

**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**

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Date: August 14, 2013

Bulletin: No. 2013-09

**Subject: Governor Jerry Brown Sign Senate Bill 514 (Public Safety Omnibus Bill)
Recognizing Law Enforcement Joint Powers Agencies**

On July 3, 2013, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bill (SB) 514 (Public Safety Omnibus Bill). Senate Bill 514 amends Penal Code section 13507 and adds the definition of “joint powers agency” to mean any agency, entity, or authority formed pursuant to Government Code section 6500. It adds section 13526.3 to read: “Joint powers agencies formed pursuant to Government Code section 6500 et seq., shall also be entitled to receive funding from the Peace Officers’ Training Fund (POTF).”

Between 2009 and 2012, Marin County entered into multiple countywide joint powers agencies (JPAs) to stimulate cooperative ventures with cities, towns, special districts, and the county to efficiently administer regionally shared programs. One of the JPAs involved the consolidation of public safety services for the communities of Corte Madera, Larkspur, and San Anselmo. To reflect the expanded jurisdiction and to incorporate a geographical reference into the name of the JPA, the respective police departments were consolidated and renamed the “Central Marin Police Authority” (CMPA).

Although each of the concerned police departments was a POST-certified participant prior to the consolidation, their eligibility to receive funds from the POTF as a JPA was not clearly established in statute.

Due to the absence of authority to recognize JPAs for the purpose of reimbursement, the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) developed bill language to clarify that law enforcement JPAs are eligible for participation in the POTF.

POST subsequently collaborated with the California District Attorney Association (CDA) to include the POST JPA language into CDA’s 2013 Omnibus bill. (Omnibus bills are used by the Legislature to make technical and corrective changes, as well as non-controversial substantive amendments, to various statutes that address public safety.)

Thanks to the collaboration between POST and the CDA, law enforcement JPAs are now authorized to receive funding in the form of reimbursement from the POTF.

Please direct your questions concerning SB 514 to Charles Evans, Legislative Advocate/Public Information Officer, Executive Office, at (916) 227-2085, or by e-mail at charles.evans@post.ca.gov.

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