



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Jason R. Dunn
United States Attorney
District of Colorado

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Dear law enforcement colleagues:

Thank you for your endless hard work and service protecting Colorado communities and navigating the added challenges of keeping us safe during a global pandemic. Those of us at the Colorado U.S. Attorney's Office appreciate the partnership we share with you and look forward to continuing that excellent relationship in the months and years ahead.

In addition to expressing our gratitude, the purpose of this letter is also to make you aware of an important change to DOJ discretionary grant funding protocols under the recently-issued Presidential Executive Order 13929, titled Safe Policing for Safe Communities. EO 13929 requires, in part, that any state, local or university law enforcement agency applying for DOJ grant funding must first be certified by a designated independent credentialing body that it meets certain safe policing standards. These standards include use-of-force and de-escalation techniques, the use of performance management tools, and the incorporation of community engagement best practices, among others.

The Department of Justice has designated two entities to serve as credentialing bodies: the Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board and the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police (Colorado Professional Standards). Those two entities have conferred and agreed between them that POST is best suited to handle the certification process. I subsequently spoke with POST Board chair Attorney General Phil Weiser and POST Director Erik Bourgerie, who have committed to developing specific certification standards and a certification process in the near future. You can expect to hear more from them in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, I have attached for your convenience the following:

1. Executive Order No. 13929, Safe Policing for Safe Communities
2. DOJ Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities
3. COPS Office Website & Fact Sheet

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or POST with any questions. And again, thank you for your service to our community and your leadership.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason R. Dunn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jason" being the most prominent.

Jason R. Dunn

U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado

Cc: Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser
Erik J. Bourgerie, POST Director
Chief Cory Christensen, Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police, President.