



November 2016

The  
**BACKUP**  
Newsletter

The Official Publication of the California Reserve Peace Officers Association



## Chief Executive Officer's Report

HARRY BOSCH

Harry Bosch is a fictional character in the novels of Michael Connelly, the author of twenty-eight previous novels including #1 New York Times bestsellers *The Crossing* and *The Burning Room*.

Connelly's books have sold more than sixty million copies worldwide and been translated into thirty-nine foreign languages. He is a former newspaper reporter who worked the crime beat at *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel* and has won numerous awards for his journalism and his novels.

Retired after a 30 year LAPD career, mostly spent as a maverick homicide detective, Harry finds himself unable to leave police work behind. (Sound familiar?) So he puts his skills to good use as a reserve police officer for San Fernando PD, the home of CRPOA General Counsel and Reserve Sergeant Jim Rene, and is assigned as a cold case detective.

I had a hard time putting **The Wrong Side of Goodbye** down as Harry tracked a serial rapist who proved to be one of the most baffling and dangerous criminals he has ever faced. The book comes complete with a scene in which a cop from another agency orders Harry from his vehicle and Harry tells him, "Relax, I'm a police officer," and tenders his flat badge and ID. Met with a sneering, "This says you're a reserve," Harry aggressively retorts, "That's right. I used to be full-time and now I'm part time." (Again, sound familiar?) The irony of that scene is that the police ID's of San Fernando PD reserve police officers say nothing about being a reserve, but who am I to quibble? – it makes for a good story line!

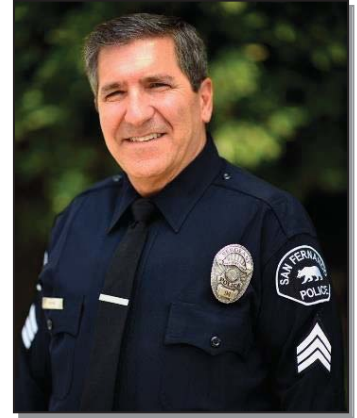
But don't take my word for it. *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* wrote: "Swift, unpredictable, and thrilling, **The Wrong Side of Goodbye** shows that Michael Connelly continues to amaze with his consistent skill and sizzle."

On to business. The politicians in Sacramento, fresh from championing stupid legislation like Prop. 63, are thankfully not in session again until next year. Your association is doggedly prosecuting the patrol rifle lawsuit against the attorney general and DOJ, which General Counsel Jim Rene will update you on elsewhere in this edition. And Jim continues to provide advice and assistance on a daily basis - if you have an issue, let us know.

I wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving - we have a lot to be thankful for. Until next time, stay safe out there.

*Kevin Bernzott is the Chief Executive Officer of CRPOA and a Reserve Sergeant for the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. Kevin welcomes your questions and comments. Email him at [bernzott@crpoa.org](mailto:bernzott@crpoa.org)*

# Note from CRPOA General Counsel



## The War on Cops and the California DOJ

By Jim René

I'm reading an excellent book authorized by Heather McDonald called "The War on Cops." You can find it on Amazon. It is a scholarly, dispassionate look at the various social and political forces which have emerged in the past decade relative to law enforcement and the many mistruths, distortions and flat-out lies propagated by groups eager on advancing their causes at any cost. While one might view it as a political commentary, I prefer to see it as a fact-based analysis of the various police use of force cases which so often appear in the media as "typical" examples of law enforcement killing members of our society for no other reason than the color of their skin when in fact these cases were completely justified use of force situations passing muster under the "reasonableness" standard set forth in the Supreme Court's *Graham v. Connor* decision. I highly recommend you get a copy of the War on Cops and read it word for word.

The relevance of Ms. McDonald's book on what is happening in our suit against the DOJ regarding the DOJ's view that reserves are not "sworn peace officers" within the meaning of the exemption for acquiring patrol rifles under Penal Code Section 30630(b)(1) could not be more clear. To me, there is simply no other explanation for DOJ's sudden and still legally unexplained position that somehow reserves are not "sworn peace officers" than it is a purely politically-driven agenda to show that DOJ is "doing something" in furtherance of gun control, even if it means removing a tried and true law enforcement tool, the patrol rifle, from use by reserve peace officers. Although DOJ may smugly assert that reserves can still use department-supplied patrol rifles, in many cases no such patrol rifles exist and, even if they did, many departments are now reluctant to allow reserves to even touch patrol rifles while they work the streets of our State. For many of us now, we have effectively been banned by a policy which has no other purpose than to disarm the police in furtherance of what I believe is the DOJ's own "war on cops."

To update you on where we stand with our suit at present, as we go to press with this article, we will have a trial-setting conference in court at which the judge will set a trial date which we expect will be sometime in the spring of 2017. The wheels of justice grind slowly and I wish we could move this along at a faster pace, but this is how our court system works.

Hang in there, we are fighting for you and your ability (and more importantly your right under the Penal Code) to protect yourselves and the public as you patrol the streets of your cities and counties. It's a dangerous time for all of us, so stay safe and stay tuned for more developments as we seek to right the egregious wrong DOJ is pursuing in furtherance of their misguided "policy" but in unabashed violation of California law.

