

## **SCOPO Meeting---San Diego**

08/19/11

By Rich Berkery

Prior to the scheduled meeting, the Organization's representing attorney, Chris Miller did a very thorough job of teaching a class on "Meet and Confer". Mr. Miller stressed for all those present to refer to the PERB.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for fallen Officers and our troops, President Paul Brennan had all of the present Board Members and guests introduce themselves and offer a Round Table discussion on updates from those counties. Most of the reports seemed to have an "AB 109" flavor to them. Paul also thanked San Diego County Probation Officer's Association for hosting the meeting

Legislative Advocate Kate Bell of Capitol Advocacy discussed various issues including legislator Loni Hancock's Death Penalty Abolition Bill (SB 490), the passing of AB 674, authored by Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla, which authorizes counties to extend additional fees to purchase fingerprint identification systems for local law enforcement agencies and SB 9, authored by Leland Yee, which would let youthful offenders request a parole hearing.

Ms. Bell introduced guest speaker Assembly Member Nathan Fletcher from the 75 District. Assembly Member Fletcher, who co-authored the Chelsea Bill, lauded the critical role that Probation Peace Officers play in Law Enforcement. He fielded questions from those present.

Ernie Susi, President of San Diego County Probation Officer's Association, introduced San Diego County's Chief Probation Officer Mack Jenkins. Chief Jenkins thanked Probation Officer Susi for all the work he and the Association do, as well as the San Diego Probation Officers for their dedication and unwavering commitment toward their job. Chief Jenkins also talked about realignment with AB 109 and stressed the strong partnership that local law enforcement has with the Probation Department. Finally, he was saddened by the death of San Diego Police Officer Jeremy Henwood, who was shot and fatally wounded while at a traffic light in an unprovoked attack.

SCOPO Vice President, Greg Stuber Introduced Phil Giarrizzo, who offered an extensive overview of the service of Campaign Counseling and he gave an overview of his service.

Clint Armitage of Armitage Tactical Group spoke of the various Law Enforcement Training, which his company offers. He stressed the more involved training, especially dealing with the various types of issues, which may evolve with the result of prisoners being released from incarceration throughout the state.

Chris Miller discussed the importance of Members having the right to attend the Community Corrections Partnership Committee. He also gave an update on Sacramento Probation and that group's legal problems with the County.

Congratulations to Tuolumne and Santa Cruz counties, who were accepted to join SCOPO as new Board Members.

Travis Rowe gave his Treasurer's report. President Brennan talked about various political platforms for 2012. Present Members offered good suggestions. Paul attended a SCOPO-sponsored Gloria Negrete-McLeod lunch on June 30, 2011 and planned on attending Assemblyman Ricardo Lara SCOPO-sponsored lunch on August 24, 2011.

Legislative Vice President Rich received authorization to forward a letter of endorsement to former Probation Officer and SCOPO Board Member, John Carlisle, for Merced City Council election in 2012.

Greg Stuber announced the committee and procedure for the election for Executive Officers, which include the positions of Treasurer, President and Legislative Vice President, which will be conducted at the next SCOPO meeting.

Paul briefly talked about the "Jim Frayne" scholarship committee. Orange County Labor Representative, Jim Riley thanked SCOPO for their donation toward the legal battle with the City of Costa Mesa's City Council's "An Assault on Working Families", with the lay off of nearly all non-police City employees, including fire and paramedics, and outsourcing the service they provide.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2011, at the Wyndham Hotel in San Jose. I hope to see you there.

**Let's be careful out there!**