The recent shooting of Stephon Clark has renewed cries of outrage and demands for police reform from both activist and state legislators. This incident is also drawing support for the Legislatures’ efforts to implement police accountability and transparency measures. While these bills are controversial in nature, we are seeing a hard push by legislators who are sympathetic to the cause to get them onto the governor’s desk for signature. With the liberal base gaining momentum in both statewide and local elections this year, we are keeping a close eye on some of these bills and working with our partners to put together a strategy on how to kill these bill, or at the very least narrow their scope. Here is a breakdown of the bills:

- **AB 931** (Weber): While this bill has not been officially introduced it has already been referred to as the Police Accountability and Community Protection Act. The focus of this bill is to set guidelines on officer use-of-force. We can’t go too much into detail about what the bill will specifically do since we have not seen the language; however, as of now we have not received an invitation to meet with the author and co-authors of the bill.

- **SB 1421** (Skinner): This bill would require law enforcement agencies to release the details of use-of-force investigations, confirmed cases of sexual assault and dishonesty while on duty. We are concerned with this bill because we feel the broad definition of use-of-force will potentially put our officers in a complicated situation. We are working with other law enforcement groups to explore amendments that would narrow the scope of the bill. The bill is expected to be referred to the Senate Committee on Public Safety within the next couple of weeks.

- **AB 748** (Ting): Assemblymember Ting (D-San Francisco) would require body-cam and audio recordings of an incident involving use-of-force be released to the public when it relates to “a matter of public concern…or is reasonably believed to involve a violation of law or agency policy.” The maximum number of days the recordings could be withheld would be 120. We will be gathering more information on this issue from our membership to help fight this legislation.

As we deal with these pieces of legislation we urge you to join us for our Leg Day in Sacramento on May 16! We need your help in convincing the members of the Legislature that these bills are bad for public safety. If we can show up in great numbers, we have a chance of stopping these bills in their tracks. This year is going to be an uphill battle for all law enforcement agencies, so it is crucial that the California Police Chiefs Association does its part, so we can continue to do our jobs as chiefs. You can get more information and register here. If you’re not at the table, you’re on the menu, and law enforcement is definitely on this year’s legislative menu.