

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

**NOTICE**  
1.14

December 20, 2022

**TO:** All Department Personnel

**FROM:** Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 357 – REPEAL OF CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE SECTION 653.22 - LOITERING WITH THE INTENT TO COMMIT PROSTITUTION

The purpose of this Notice is to inform Department personnel of the repeal of California Penal Code (PC) Section 653.22, effective January 1, 2023 – pursuant to California Senate Bill (SB) 357. Penal Code Section 653.22 makes it unlawful to loiter in a public place with the intent to commit prostitution. A conviction for violation of 653.22 PC is classified as a misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000.00.

Senate Bill 357 prohibits California law enforcement from detaining, arresting, or citing a person for suspicion of 653.22 PC. The repeal of 653.22 PC also affects enforcement of 653.23 PC, which makes it unlawful for an individual to aid in or benefit from prostitution. Beginning January 1, 2023, Department personnel may no longer singularly consider an individual's interactions with a person who is believed to be loitering with the intent to commit prostitution in order to determine if the individual is aiding in or benefitting from prostitution.

**Note:** Senate Bill 357 does not decriminalize soliciting or engaging in sex work. Officers are reminded that all of their observations, including those of activities amounting to loitering, should still be considered as part of the whole of their investigations of prostitution.

Should you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact Detective Support and Vice Division, at (213) 486-0910.

  
MICHEL R. MOORE  
Chief of Police

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