharing is indispensable for effective policing operations and investigations. As contemporary law enforcement executives manage competing priorities amid increasingly limited budgets, establishing infrastructure to facilitate seamless data exchange has become imperative. The inception of the CSSA Cloud signifies a watershed moment that promises to transform how California law enforcement entities approach daily tasks and promote statewide collaboration.

#### ORIGINS

This initiative began in 2018 as a pilot project spearheaded by the CSSA Information Technology subcommittee, under the leadership and guidance from the CSSA board. The successful pilot project entailed designing Microsoft Azure Cloud architecture tailored for law enforcement data sharing, the merits of which prompted full platform approval in 2019. This represented a tremendous milestone in pioneering law enforcement systems to enhance efficiency.

#### **CORE FUNCTIONALITIES**

The platform seamlessly integrates Cloud services to leverage powerful computing resources without having to purchase or maintain hardware and software and offer a reliable, cost-effective technical architecture without demanding substantial upfront investments. This structure democratizes access by enabling both large and small agencies to derive benefits. Additionally, the CSSA Cloud hosts critical applications addressing real-world needs, like the RIPA (AB953) compliance tool, and Team Awareness Kit (TAK) for tactical teams. Soon to come will be the Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) permitting system and the Automated Regional Information Exchange System (ARIES). Efforts to mitigate locationspecific obstacles faced by rural agencies exemplify the platform's capability to provide bespoke solutions for complex challenges.

Besides these core capabilities, partnership with ESRI, a global

leader in GIS mapping, will enable geospatial capability across the platform to usher in opportunities that have not been easily possible in the past.

#### DATA SHARING AND COLLABORATION

The CSSA is proud to share that the Automated Regional Information Exchange System (ARIES) is the first large-scale web application to transition its infrastructure to the CSSA Cloud. ARIES is owned and managed by Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff and is one of many systems in use by law enforcement agencies within California. Established in 2003, ARIES is a webbased application that aggregates, analyzes, and shares data from 60 sources, through 23 sub-applications with different functions, and with its user base consisting of 10,000+ across 102 agencies within four counties in Northern California: Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano, and San Joaquin. The availability of the CSSA Cloud and the need for ARIES to transition to a platform that would allow the program to scale, and meet program and user demands, was kismet. Today, ARIES transitioning to the CSSA cloud is underway. Soon, both programs will realize mutual goals of seamless law enforcement information sharing continuing to be an indispensable need for effective policing operations and investigations with the hopeful purpose of promoting interagency collaboration while taking advantage of newer technology.

#### UNLOCKING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF DATA ANALYTICS

Additionally, the platform is designed to facilitate data sharing as well as analytics by enabling aggregation of data from various sources. As a result, agencies can generate actionable insights. By fully capitalizing on cloud-based analytics, agencies can interesting develop capabilities relevant to operational needs and resource allocation. Specifically, geospatial analytics support location-based intelligence, while machine learning algorithms can uncover hidden patterns, while modeling and simulation augment human analysis with powerful computational capabilities not otherwise possible. As more agencies embrace big data, the CSSA Cloud will continue providing the underlying data science muscle.

#### SPEARHEADING INTEGRATION OF CUTTING-EDGE AI

The CSSA Cloud also spearheads integrating artificial intelligence into workflows to streamline administrative tasks and augment crime prevention and response efficiencies. Cloud infrastructure will enable development of customized AI solutions to enhance public safety. For example, natural language processing can help automate report writing while computer vision can analyze video surveillance faster than humans. Conversational agents can provide citizen services 24/7 without human staffing. Document analysis can accelerate processing and extracting information from massive data. As AI adoption expands, the CSSA Cloud will facilitate rapid deployment of innovations across California agencies.

#### **EMPOWERING MISSION-CRITICAL OPERATIONS**

In addition to analytics and AI capabilities, the agility, scalability, and resilience of cloud infrastructure delivers indispensable benefits for time-sensitive, mission-critical law enforcement operations. The on-demand nature of the cloud allows computing resources to be provisioned and scaled instantly during major events like emergencies, protests, or criminal investigations that require surge bandwidth and capacity. Resources can then be scaled back down just as quickly after the event. The cloud also enables seamless data access and cross-agency collaboration during critical incidents through tools like TAK. Furthermore, the distributed architecture of cloud data centers provides built-in redundancy to minimize downtime risks, backed by robust Service Level Agreements (SLA) that guarantee minimum level uptime. By leveraging these cloud attributes, law enforcement can fulfill mission-critical responsibilities more effectively during high-stakes, stressful scenarios.

Those that are already on the CSSA cloud, can leverage it to further enhance their capabilities and streamline their operations. The CSSA cloud offers a standardized framework for acquiring cloud services, ensuring consistency, security, and compliance across different agencies. This can result in cost savings and increased efficiency as agencies avoid redundant efforts in evaluating and procuring cloud services individually.Additionally, being on the CSSA cloud allows sheriff departments to benefit from shared resources and best practices. The standardized environment enables interoperability between different agencies, fostering collaboration and information sharing. This is particularly crucial in the realm of law enforcement, where effective communication and collaboration can significantly impact the outcome of critical operations.

