



# Memorandum

DCI

**To:** Law and Justice Interim Committee  
**From:** Bryan Lockerby, Administrator  
**CC:** Perry Johnson, POST Bureau Chief; Jesse Slaughter, POST Council Chairman  
**Date:** 9/8/2021  
**Re:** September 2021 status update regarding POST per MCA 2-15-2029

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*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. Subsequently, during the 2021 legislative session, HB 693 extended the sunset an additional two years and included the same reporting requirements.*

On July 12, 2021, POST Bureau Chief Perry Johnson submitted notice of his intent to retire effective September 30, 2021. He is to be commended for the tremendous guidance and leadership he provided during his eight-year tenure, righting a tilting ship, and setting a great course for POST's future. He implemented a number of efficiencies, actively engaged stakeholders, and has defined a high standard of professional conduct expected of our public safety officers. To say he will be difficult to replace, is putting it mildly.

A cross-section of POST Council and Montana DOJ panelists participated in the screening and selection process of the next POST Bureau Chief. With a candidate identified, the background investigation is currently underway. It is our mutual goal to provide sufficient orientation time with Perry's successor prior to his retirement.

DCI continues to support POST operations and needs, to include providing resources as requested to the team.