



UC HASTINGS LAW

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

I write with an update on the issue of enhancing our firearms capability on the UC Hastings campus.

As you likely know, our Public Safety Officers Association (PSOA) requested earlier this year that the College institute a program of arming their members in addition to making other changes such as expanding jurisdiction and purchasing a motor vehicle. At its September 9, 2011 meeting, our governing Board of Directors considered information about not only firearms but also safety, liability, legal constraints, and the budgetary effects of any change. At its meeting today, December 2, 2011, the Board reached the decision not to direct me to add firearms here. Accordingly, we will continue to benefit from the services of PSOA members as well as the San Francisco Police Department 10b program that assigns an armed officer specifically to us.

We previously described the comprehensive process for considering the issue of firearms. This policy decision that was made was the result of careful deliberation. Over the past year, we have conducted a web survey open to all, which allowed students and staff an opportunity to offer their opinions; participated in campus meetings; asked faculty for input; conducted discussions with our Alumni Association and Foundation Board; and reached out to members of the surrounding community. The Board took public comment and reviewed voluminous written materials (available in the Law Library). The Board is mindful of, among many factors, the California statute that creates our safety officer force and indicates it is not authorized to carry firearms.

I appreciate the participation of all stakeholders of UC Hastings in bringing this matter to closure. I would like to express my respect for our PSOA members, who display professionalism and dedication at all times. I look forward to continuing to work with them, and I thank them for their service.

Frank H. Wu
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12/02/11