



## PEACE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA e - MEMO

**To** : All Peace Officers Eligible to form their own Peace Officer Only Bargaining Unit (BU 22)

**From** : [P.O.C.](#) Legal Defense Liaison Officer, Mark Falcione

**Subject** : **Response Concerning Legal Defense**

**Date** : Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Dear Peace Officer,

Recently, CSLEA Chief Legal Counsel / General Manager Kasey Clark sent out a letter disparaging our ***Peace Officers of California (P.O.C.)*** legal defense provider, ***Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** <[www.PoliceAttorney.Com](http://www.PoliceAttorney.Com)>. Ironically, Clark's maligning statements were attached to CSLEA dues-refund checks for some Bargaining Unit 7 members who had tried to resign from CSLEA, but who were unlawfully forced to stay and continue paying dues. As you should now be aware, **P.O.C.'s** President, Chris Lewis, and Treasurer, Scott Edelen, recently filed, presented, argued and won that Unfair Labor Practice Complaint against Clark / CSLEA before the ***Public Employment Relations Board*** (PERB).

CSLEA has since been busy mailing out these dues-refund checks to all of the BU 7 Members who had tried to previously resign. Some members have received checks for more than \$600.00. So, if you have tried to quit CSLEA and were not allowed to do so, you are eligible for your dues to be refunded from the date of your attempted resignation. If you have not tried to resign already, but are becoming as disappointed as we are by CSLEA's on-going negative actions, the [Edelen/Lewis Decision](#) allows you to resign from CSLEA now. Here's how to: [Reduce your CSLEA dues and help P.O.C. fight for you.](#)

How much more ironic is it that CSLEA's top attorney ***lost his own argument*** against two rank and file cops who have not even attended law school? Yet, Clark has the unmitigated impudence to describe the CSLEA legal team as the envy of other POA's? In a further display of CSLEA legal professionalism, Clark provides ample misinformation regarding ***Lackie, Dammeier & McGill***. In the face of his recent loss to Edelen /Lewis, Clark suggests that the 15 ***Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** staff attorneys and their associates cannot measure up to the seven attorneys on the CSLEA legal panel. He does this by referring to his staff as a "panel" and the 15 ***Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** attorneys as a "single firm". Hmmm...

**The truth is: *Lackie, Dammeier & McGill***, is the largest provider of Legal Defense services for PORAC, and represents more police associations than any other firm in California, and likely, the Country. They represent peace officer associations from Calexico POA (on the Mexican Border) to the UC San Francisco POA, having attorneys all over the State representing ***cops***. Just last week, they had attorneys in Mammoth, Oakland, San Diego, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Santa Paula, Soledad and Las Vegas.

**The truth is: *Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** have litigated more cases involving peace officer rights within the last decade than any other law firm in California. Not only do ***Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** have more of this specific type of police law experience, but our legal defense plan provides representation to members facing criminal investigations and / or charges for matters arising out of the course and scope of employment.

**The truth is: *Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** provides “attorneys” on ALL representation matters for ***P.O.C. members***, not just “labor reps” as CSLEA may do for you.

**The truth is: *Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** has 15 attorneys, more than double the CSLEA “legal panel” of 7. CSLEA attorneys must also answer to, and work for, a union composed of a non-sworn majority membership.

**The truth is: *Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** is affiliated with many other legal offices that the firm can call on to handle critical incidents if needed.

**The truth is: *Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** has presented arguments before the California and United States Supreme Courts, while a Westlaw database search shows only one case handled by Mr. Clark for CSLEA in the Court of Appeal, and prior to that, just a few cases for the Sacramento Police Officers’ Association.

If you would like to read more about ***Lackie, Dammeier & McGill*** ‘s actual cases, please visit them at:

<<http://www.PoliceAttorney.Com>>

Obviously, we here at ***Peace Officers of California*** have decided who we want to provide our legal defense coverage . . . the real question is: who do YOU want to represent YOU? Now, you CAN decide . . . intelligently . . . by evaluating the facts. We encourage you to investigate further if you are still undecided. After all, it’s YOUR career we’re talking about now, isn’t it? This isn’t about loyalty; it’s about sound decision-making and common sense. Be safe out there.

Semper Fidelis,

Mark Falcione  
Legal Defense Liaison Officer and Board Director  
***Peace Officers of California***

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Peace Officers of California  
P. O. Box 631  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Public Information Officer

Tel (Fresno): (559) 495 – 9259  
Tel (Los Angeles): (310) 751 – 0957  
Tel (Sacramento): (916) 266 – 6449  
Tel (San Diego): (619) 757 – 1110  
Tel (San Francisco): (415) 962 – 1499

Conference #: (866) 613 – 7708  
Fax: (916) 266 – 6456

Mobile: (530) 510 – 7027

[pio@peaceofficers.org](mailto:pio@peaceofficers.org)  
<http://www.peaceofficers.org>

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