



Memorandum

DCI

To: Law and Justice Interim Committee
From: Bryan Lockerby, Administrator
CC: Perry Johnson, POST Bureau Chief; Tony Harbaugh, POST Council Chairman
Date: 11/13/2019
Re: 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.

For a number of years, the Montana Department of Justice has been in compliance with MCA [17-7 -111](#) (3) (c) which requires “...a statement of goals and objectives for each program of the agency”. Annually, each Division at DOJ prepares and updates an operational plan that includes short- and long-term goals to improve services and create efficiencies in government.

Following the 2019 legislative session, Divisions were again directed to update their goals and objectives for the year by the Montana Attorney General’s Office. Now that POST has become a part of DCI, the Bureau contributed to this process for the first time. Some of those goals include digitally imaging active and archived officer files, adopting a retention policy, developing an ethics and peer intervention training program, and education and outreach to public safety agencies about POST’s rules and responsibilities. The operations plan also includes performance measures to not only implement the objectives but also to measure their success.

The relationship between the staff at POST and the Montana Law Enforcement Academy Bureau staff has always been good but I must personally commend the professional interaction between Perry Johnson and Glen Stinar in the last few years. Their collaboration to implement systems and to collaborate for the good of public safety has been exemplary. They are forward thinkers and are constantly looking for ways to improve and support training, education, certification, and the quality of law enforcement services around our state. There are a number of initiatives and programs underway which will greatly benefit the future of public safety for years to come.