



**Tax Recovery and Criminal Enforcement
Task Force Executive Board Meeting
621 Capitol Mall, Room 2114, Sacramento, CA 95814
April 18, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Jim Biscailuz, Chairman, TRaCE Executive Board

Members Present:

Jim Biscailuz, Chairman, Special Agent in Charge, DOJ
Randy Silva, Vice Chairman, Chief, CDTFA Investigations
Dan Gonzalez, Chief, FTB Investigations
Cindy Chen, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, IRS
Tom Edwards, Proxy for Thomas Wilson, Deputy Chief, DMV
Sir Streeter, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, DHS
Dave Hansel, Proxy for Susan Ferensic, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, FBI
Jim Root, Special Assistant Attorney General, DOJ

Members Absent:

David Montoya, Chief, EDD Investigations (absent for Open Session)

Discussion Items:

- February 21, 2018 Minutes
 - Dan Gonzalez motioned to approve minutes. Motion seconded by Cindy Chen.
 - Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed.

Resolved: Motion carried
- Presentation of Award
 - Eric Lacoma on behalf of Louis Vuitton provided Northern California TRaCE Task Force Commander, Susan Gorsuch, with a certificate of appreciation and an award for her efforts with enforcing and protecting the integrity of the Louis Vuitton brand, as well as protecting consumers from inferior products that may be dangerous and may impede the health and safety of the general public.
- Status Reports & Updates
 - 1st Quarter Accomplishments
 - Handout was provided listed the 1st Quarter Accomplishments.
 - DOJ Legislation Initiative – SB1272
 - Jim Biscailuz and Mario De Bernardo, Office of Legislative Affairs, DOJ, had a meeting with Senator Galgiani discuss SB1272.
 - Jim Biscailuz reported that the bill will be going through the Senate Committee's first (author's house) and that the Government of Finance Committee appears to be in support of approving the proposal.
 - The Senate Public Safety Committee approved SB 1272 unanimously and there were several members that wanted to coauthor the bill.

- SB 1272 is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Budget Fiscal Review Committee on April 19, 2018, and Jim doesn't anticipate any issues.
- RRaCE Final Report
 - The RRaCE final report was sent to Legislature on April 17, 2018.
 - A handout of the RRaCE final report submitted in April 2018 to the Legislature was provided to all members of the Executive Board.
- TRaCE Federal BJA IPR Grant
 - EDD's contract for overtime activities related to IPR Investigations is still pending.
- Prop 56 Positions & Status on Hiring
 - DOJ has interviews scheduled for one tobacco agent position in Los Angeles on May 2, 2018, and will be scheduling interviews for two positions for Sacramento on May 3 or May 7, 2018. These tobacco agent positions will work in tandem with the CDTFA tobacco agents hired pursuant to Prop. 56.
 - DOJ received a total of five applications for Los Angeles that were certified and seven or eight applications for Sacramento that were certified.
 - The K-9 tobacco agent position is scheduled to close on May 18, 2018. The interviews will be scheduled in May 2018.
 - From the Prop 56 funding, the Attorney General Office is hiring one Investigative Auditor for their Los Angeles office. They are receiving applications and are ready to conduct the interviews. LA TRaCE will be able to utilize this person's expertise on TRaCE Investigations.
 - Attorney General is pursuing a contractor who was a former IRS agent to handle forensic accounting associated with the tobacco cases. He will be working with both the Sacramento and Los Angeles teams.
 - CTDFA will be interviewing their position the week of May 2, 2018. They are hiring one Investigator for Northern California TRaCE to work tobacco related investigations.
 - Northern California TRaCE has been without an Administrative Assistant for some time and we are pleased to announce that we have hired a replacement and the person will be starting on May 1, 2018.
- TRaCE Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Training Plan
 - Handout was provided on the suggested training for the TRaCE staff.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., at 621 Capitol Mall, Room 2114.

Open session meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m. by Jim Biscailuz, Chairman, and TRaCE Executive Board.