



For Immediate Release:

January 27, 2023

Contacts:

Ian Anderson

IAnderson@fionahuttonassoc.com

(818) 268-6488

**Statement from the Peace Officers Research Association of California on
the Death of Tyre Nichols Following Video Footage Release**

*Five Memphis Officers Fired and Charged with Murder, PORAC Urges Peaceful
Response as Criminal Proceedings Progress*

“As officers, we share the devastation being felt throughout our nation. The video footage is disturbing to watch. Any officer who employs excessive force or stands idly by while it’s happening does not deserve to wear the badge. The use of excessive force runs counter to California law and the way California law enforcement is trained,” said [Brian Marvel, President of the Peace Officers Research Association of California](#). “The officers have been fired and criminally charged, and we fully expect the ongoing legal proceedings to shed more light on the totality of the circumstances that led to Nichols’ death.”

“As the nation reacts to this horrific incident,” continued Marvel, “the most immediate opportunity to improve public safety is through mandated statewide standards and increased training on the duty to intercede and other alternatives to the use of force, as we have done here in California through [SB 230](#).”

In recent years, California has ushered in sweeping changes to the law enforcement profession and major reforms designed to both limit the use of force and improve the profession as a whole thanks to the leadership of Governor Gavin Newsom and Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins. Among these reforms, SB 230 is the most comprehensive law designed to minimize the use of force in our communities.

As leaders in California law enforcement, we spent more than a year surveying all of the proven best practices from around the country, collecting input from legislators, the American Civil Liberties Union, our Attorney General, diverse experts, and impacted stakeholders from throughout the state. We incorporated what we heard and learned into SB 230, including:

- Mandating every California law enforcement officer to receive the most robust training in the nation strictly designed to minimize the use of force.
- Requiring every law enforcement officer to adhere to specific, publicly available guidelines for when they are authorized to use force.

- Establishing specific policies across all law enforcement departments requiring de-escalation, an officer's duty to intercede, rendering medical aid, proportional use of force and more.
- Setting forth and standardizing detailed requirements for reporting all instances when force is used.
- Specifying that use of force policies and training are considered in legal proceedings.

###