



Retired Peace Officers Association of California

Fraternal Order of Police - California Lodge #55

NEWSLETTER

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Legislation **GONE WILD**

by Alex Bernard



This year legislation has gone wild with anti-law enforcement bills. They range from use of force to taking away qualified immunity. There are just too many bills to cover in this article. I focus on two bills that I believe will be the most harmful to the recruitment and retention of police officers, SB 2 and AB 89. SB 2 looks to set up police licensing, a state disciplinary process, and do away with qualified immunity. AB 89 is also known as the Peace Officers Education and Age Conditions for Employment Act. It would raise the minimum age to employ a peace officer from 18 to 25 unless they have a bachelor's degree or higher. These two bills will have an adverse effect on the profession if they become law.



SB 2 is a very complicated bill. I will highlight some its provisions. Police licensing is one of the things this bill would create. Basic POST certificates would have to be renewed at least every two years with a fee attached to the renewal. It would authorize POST to investigate fitness of individuals to be and/or remain as peace officers.

It would create the Peace Officer Standards Accountability Division within POST to accomplish this. This Division would conduct investigations of alleged wrongdoing that could lead to decertification. This bill also creates a Peace Officer Standards Accountability Advisory Board. Their job is to hear evidence of misconduct and determine if peace officers should remain certified or be decertified. The Board consisting of nine members, will hold public hearings on these matters. There will only two peace officers on this Board. This bill would eliminate qualified immunity. That would mean individual officers could be



"If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month."

— Theodore Roosevelt



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held financially liable for their actions on the job. This could make a peace officer think twice about doing his or her job.

AB 89, the Peace Officers Education and Age Conditions for Employment Act, was proposed as a means of recruiting less violent individuals to become peace officers. The proponents of the bill believe that older and/or more educated individuals tend to be less violent than younger and/or less educated individuals.



They base these premises on old studies. Raising the minimum age of peace officers to 25 or having a bachelor's degree will have a devastating effect on recruitment. Agencies are having a major problem recruiting candidates under the current requirements. This will just worsen the situation. In the 1970's they were looking to raise the educational requirements for peace officers. But they determined that would hurt recruitment. It appears the politicians aren't concerned about the current recruiting crisis and don't mind adding problems to the situation. The way law enforcement is being treated, they are lucky to recruit the individuals that they do.

As I always say, it's good to be retired. I personally wouldn't want to work under the conditions current peace officers have to work under. It would appear the politicians are more concerned about political correctness than public safety. They need to think about the brave peace officers out there doing their jobs every day under these adverse conditions. Instead of making their jobs tougher, they should support them.

Stay safe and Back the Blue.

HEY, ARE YOU MISSING OUT?

You are if you're not taking advantage of all the great insurance and other benefits available to you as a member of the RPOAC!

Visit the Benefits page of our website and see what you could be missing.

RPOAC Annual Meeting

With COVID diminishing, we are hopeful that our Annual Meeting will take place. It will likely be held in November at the Peppermill Hotel & Casino in Reno, Nevada.

Watch the RPOAC website and our October Newsletter for specific dates and times.

All RPOAC members are invited AND encouraged to attend the general meeting.



The Peppermill Hotel & Casino, Reno

Benefits Available to Members

- ◆ CCW Safe
- ◆ Hear in America
- ◆ Healthiest You
- ◆ My Notification
- ◆ LegalShield
- ◆ United Health Dental
- ◆ Vision Plan of America
- ◆ And much more are available to RPOAC members.

The RPOAC Directors

The Directors of the Retire Peace Officers Association of California are your direct representatives for RPOAC and are elected by the members of their respective Chapters for two-year terms.

Questions regarding the many insurance programs available to RPOAC members should be directed to our Benefits Administrator, Shane Cobb with Pacific Financial Designs. He can be reached at (800) 733-4487.

The Directors generally meet twice a year. Our Annual Meeting usually held in October or November is open to all RPOAC members. There is also a Bi-Annual meeting in May that is intended for Directors only.

All members are encouraged to attend the Annual meeting.

RPOAC Board Meets in Reno

The RPOAC Board of Directors met in person for the first time since November 2019 on May 25, 2021 at the Bi-Annual Board meeting held in Reno, Nevada. Your Directors were excited to be able to get back to working for you and our Association by providing our members with access to important benefits and information.



