

David Caballero
Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs
333 West Ft. Lowell Road, #211
Tucson, AZ 85705

July 5, 2016

Re: Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs Endorsement

Dear Legislative Candidate,

Congratulations on qualifying for the ballot in your campaign for the state legislature. If you are not familiar with the Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs (AZCOPS), we are a statewide association with 96 affiliates made up of primarily law enforcement officers.

I am writing you offering the opportunity for our endorsement. The results will be posted on our website as well as distributed among the affiliates within the district you wish to represent. **Please complete the attached questionnaire and return to -**

Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs
333 West Ft. Lowell Road, #211
Tucson, AZ 85705

We are also seeking support for two pieces of legislation. The description of the legislation and recommended provisions are also attached. **Please return these two documents with the questionnaire.**

Please complete and return the questionnaire and documents by Thursday July 21. If you have any questions, please call Jim Parks at (520) 622-2217.

Sincerely,

David Caballero
President
Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs

AZCOPS Endorsement Questionnaire

Candidate _____ Legislative District _____

1. Do you believe that law enforcement officers receive equitable pay and benefits? Please justify your answer.

2. What topics/issues would your priorities be for the 2017 and 2018 legislative sessions?

3. What do you see as the greatest threat to law enforcement officers?

4. How have you supported law enforcement officers in the past?

5. Why do you want AZCOPS' endorsement?

6. Please share any information you believe is relevant to receiving AZCOPS' endorsement.

7. Are you aware of any issues in your district/community impacting law enforcement officers?

BRADY LIST REFORM

The Issue

United States Supreme Court cases Brady v. Maryland 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and Giglio v. United States 450 U.S. 150 (1972) authorizes prosecutors and law enforcement agencies to create Brady Lists, or the identification of officers who have acted dishonestly, for the purposes of disclosure to defendants and their legal counsel.

However, Brady Lists - or as they are known in some jurisdictions, the Law Enforcement Integrity Database - are frequently abused for the purposes of retaliation or constructive discharge. After an officer is placed on a Brady List their career options become very limited.

Abuse of the Brady List is pervasive because -

1. No standardized criteria exists,
2. Officers do not have to be notified that they have been placed on the list,
3. No evidence has to be presented; and
4. No due process exists to appeal these claims.

The Solution

Establishing standardized criteria, mandatory notification, and impartial due process is essential to maintaining an environment of integrity that contributes to the morale and performance of law enforcement officers.

Recommended Provisions -

1. Establish standardized criteria that defines officer dishonesty,
2. Require the offending officer be notified of being placed on the Brady List within three business days; and
3. Establish the opportunity for officers placed on the Brady List to appeal their case to an impartial entity.

Would you commit to introducing or supporting legislation that includes all three provisions? If so please sign your name below

Sign

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LEO Industrial Commission & Workers Compensation Reform

The Issues

Industrial Commission Criteria

A level one exposure includes bites, sticks with pin/needle, and exposure to fluids to the mucus membranes (eyes, nose, mouth, open cuts or abrasions). Under OSHA, the current standard used by Industrial Commission for current Arizona Workmen's Compensation laws, this type of incident is just considered an exposure, it is not considered an injury unless and until the employee contracts the deadly disease. The officer or deputy must take personal time off from duty for pre-infection treatment(s).

Workers Compensation

When an officer or deputy is injured taking a suspect into custody, as a result of the suspect resisting, fleeing or assaulting the officer or deputy that officer or deputy must initially use their own sick or vacation leave to cover lost work time. Workmen's Compensation does not cover missed work until 7/10 days after the injury.

The Solutions

AZCOPS requests a statutory change to the criteria used by the Industrial Commission to determine an injury to include -

1. level one exposure bites, sticks with pin or needle; and
2. exposure to mucus membranes - eyes nose mouth open cuts or abrasions

AZCOPS requests a statutory change so that officers and deputies injured in the line of duty, in the course of an arrest or as a result of the illegal act of a suspect assaulting the officer or deputy are immediately covered.

Would you commit to introducing or supporting legislation that includes all three provisions? If so please sign your name below

Sign

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