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To California POST Commission,

This letter is to express my interest in a Public Member position and/or a position as a current line level peace officer in a POST participating agency on the POST Advisory Committee. My career in public service began as a teenager when I became an Explorer with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Knowing I planned to pursue a career in law enforcement, I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as an Infantry Machine gunner to acquire skills, training, and leadership experience that would prepare me for a future position in law enforcement.

After a combat deployment to Afghanistan, I honorably discharged from the Marine Corps and was hired by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in 2006. As most Deputy Sheriffs do, I began my career working a custody assignment. While working in custody, I developed my passion for training when I saw the opportunity to leverage my combat experience in Afghanistan by becoming a first aid instructor. Because I had been an explorer academy peer instructor when I was younger, I was also asked to manage one of our explorer academies. Both these appointments occurred within my first year as a Deputy. They provided me invaluable experience in course facilitation, curriculum design, resource management, and staff management at a very early point in my career. My agency later awarded me the meritorious service award for my work managing the explorer academy. These experiences continued to stoke my interest in law enforcement training, and I became AICC (IDI level 1) certified while the AICC program was still relatively new.

Following my stint in custody, I worked patrol at East Los Angeles Station. There I continued to develop my training knowledge and abilities by teaching first aid and volunteering to teach in the basic academy. In addition to teaching different learning domains such as domestic violence, property crimes, and working as a scenario monitor, I became one of the few Law Enforcement Response to Terrorism (LD 43) instructors within my agency. I taught the course in the basic and reserve academies frequently. As the Terrorism Liaison Officer Coordinator for East Los Angeles Station, I taught short classes to patrol deputies on identifying terrorism and cartel activity. I also facilitated specialized courses from experts in their respective fields. I did all of this as collateral duty and on a volunteer basis to enhance myself as a trainer.

Following patrol, I worked my first assignment as a full-time law enforcement trainer. I was assigned to our Custody Training and Standards Bureau, where I taught annual training for the approximately 2000 personnel assigned to our department's custody division. In addition to teaching daily, I designed the curriculum for courses intended to meet court mandates. While there, I sought out additional instructor development training and attended IDI level 2 and IDI level 3. Following the completion of those courses, I was admitted to the Master Instructor Certification Course (MICC) class 9. As a condition of course completion, I designed and presented a 32-hour course on "Mexican Drug Cartels for Local Investigators." MICC instructors serve as full-service trainers, with knowledge on curriculum and course design, facilitation, budgets, classroom management, venues, and instructor development.

After graduating from MICC, I transferred to my agency's field operations Advanced Officer Training Unit. I applied for the position to make myself a better-rounded trainer, and to work in an academy environment (where the unit is stationed). Due to my extensive experience teaching first aid, I

became my department's first aid program manager and was the first one in the state of California to design and certify both first aid instructor and end-user courses under the updated 2015 American Heart Association and POST standards. I also was appointed as the director of my agency's 832 P.C. program. This position allowed me to attend 832 P.C. presenter workshops and learn about peace officer academy management.

I am currently assigned to the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Special Victims Bureau, where I work as a child abuse and sex crimes investigator. With my new expertise in these areas, I have expanded my instructional repertoire to include teaching in the ICI Sexual Assault Investigations Course, and the ICI Child Abuse Investigations Course.

Outside of my agency, I am an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice at La Sierra University in Riverside. I have been published twice in academic texts by major publishers on law enforcement related topics. I wrote a feature in the book *Law Enforcement Communications* on avoiding biases during investigations and co-authored a chapter in the book *Rhet-Ops* about the rhetoric of gang graffiti and conflict. I also serve as a Public Safety Commissioner in the city of Eastvale, CA, where I live. As a Public Safety Commissioner, I am appointed by the city council to attend regular meetings and make recommendations to the council, city staff, and public safety agency partners on public safety policy.

I possess my advanced POST certificate, a POST Master Instructor Certification, a bachelor's degree in criminal justice management, a master's degree in public administration, and am currently a Ph.D. student at Pepperdine University pursuing my doctorate in global leadership with law enforcement executive leadership as my research interest. I also possess two executive certificates from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, and over a dozen instructor certifications.

I have worked hard my entire career to make law enforcement as a whole better through my work as a trainer, course manager and course designer. I hope I can continue by having a more significant impact as a public or line level member of the advisory committee.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kenneth Fitch, MPA

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