



Memorandum

DCI

To: Law and Justice Interim Committee
From: Bryan Lockerby, Administrator
CC: Perry Johnson, POST Bureau Chief; Tony Harbaugh, POST Council Chairman
Date: 1/22/2020
Re: Jan 2020 status update regarding POST per MCA 2-15-2029

The 2019 Montana legislature passed HB684 which merged Public Safety Officers Standards and Training (POST) with the Montana Department of Justice, under the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI). The bill added POST as a Bureau to DCI with a two-year sunset and required regular updates to the Law and Justice Interim Committee.

POST retains active and inactive officer files which likely total over 25,000. The team's goal has been to digitally archive records and this process has been started. With limited staff and on-going workload, it's estimated that this massive project could take over three years to complete. DCI is supporting POST goals by researching state resources such as Print and Mail to accelerate this effort and reduce added work on staff.

Discussions have been held with the POST Bureau Chief, MLEA, and DOJ to assess what legal support that DOJ can provide to support POST. These conversations continue with additional research and assessment to determine the best options.

A major renovation has been underway for the last two years at MLEA where POST is based. In February, POST will be moving their workstations to another MLEA building which will provide more space and better office conditions.

The Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers (MSPOA) held their quarterly meeting in Great Falls early January and requested a status update from the DCI Administrator. An update was provided with no questions from the membership.

As I better understand POST business operations, I continue to be impressed by the small but highly effective team at POST. They process a tremendous amount of work product, from certifications to training audits, all with precision and professionalism.