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TO: All Chief Law Enforcement Executives

FROM: Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General

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SUBJECT: Addressing Manpower Challenges During COVID-19 Pandemic:

Process to Re-designate SLEO IIIs as SLEO IIs at a Different Law

Enforcement Agency

On March 16, 2020, I issued *Law Enforcement Guidance During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, which outlined a number of options for law enforcement agencies to consider in order to maintain operations during the pandemic. The section of that document titled Addressing Manpower Challenges included the option of using Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) in support of regular, full-time police officers and laid out a streamlined process for municipalities or counties to re-designate SLEO IIIs as SLEO IIs, who are able to perform a broader range of law enforcement duties.

Over the past two months, the Police Training Commission (PTC) has re-designated over 200 SLEO IIIs as SLEO IIs, and these officers have been supporting law enforcement operations throughout the state. There remain many SLEO IIIs who have not been converted by their employing agencies into SLEO IIs.

In an effort to increase the availability of SLEO II officers, particularly to our resort communities during the busy summer season, the PTC has created an expedited process that will allow a SLEO III to be re-designated as a SLEO II with a different law enforcement agency. This will allow SLEO IIIs who are not working while schools are closed to change employers and provide support as SLEO IIs in a different municipality or county. The re-designation and any related PTC waiver shall be valid for no longer than the current public health emergency declared pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-3.

To assist police departments in identifying SLEO IIIs who may be interested in this program, the PTC has prepared a list of the names and current agencies of SLEO IIIs who have not yet been re-



designated as SLEO IIs. This list, containing over 200 names, will be made available for posting on a confidential section of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) website, or by emailing Assistant Attorney General Joseph Walsh at walshi@njdcj.org.

The process will be similar to that utilized when a single employer re-designates a SLEO III as a SLEO II. The PTC has prepared a specific form, the Modified PTC-15A (attached to this guidance as Ex. A), which must be completed and signed by the requesting agency chief, an authorized official of the requesting governing body and the SLEO III's current agency chief before submission to the PTC. The Modified PTC-15A Form should then be emailed to PTC Administrator John Cunningham at cunninghami@njdcj.org.

SLEO IIIs may return to their current status at their current agencies in the fall, as needed for normal duties at educational institutions. The re-designation from SLEO III to SLEO II shall automatically expire upon the termination of the current Public Health Emergency declared pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-3. Questions should be directed to PTC Administrator John Cunningham at cunninghamj@njdcj.org.