



Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

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Date: November 14, 2008

Bulletin: No. 2008-20

Subject: **Additional Requirement for State and Local Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) Flying Armed**

POST has just been informed that effective November 15, 2008, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will begin transition to a National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) message for state and local law enforcement officers (LEOs) flying armed. The NLETS message sent by the employing agency will be in addition to the current original Letter of Authority, signed by the chief or agency head, required under Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations 1544.219, *Carriage of Accessible Weapons*. The NLETS message is being implemented to provide a more secure means of confirming the identity of LEOs flying armed.

Once the NLETS message is received by TSA, a return NLETS message will be sent to the employing agency with a unique alphanumeric identifier for verification at the airport on the day of travel. The NLETS message, along with the original Letter of Authority, will be required until otherwise notified by TSA. Thereafter, the use of the NLETS message, in lieu of the letter, will become mandatory.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, failure to use the NLETS message in addition to the original Letter of Authority may result in delays due to the additional verification requirements during the transition period. Additional instructions will be provided in a subsequent NLETS message and will ultimately be available on the NLETS website at <http://www.nlets.org>.

To review FAQs, refer to the *What's New* section on the POST website at <http://www.post.ca.gov>.

POST is updating the "Extradition Procedures" (LEOs Flying Armed) telecourse which was released in May, 2008, and will be available on the POST website Learning Portal link at <https://lp.post.ca.gov/post/default.aspx>.

For general questions or guidance related to LEOs flying armed, please contact the Office of Law Enforcement/Federal Air Marshal Service, Liaison Division at LEOFA@dhs.gov.

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