



CALIFORNIA
DISTRICT
ATTORNEYS
ASSOCIATION

June 30, 2021

The Honorable Joyce Dudley, Chair
Mr. Manuel Alvarez, Jr., Executive Director
Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training
860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95605

Dear Chair Dudley and Mr. Alvarez,

While the California District Attorneys Association has great respect for the Commission and its leadership, we must register our opposition to the recently adopted reduction of qualification standards for District Attorney Investigators.

The specialized peace officers listed in Penal Code section 830.35 do not participate in the same level of training required for certification of a peace officers under section 830.1. Their training academies are shorter and do not involve the "stress based" or similar physical demands of a traditional police academy. Further, those certified under section 830.35 do not gain street experience as front-line officers. Thus, they lack requisite knowledge for District Attorney Investigators who are regularly required to investigate acts of domestic violence, DUI manslaughter, homicide, sexual assault, and officer-involved shootings.

All law enforcement is facing increasing scrutiny of their work and training. We strongly urge the Commission to reconsider its decision to lower standards for District Attorney Investigators.

Very truly yours,

Gregory D. Totten
Chief Executive Officer