PURPOSE

The Governor signed SB 505 into law on September 30, 2014 as it relates to a law enforcement response to welfare checks wherein the welfare check is motivated by a concern that the person may be a danger to himself or others. The basic premise of this legislation is that responding law enforcement is encouraged to conduct a search of the Department of Justice; Automated Firearms System (AFS) within the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) to determine if the person is a registered owner of a firearm.

PROCEDURE

1. Upon receipt of a request to check the welfare of a person who is believed could possibly be a danger to himself or others, the call taker receiving the call will:
   a. Attempt to ascertain the name, age and/or date of birth of the subject.
   b. Run the subject in GUS CLETS to ascertain if there are any firearms registered to the subject.
      i. When possible, this check shall be conducted by a dispatcher prior to the dispatch of a deputy to the call and the results of the check shall be provided to the responding deputy.
      ii. If the call taker is unable to perform the check due to the level of activity or lack of CLETS access, it shall be their responsibility to ensure that the Freq. 1 dispatcher is advised and to ensure that another dispatcher performs the check.
      iii. If there is not enough information to conduct a check for firearms prior to dispatching the deputy to the call, upon arrival, the responding deputy shall attempt to obtain and relate the needed information to dispatch for a firearms check, prior to clearing the call.