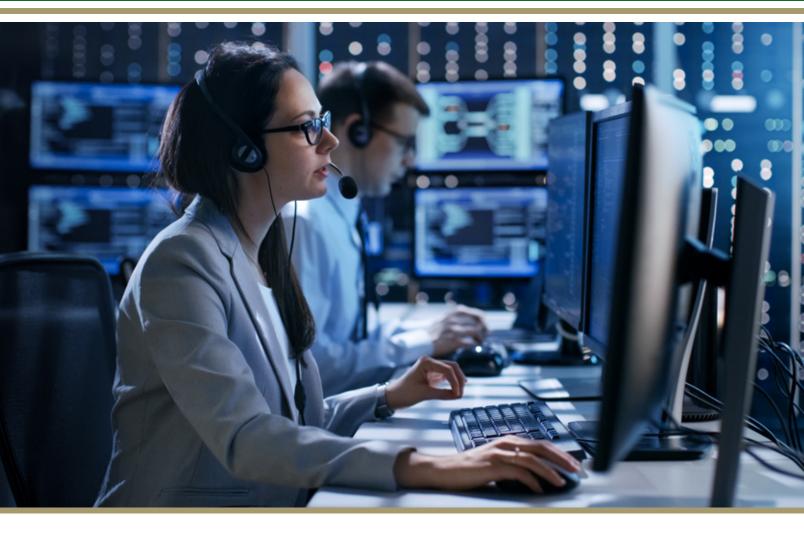
Being on the CSSA cloud not only provides law enforcement agencies with the agility, scalability, and resilience inherent in cloud infrastructure but also brings about standardization, collaboration opportunities, and enhanced security through a unified framework for acquiring and managing cloud services

#### **COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT**

A key advantage is pooling law enforcement IT expertise to collaboratively build solutions addressing shared challenges stemming from legal changes or mandates. This grassroots approach curtails redundancies and expedites capability deployment while fostering unprecedented cooperation through information exchange.

Moreover, collective participation slashes costs, and risks, and enhances security by optimally utilizing in-house skills. The platform empowers law enforcement to negotiate with technology vendors from a position of strength.





The significance of community-driven development became apparent when faced with new RIPA data collection requirements. The law enforcement community swiftly united to meet the judge's orders regarding collection of officer gender, allowing agencies within the CSSA Cloud to achieve compliance as well as provide technical support within a day. This collaborative effort among multiple agencies, facilitated mutual assistance. As the San Diego Sheriff's team worked towards getting the new version of the RIPA application hosted in CSSA cloud marketplace in compliance with the new TRO, the teams from Orange County Sheriff, Stanislaus Sheriff, San Joaquin Sheriff, San Diego PD, Santa Clara Sheriff, Ventura Sheriff, San Diego Harbor PD, Long Beach PD, and Riverside Sheriff assisted each other not only with the implementation of the new requirements but also with other technical challenges.

Like RIPA & CCW, agencies often encounter similar challenges and have devised innovative solutions in situations where commercial alternatives are unavailable or impractical. Historically, the sharing of these solutions among agencies has been hindered by technical constraints. However, the CSSA cloud now facilitates the seamless and standardized exchange of these innovative solutions and best practices. This cloud environment offers a unified platform where agencies can collaborate, share insights, and swap inventive solutions without the complications that technical limitations posed in traditional setups.

By surmounting the technical obstacles that previously impeded sharing, the CSSA cloud serves as a catalyst for cultivating a collaborative and innovative ecosystem within the law enforcement community. This, in turn, paves the way for more efficient, effective, and standardized solutions to address shared challenges across agencies.

#### **EXTERNAL COLLABORATIONS**

The CSSA Cloud bridges inter-agency cooperation between law enforcement and associated entities like district attorneys, healthcare, and social services. Enabling seamless data sharing fosters a more holistic and coordinated response to complex public safety issues.

In summary, the CSSA Cloud signifies a new chapter defined by inter-agency connectivity, transparency, efficiency gains, and nextgeneration capabilities. This innovation empowers law enforcement leaders to achieve operational excellence and forge community partnerships to collaboratively advance public safety.

## California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation Membership Program

Individuals and Businesses who want to take a proactive approach to support public safety in their communities may join the California State Sheriffs' Association Foundation (CSSAF). CSSAF is entirely funded by the generous contributions and support from our members. We are a qualified, non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, which means that your donations qualify as tax deductions. The sheriffs of California have full control and direction of all association operations and activities.

#### Individual Membership Levels

#### **ASSOCIATE, STUDENT & RECENT GRADS, & JOINT MEMBERS**

- ★ Personalized membership card
- ★ Two Bumper stickers
- ★ One-year subscription to California Sheriff

#### **LIFETIME & JOINT LIFETIME MEMBERS**

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- ★ Metal license plate holder
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- ★ Name recognition as a Lifetime Member in California Sheriff
- ★ Lifetime subscription to California Sheriff
- ★ Lifetime Member specific merchandise



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#### **BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD & PLATINUM MEMBERS**

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- ★ One-year subscription to California Sheriff
- ★ Partner listing on our website, calsheriffs.org (Gold Members Only)
- $\star$  Partner listing with your website link on our website, calsheriffs.org (Platinum Members Only)

## 2024 Membership Form



#### Individual Membership Levels

🖵 Associate (\$50)	🖵 Joint (\$65)
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Merchandise Form



CSSA humbly asks, that if you would like to make a Law Enforcement Week Donation online that you do so on May 2, 2024 thru the link below since donations made that day have the potential of being matched. Additionally, the Sacramento Region Community Foundation, who hosts this one-day event, will be awarding up to \$100,000 in prizes to the participating non-profits.

## https://www.bigdayofgiving.org/organization/CSSAF