

BOLO

Be On the Lookout

The Newsletter for The Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association



ISSUE 4

AUGUST 2011

Chronicling Civil-Service Life for California State Workers

July 13, 2011

Bid Filed to End Collective Bargaining for Public Employees

A group looking to abolish collective bargaining rights for all of California's public sector employees filed three proposed ballot initiatives this week that would hit the pocketbooks of state and local government workers.

Whether California Center for Public Policy, led by UC Santa Barbara economics lecturer **Lanny Ebenstein**, can raise enough money to put the proposals before voters is unclear.

The center released a report last year concluding that voters need a chance to resolve California's persistent fiscal problems by cutting government workers' compensation rather than raising taxes and eliminating services.

"Government does not exist to provide compensation and pensions for government workers," Ebenstein said in a news release. "Government exists to provide good public services at a reasonable cost."

He said he filed the three initiatives Tuesday with the **state attorney general's office**.

The first measure would ban recognition of all public-sector labor unions and prevent government authorities from collectively bargaining with them.

The second would impose a higher tax burden on pensions paid through **CalPERS** or **CalSTRS**. Someone who earns an annual pension of \$100,000 to \$150,000 would pay 15% above the regular state income tax on the pension. The rate would jump to 25% for any pensions above \$150,000. Health benefits would not be considered in the calculation. Ebenstein said the tax would eventually raise \$1 billion a year for the state.

The third would raise the retirement age for state employees to 65. Public safety workers would see their retirement age rise to 58.

A spokesman for a public employee group said he doubted Ebenstein's group could raise the money needed to campaign successfully for the three measures.

"These will end up in the same trash bin as the proposal to require Christmas music in public schools," **Steve Maviglio** of **Californians for Retirement Security** said in a statement. "These proposals are

wildly out of sync with California, and fortunately there's a \$15 million gap between dumb ideas and the ballot box."

Once the attorney general's office writes legal summaries for the measures, the group will need clearance from the **secretary of state's office** to begin collecting signatures to place it on a ballot. The signature-gathering process would cost at least \$1 million for each measure, Ebenstein said earlier this year.

Ebenstein's fundraising committee has yet to solicit any donations, but he said Wednesday he would use the next few months to speak to people across the state from both parties who have made large donations to past initiative campaigns.

If the latter two measures qualify for the ballot, they could end up tangling with other proposals on pension reform, including one being considered by the Legislature.

A Note from Your Board of Directors

LAAPOA is back at the bargaining table. We are attempting, for the first time, to have LAWA take a more active role in the negotiation process rather than the City. With UFLAC and the LAPPL having already concluded their negotiations, we too will be asking for a multi-year contract. Our negotiation/legal team is reviewing all items that both units received and which practices best apply to this bargaining unit, along with expanding or implementing any items yet to be fulfilled from previous contracts. In an effort to better communicate with the membership, we will begin a bimonthly video address via www.laapoa.com. This will have updates, along with continued editions of *BOLO*, in between the quarterly *Alert3* and the LAAPOA general membership meetings. If there are items, issues or concerns you would like addressed, changed or implemented, please continue to bring them to your representatives. We have received a number of names for potential LAAPOA delegates; if you are interested in being more involved in the representation process, please download and submit an application from the LAAPOA website. Delegate training will begin in the upcoming months, so please do not delay in submitting your request.

Eight Tips on Contact with "Open Carry" Citizens

The PoliceOne Firearms Corner with Ron Avery

1) Open carry is a legal right. Regardless of where personal beliefs may lie, it carries the weight of law and cannot be ignored, pushed aside or worked around.

2) Understand that — as with any belief that people feel strongly about — open carry is a form of political protest. While the majority will do what is asked of them without a lot of fuss, there will be extremists who are willing to be political martyrs by doing whatever it takes to push their agenda and raise awareness of their cause.

3) Targeting open carry by finding ways to charge people with other violations and then ticketing or arresting them may backfire and could be very expensive in the long run. A university in Utah apparently tried this approach and it was leaked to the press. Now we run into civil liberties violations, etc.

4) Know the letter of the law and the interpretations of the law in various districts. Have a written document that can be referred to online or given to interested parties.