***If you have a question or comment for Jim, please email Jim at [rene@crpoa.org](mailto:rene@crpoa.org). Jim René is the General Counsel for the California Reserve Peace Officers Association and a Reserve Police Sergeant for the San Fernando Police Department, and previously was an LAPD reserve police officer for 15 years.***

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# Reserve Coordinator Training

*Are all of the reserve peace officers in your agency  
duly selected, appropriately appointed  
and properly trained?*

While the Reserve Coordinator Training Course is not a requirement for the position, we want to emphasize its importance. It should be given priority by every agency that utilizes reserves as part of their law enforcement training. On December 12th through the 14th of this year, a three day, 24-hour Reserve Coordinators Course will be offered at Golden West College – Regional CJTC in Huntington Beach, CA. If you have a Reserve Coordinator that has not completed this training, please call (714) 895-8925 for enrollment information.

The class is designed to provide new techniques, skills, and abilities for managing reserve peace officer volunteer organizations. Emphasis is placed upon the recruitment, selection, retention, training and assignment of volunteers within a law enforcement agency. A well-managed reserve program can be a valuable asset to your agency and your community.



## YOUR **CRPOA** MEMBER RECORD . . . It's your responsibility to keep it accurate!

In July of this year we entered the world of paperless invoicing for our individual members. Auto bill agencies will continue to receive paper invoices with a list of the members covered. This process has proved successful from both a cost saving and security standpoint. If your agency is paying for your annual membership, which includes insurance and legal support, you are very fortunate. A word of caution, however, few agencies take the time to update changes to your personal membership information with our office. Changes to your personal data such as your home address, phone numbers, and your email address that you have provided CRPOA are rarely corrected by your

agency on your behalf. **It is best that you take the time to keep this information accurate.** If you are handling your own membership administration, keeping this information up-to-date resides solely with you. The good news is that you can complete any necessary changes online. Using your membership user ID and password on the "CRPOA Members Home Page", log on to the "Members-Only" home page. On the right side of this page, click on the "Update Your Information" block. Your current membership will appear on the screen and you can make any necessary changes. Once you have completed the changes, click on the "Submit" button. Additions or changes to your POST ID and/or Reserve Level should be sent to the CRPOA Membership office by email to [janet@crpoa.org](mailto:janet@crpoa.org).

*If you need help establishing your CRPOA user ID and password, please call the membership office at 855.552.7762*

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*Making A Difference - think about it*

*"It isn't enough to talk about peace.*

*One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it.*

*One must work at it. "*

*- Eleanor Roosevelt was a debutante, an activist, and a reluctant first lady -*

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## *Chief Financial Officer's Report*

### **November 2016 Membership and Financial Condition**

It is my pleasure to report that our financial condition remains sound. The current month closed with all of our current obligations met. We added 8 new members, the same as last month, that joined from the 16th of last month to the 15th of the current month.



I'm sure many of you were very surprised by the result of the election and that Donald Trump has completed his landmark quest and will become the nation's 45<sup>th</sup> President. It is important for us to remember that the result isn't a surprise to the plurality of American voters that spoke their collective will at the ballot boxes. As a good friend of mine reminded me, the strength of a democracy is not in whether we like the outcome, but rather how we accept the result as the voice and will of our republic. It appears from the large number of "not so peaceful" demonstrators that not everyone agrees with this thought. With the Thanksgiving holiday approaching, hopefully there will be time for our law enforcement colleagues to have a safe and relaxing holiday with their family and friends.

What we also need to remember is that while things are promised on the campaign trail, all newly elected Presidents enter with a constrained ability to enact their agenda unilaterally. As a result, immediate and sweeping political changes are a process, which give markets and the American public time to digest and react. Although often derided by partisans, the inability of a President to swiftly change policies is a strength of our political system, not a weakness of it.

I want to wish all of you a very happy Thanksgiving holiday. In the CRPOA Membership Office we have started work on the ARPOC upgrades software system. Our goal is to be ready for early May distribution of ARPOC 2017 registration forms. With the planned changes we hope to be more closely integrated with the new Membership software installed in 2015. We are still interested in your input on classes and instructors you would like for ARPOC 2017.

*Chuck Adams is the Chief Financial Officer for CRPOA. He is also a retired Reserve Commander for Los Gatos Police Department. Chuck welcomes your calls and emails. You may contact Chuck at 408-371-8239 or [cadams@CRPOA.org](mailto:cadams@CRPOA.org)*

# WELCOME NEW CRPOA MEMBERS

Between 10/16/2016 and 11/15/2016

David Kerner San Diego SD

Richard Netherwood Placer SO

Dave Manning Santa Paula PD

Jacob Ciraulo Placer SO

Brandon Blount Clovis PD

Mac Kenzie Miller Placer SO

Shane Donnelly SBSB Highland PD

Gary Loo Los Angeles PD

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## CRPOA Online Store

Our online store has recently been upgraded to include all of our logo wear, challenge coins, posters, and additional merchandise. Check out our online store by [clicking here](#).

If you were not able to attend ARPOC this year, we have a limited number of the ARPOC 2016 challenge coins available for sale online.



### CRPOA and ARPOC Challenge Coins Just \$10 each



The **CRPOA Challenge Coin**

Purchase a [CRPOA Challenge Coin](#) online here

We have a few **ARPOC 2015 Challenge Coins**

Purchase a [ARPOC 2015 Coin](#) online here

**Matt Lujan, Vice President and 2015 Conference Chairman, Reserve Police Sergeant Pacifica P D**

You are welcome to contact him at [lujan@crpoa.org](mailto:lujan@crpoa.org) or call 855-552-7762 ext. 101

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## Don't Miss **ARPOC 2017**

*a great networking and training weekend*

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