



“The Next Step: Understanding Peace Officer Bill of Rights”

Objective: This hearing will educate and inform committee members on the nuts and bolts of the Peace Officer Bill of Rights (POBR) in California.

I. Opening Presentations

The History, Fundamentals, and Perspectives on the Peace Officer Bill of Rights: What is it and why was it enacted?

To start the hearing, after opening remarks from committee members, we will have a presentation to define what POBR is and provide a break down with reference to Government Code Sections (3300-3312).

Understanding POBR is critical in identifying how officer misconduct is addressed at a departmental level. This panel will lay the foundation in understanding an officer’s rights under POBR and why it was originally enacted in 1976 (AB 301).

This discussion may additionally reflect on similar laws in other states.

II. Panel Discussion

Investigating Police Misconduct: How does POBR work in practice?

POBR sets forth specific requirements that police departments must follow when conducting an investigation. This panel will outline what circumstances which POBR applies, the rights and responsibilities of law enforcement personnel conducting an interrogation, and the overall procedure of an investigation under POBR.

Additionally, this panel will focus broadly on the rights of other public employees (ex. firefighters) when being investigated. The core focus is to examine how POBR may or may not align with rights of other public servants in California.

Further, considering that 17 states in the U.S. have similar versions of POBR for peace officers; this panel will compare and contrast the provisions in California’s POBR with other states that may include Maryland, New York, and Illinois.