



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

July 7, 2021

Manuel Alvarez, Executive Director
Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training
860 Stillwater Road, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95605-1630

RE: Opposition to Proposed Regulatory Action Altering Commission Regulation 1005: Minimum Training Requirements for District Attorney Investigators

Dear Director Alvarez,

The Tulare County District Attorney's Office is opposed to any changes to Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission Regulation 1005 which proposed to lower the minimum requirements for a District Attorney Criminal Investigator. While I understand there are people in other branches of law enforcement who could contribute to the work a Bureau of Investigations does, it is imperative that those individuals have the requisite training and experience provided through the regular basic course which produces police officers defined under 832 PC and are granted full peace officer authority as defined in 830.1(a) PC.

The potential for a "specialized" basic course is a work around to avoid the breadth of a traditional academy course and will not provide the necessary training for an individual to be a successful investigator for my Office. While I appreciate the individuals who serve with various other law enforcement entities such as the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Department of Justice, it is imperative that we hold the standards for professional law enforcement requirements. Because as District Attorneys, we are the highest law enforcement officials in our counties. We cannot afford to cut corners.

It is my understanding that this proposed change in requirements was done without the input from District Attorneys and their Chief Investigators and without consulting the California District Attorneys Association (CDAA). Please let this letter serve as my opposition to this change and it reflects the sentiment of my prosecutors, Chief Investigator, and the criminal investigators under her leadership. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Tim Ward
District Attorney

M. Alvarez ^{MA}
07/13/2021