



Update on Assembly Bill 2147 to Public Safety Committee

**Long Beach Fire Department
October 15, 2020**



AB 2147 Background

- Signed by Governor Newsom on September 11, 2020
- Becomes State Law on January 1, 2021
- Referred to as “a bill that eliminates barriers that prevent former inmate fire crews from pursuing a career as a firefighter once they served their time.”
- Authored by Assemblymember Eloise Reyes



Major Provisions of Legislation

- Provides expedited expungement process for formerly incarcerated nonviolent offenders who have fought fires as members of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's fire camps or County incarcerated hand crew members
- Expunged convictions do not have to be disclosed on applications for licensure by any State or local agency, except if applying for:
 - Teaching Credential
 - Position as a Peace Officer
 - Public Office
 - Contract with the California State Lottery Commission
- Convictions for violent crimes and certain other crimes are ineligible for relief



Impact on Hiring Practices

- Expunged convictions no longer prevent applicants from attaining Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification, a minimum requirement to apply for a Fire Recruit position with Long Beach Fire Department
- Current law (AB 1008) already prevents employers from requesting or considering applicant's criminal history until after a conditional offer of employment is made.
- Under AB 1008 it is unlawful to consider convictions that have been sealed, dismissed, or expunged.
 - Police agencies are exempt but Fire agencies are not
- AB 2147 expands circumstances under which convictions may be expunged





Questions?





Thank you

