



Memorandum

DCI

To: Law and Justice Interim Committee
From: Bryan Lockerby, Administrator
cc: Eric Gilbertson, POST Bureau Chief; Jesse Slaughter, POST Council Chairman
Date: 1/10/2022
Re: January 2022 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. Subsequently, during the 2021 legislative session, HB 693 extended the sunset an additional two years and included the same reporting requirements.

When POST Director Perry Johnson announced his intent to retire Fall 2021, the search for a new POST Director began. Cooperatively with the POST Council and DOJ involved, the search was narrowed to a list of top candidates who interviewed for the position. Eric Gilbertson, a tenured Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Detective Sergeant was selected and agreed to serve as the new POST Bureau Chief. We collectively found Eric to be of high moral character and impeccable professional standards, well-suited to continue on the positive direction of POST. The POST Council Chairman and DCI Administrator communicated well throughout the entire process. DOJ provided support with human resources and also conducted the intensive background investigation for the position. The fiscal team gave training on POST budget and fiscal procedures.

MT DOJ supported POST's search for a new contract attorney to serve as Counsel to the Council.

All Bureau's at the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), including POST, have been tasked with submitting their short- and long-term goals. The internal executive planning process helps develop strategic goals for the Division and identify needs of the respective Bureaus. The management team will work with POST for an accurate needs assessment. POST also seeks to make some legislative changes to procedures for the purpose of efficiency.