The Director's Chair



So, you retired a few months ago, and now you're bored. Or, your wife is finally kicking you off the couch and says you need to find

something to do. The most logical jobs to fall into after retirement are in the security field. Those jobs can be surveillance, investigative or protective related. This article will focus on the protective security jobs, which I have been doing since retirement.

If you live in the Los Angeles or San Francisco area, these jobs can pay almost the same hourly rate you were making as a cop (slick sleeve of course). So, what do you need to start working these jobs? First and foremost, you need the proper certifications.

B.S.I.S.

This stands for Bureau of Security and Investigative Services. This agency is the licensing agency of security officers in California. There are two licenses that you minimally need to work in security after retirement.

GUARD CARD-In order to get a **security guard license (guard card)**, you must first complete a pre-licensing course, often referred to as a "**guard card class**". The **guard card class** is 8 hours long and can be completed in one day.

Security Careers After Retirement

by Mike Marostica, Tri-Counties Chapter Director

Once completed, it will usually take 2-4 weeks to get your card. The certification must be renewed every two years. Almost all the companies in California WILL NOT hire you unless you have a current guard card. This is the minimum requirement

EXPOSED FIREARMS PERMIT- We've all seen security guards with guns, but are they required to have extra training and permitting for that? The answer is yes.

To be eligible for a BSIS Firearms Permit, applicants must:

- be a citizen of the United States or have permanent legal alien status
- be at least 21 years of age
- not be banned from owning or possessing any firearm pursuant to State or Federal Law (BPC Sections 7542.3, 7583.24, 7583.25, and 7596.8); and
- Have a current guard card
- complete a criminal history background check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the California Department of Justice (DOJ) (BPC Sections 7542.2, 7583.23, 7583.24, and 7596.8); and complete and submit the [Firearms Permit Initial Application](#) to the Bureau
- complete the required training courses, including passing all required examinations and qualifications including a written test and shooting qualification
- complete a psychological assessment

PRO TIP: If you get your firearms permit BEFORE you retire, you don't have to take the class, or do a qualification shoot, you just need to fill out the application, pay the fees, and submit your

most recent firearm qualification from your department.

This permit must also be renewed every two years with at least two qualification shoots per year, more than 4 months apart.

CCW/HR218-This is what is going to get you those higher paying jobs out there. Most high net worth or celebrity clients prefer agents that can conceal carry in all 50 states. This makes us stand out among agents that are not former law enforcement, that just have their CCW's. It is vital that you maintain your CCW/HR218 status to have access to high paying work.

So, once you get your permits, how do you find the work?

Referrals-We all should have former co-workers who have retired before us and have done this type of work. You can contact them and inquire about the companies they work(ed) for and have them refer you to them.

Phone Apps- Apps like Indeed, Zip-recruiter, and Monster all have jobs listings in this field. They make applying for these jobs very easy by having you upload your resume and then you can do what they call a "1 touch apply". Put these apps on your phone, and then search for "CCW", "Off Duty", "Retired LEO's", "HR218". You will find lots of job listings with these searches, and very few applicants competing with you.

There are more recommendations I could give you, but this article would be way too long. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Shortages and Bottlenecks Expose Weak Links in U.S. Supply Chains

by Shane Cobb, RPOAC Benefits Administrator

U.S. consumers won't soon forget the troubling shortages of personal protective equipment during the early days of the pandemic, or when the first stay-at-home orders spurred panic buying and stress-inducing shortages of toilet paper, cleaning products, and food.

Now, as the economy reopens fully and all at once, consumers are again experiencing a wide array of shortages. Businesses are having trouble hiring workers as well as acquiring sufficient supplies of raw materials and key components needed for manufacturing.

Businesses that shut down or cut back when the economy was closed could not ramp up quickly enough to meet a flood of demand in the spring of 2021. The speedy rollout of widespread COVID-19 vaccinations unleashed this pent-up demand faster than expected, catching many businesses off-guard. At the same time, the flow of goods ordered from overseas was slowed by shipping bottlenecks.