5) Even if you don't agree with open carry, stay objective and keep your feelings to yourself. It is the behavior of the person — not the gun — that we key on. If they get annoyed and start protesting you, remember that unless they are threatening you with harm, they have a right to voice their opinion, even if they raise their voice at you.

6) It still takes time to draw and load the firearm. It can be done in about two seconds for well-trained individuals. As with any contact, watch the hands and body language.

7) Follow good judgment. IF THERE IS PROBABLE CAUSE to treat them as an armed criminal, by all means do so. However, when you make contact with someone carrying openly without good probable cause, the strategy of "when in doubt, prone 'em out" would not be my first choice. Keep your distance if you can, and ask questions so you can get some indicators of the mental/emotional state of the contact prior to moving in closer.

8) From an officer safety perspective, at least you KNOW that they are carrying a weapon! That knowledge alone will keep you from becoming complacent. Think of it as an opportunity to practice your officer safety tactics.

For the complete article: <http://www.policeone.com/off-duty/articles/3502436-8-tips-on-contacts-with-open-carry-citizens/>.

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BOLO is a publication of the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association (LAAPOA). Opinions expressed by individual Board members or contributing authors in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the entire Board.

The Board of Directors meets on the third Thursday of each quarter at the LAAPOA Headquarters.

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July 14, 2011

The Honorable Senator Kevin de Leon
22nd Senate District
State Capitol Room, Room 5108
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Support for SB 798 (De Leon) Amended 6/29/2011

Dear Senator de Leon:

I am writing to express complete support of SB 798 (De Leon) Amended 6/29/2011. This bill will repeal Government Code Section 53071.5 thus, allowing local governments to enact laws and regulations to address the existing problems associated with imitation firearms. This includes the manufacturing, selling, or possession of imitation firearms.

The Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association (LAAPOA) represents more than 425 sworn police officers and firefighters of the Los Angeles Airport Police Department assigned to protect and serve Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), LA/Ontario International Airport (ONT) and Van Nuys Airport (VNY), which represents one of the largest airport law enforcement unions in the country. The safety of the aviation community and the safety of our members are our primary concern.

Currently, local governments are prevented by the Legislature from regulating imitation firearms. The passage of SB 798 will provide or members the ability to enforce local regulations that will aid airport law enforcement officers in distinguishing imitation guns from a real firearm.

For these reasons, we join the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, the Sheriff of Los Angeles County and the Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department in supporting SB 798. We too applaud your leadership in authoring this much-needed measure.

Should you wish to further discuss this issue, you can contact our office at (310) 242-5218.

Sincerely,

Marshall E. McClain
President
LAAPOA
mmcclain@laapoa.com

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PORAC L.A. South Chapter Meeting

**Embassy Suites
El Segundo, CA 90245
July 21, 2011**

1845 hours — Meeting Called to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

- Saku Ethir (Lackie, Dammeier & McGill) led pledge.
- Providers Report: Discussed drastic measures re: ongoing contract with cities, nothing further pressing.

Bob Baker presented “white paper” re: AB 308 (Undermining the Reliability of Eyewitness Identification Procedures).

Approval of Minutes: Deferred until next meeting.

Director’s Report:

- Death Penalty Bill issue
- Contract (LAAPOA) (first meeting — ground rules)
- Special Election Update CD15 (Janice Hahn old seat) open election in January 2012

- Upcoming PORAC Board Meeting (San Diego, CA) rep: President Choung Vo for the PORAC South Chapter

President’s Report: Deferred (excused absence)

Treasurer’s Report:

- 9,522.25
- Chapter reimbursement submitted; not received as yet.
- Treasurer will be retiring Dec 31, 2011. Position will be vacated and open (to become effective January 2, 2012).

Political Action Report: Deferred

Insurance & Benefits Report: Deferred

LDF Report: Deferred

Old/New Business:

- Ideas — more participation from departments/membership re: meeting attendance and involvement
- Internal Affairs issues and resolve (departments wide)

2025 hours — Adjournment: McClain/Smith

LAAPOA General Membership Meetings

September 15, 2011

4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call Room
LAXPD Station
6320 W. 96th Street



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