State of California

Department of Justice

Memorandum

To : Honorable Chairman and Members of the Commission on POST

Date : June 12, 1980

From : Norman C. Boehm, Executive Director
Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

Subject: Agenda for the Special Commission Meeting

Claims for reimbursement from the field have exceeded appropriations during F.Y. 1979/80. Even with the adoption of the 30% PLUS salary reimbursement plan by the Commission in January for training beginning during the last six months of this fiscal year, POST could experience a budget overrun of up to $1.7 million this year.

There is an administrative way to handle the immediate overrun problem. That is to pay fourth quarter 1979/80 claims for which there is no remaining appropriation this year out of the F.Y. 1980/81 first quarter allocation. The Department of Finance and the State Controller's Office expressed no objection to this; however, a statement of policy by the Commission is necessary.

This special meeting of the Commission has been called for the sole purpose of determining policy relating to payment of reimbursements. The following language is suggested:

> "The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training directs as a matter of policy that every effort will be made to accurately forecast training needs and reimbursement expenditure claims for each fiscal year. It is the policy of the Commission to pay all reimbursement claims from the allocation appropriated through the legislative process for the fiscal year in which the claims are received. In the event reimbursement claims exceed forecasted estimates and the amount of appropriated monies available, it is the policy of the Commission that all such claims exceeding the amount appropriated shall be held for payment in the following fiscal year from the Aid to Local Government appropriation."

The Commission is aware that paying certain 1979/80 claims out of the 1980/81 appropriations will impact the amount available for reimbursement during 1980/81; however, the 30% PLUS formula and the beginnings of the POST Resource Management System should enable POST to meet the 30% rate during 1980/81. Moreover,

the Department of Finance has indicated in writing that they would not oppose mid-year legislation to appropriate a significant amount from the unappropriated POTF surplus.

The main alternative to this suggested action is to advise the field that because claims have exceeded the budget, the 30% PLUS formula will have to apply to the entire 1979/80 F. Y. This year's Aid to Local Government budget would then be balanced by adjusting fourth quarter claims to administratively "recover" (through debit entries) portions of the 50% rate paid for training begun during the first six months of the year. It is estimated that the average salary reimbursement for 1979/80 would then be approximately 32 - 34%.

On balance, approving the suggested carry-over policy is recommended.