Some of these supply disruptions were triggered or worsened by extraordinary calamities, and panic buying by consumers and businesses intensified the more serious shortages.

Here's a look at some of the events that have stressed corporate supply chains and impacted the economy — regionally, nationally, and globally — in the

first half of 2021.

Gas crisis

In mid-May, a ransomware attack led to the multi-day shutdown of a 5,500-mile pipeline responsible for supplying 45% of the fuel on the East Coast. Existing stockpiles might have held up, but news of the outage caused a run on gasoline, and states of emergency were declared by the governors of North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, and Florida. The average price of a gallon of gasoline spiked to a six-and-a-half-year high, but increases were larger in states that rely heavily on the pipeline.

Trade disrupted

Longer delivery times caused shortages of some raw materials and many types of consumer goods purchased from overseas. Congestion in the busiest West Coast ports left dozens of huge container ships from all over the world anchored off the California coast, waiting to unload. These log jams peaked in February 2021, when imports surged. Now that port workers can be vaccinated, operators are aiming to clear the backlog by the summer. In March, a six-day blockage of the Suez Canal by a grounded cargo ship caused massive disruption in international trade. Globally, container ship capacity is stretched and demand is high, so costs could remain elevated for some time.



Shortages and Bottlenecks

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Texas freeze

In mid-February, a brutal winter storm knocked out the power grid in Texas, shut down numerous chemical plants, and froze the production of plastics used for packaging and materials needed to make many goods, including auto parts, computers, PVC piping, and paint. This resulted in global shortages, production delays, and higher costs for manufacturers and homebuilders, which will likely be passed on to buyers.

The same storm closed major chicken-processing plants. Large losses of chicks and eggs, on top of COVID-19–related staffing problems, caused a nationwide chicken shortage and price hikes for restaurants.

Lumber and housing

When the pandemic hit, many U.S. lumber mills were closed, and the expectation was that housing demand would falter. However, after a brief pause, demand for homes and home remodeling took off, surprising builders and domestic lumber producers. The price of lumber was already rising due to tariffs, but it has skyrocketed more than 300% since April 2020 and caused the price of a new single-family home to increase by nearly \$36,000.

Chips and cars

A global shortage of semiconductors, or computer chips, is limiting the production of all

kinds of goods, including home appliances, cars, PCs, gaming systems, servers, and 5G equipment. The effects of the chip shortage are far-reaching but most evident in the market for new and used cars. Auto makers have been forced to cut production of more than 1.2 million vehicles in North America. Dealer inventories are strained, and new and used car prices are causing sticker shock.

The U.S. Senate is debating a bipartisan bill that would invest \$100 billion in research, commercialization, and training programs to boost critical technologies, including the domestic production of semiconductors.

Labor concerns

Some employers report having difficulty finding workers who are willing to take lower-paying jobs, and staffing issues are a contributing factor in the shortages. Some workers may be reluctant to accept jobs because the enhanced unemployment benefits provide more income than they would normally earn through work. For others, opportunities to participate in the workforce are more limited due to lack of child care or skill gaps. To attract much-needed workers, some large employers in the retail and restaurant industries have raised entry-level wages. At least 22 states plan to end the \$300 federal benefit by this summer in a bid to spur more people to seek jobs.

Hard lessons

Since the pandemic began, businesses have had to make difficult decisions amidst great uncertainty. Some supply constraints could ease in the coming months, but other problems, like the chip shortage, could take longer to resolve. Recent events also serve as a reminder that critical energy-control systems and infrastructure are vulnerable to cyberattacks and weather events, and that the damage can ripple throughout the economy when energy providers are knocked offline.

In April 2021, inflation shot up 4.2% over the previous year, the highest rate since 2008. Mismatches between supply and demand are pushing up consumer prices, which is one reason many economists believe the spring rise in inflation will be mostly transitory. Regardless, prices rarely fall once they have risen, which means even short-lived bursts of inflation can be painful for consumers.

The longer-term path of inflation is still unclear and could depend on economic policy decisions yet to be made. Moreover, the nation's economic prospects will largely be determined by how U.S. businesses react to the challenges they are facing, and whether corporate leaders can reshape their strategies and invest in ways that strengthen their supply chains for the future.

The Briefing Board

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