

COMMISSION ON  
**PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING**

Date: March 3, 2016

To: Chiefs, Sheriffs, and Directors  
Cc: EDI Operators

Subject: **CPRA REQUEST: RELEASE OF PEACE OFFICERS AND  
RESERVE PEACE OFFICERS' INFORMATION**



**EDMUND G. BROWN JR.**  
GOVERNOR

**KAMALA D. HARRIS**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

**IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) has received a California Public Records Act (CPRA) request from California Public Information Inc., DBA State Job Workshops requesting two sets of data. The first data set requested includes names of all active Peace Officers and Reserve Peace Officers in the State of California as of December 31, 2015, their employing agency, rank, appointment date, and if applicable, termination date. The second data set requested includes gender and race/ethnicity.

**Background:**

On August 27, 2007, the California State Supreme Court ruled that some information in the Peace Officer Database, maintained by POST, is public information subject to release to a CPRA request. For the full text of the court decision, go to:

<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/data2/californiastatecases/s134072.pdf>

In its decision, the California State Supreme Court acknowledged that some peace officers could be at risk if their names were made public. To protect the identity of peace officers assigned to sensitive or hazardous assignments, departments were offered the opportunity to redact the names of what the court recognized as "particular officers." These redactions were made through POST's encrypted Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) system.

**Current Request:**

To comply with the current request, POST will provide all departments with access to the information requested for release through EDI.

It is recommended that each department designate only one EDI operator to process the department's response back to POST. Once you, the department head, have decided which, if any, names are to be protected from release, the designated EDI operator will use the CPRA function in EDI to check the names to withhold and click "Save." If no names are to be redacted, the EDI operator will click the "Do Not Withhold" button to verify

they have received this notice. POST will then generate a file, without the redacted names, and provide the information requested.

Departments wishing to withhold names from the response to the CPRA request should contact their legal advisor. POST is not the custodian of any information that can be used to justify a department's decision that a particular officer's name should be exempt from disclosure. The officer's employer is the only entity able to claim the exemption and justify withholding names. For this reason, it is expected that if the redacted names are challenged in legal proceedings, the department that claimed the exemption will become involved in the legal proceeding in order to justify the exemption.

To allow departments sufficient time to respond, it is requested that EDI operators transmit the requested information to POST no later than **5 P.M. on Wednesday, March 23, 2016**. If departments do not respond to this request, it will be assumed there are no names to be redacted.

The requested material is scheduled for release to the requestor on **Wednesday, March 30, 2016**. Questions regarding EDI access may be directed to the POST EDI Helpdesk at (877) 275-5872. Questions regarding this CPRA request may be directed to Linda Thach at (916) 227- 4854 or [linda.thach@post.ca.gov](mailto:linda.thach@post.ca.gov), or me at (916) 227-2809 or [dave.cornejo@post.ca.gov](mailto:dave.cornejo@post.ca.gov).

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in responding to this request.

Sincerely,

DAVE G. CORNEJO  
Assistant Executive Director  
Administrative Services Division