

# Colton POA signs three-year contract

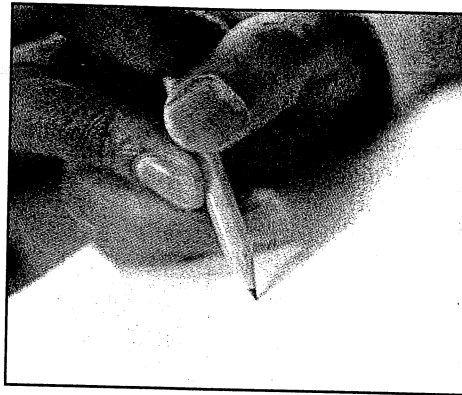
The members of the Colton Police Officers' Association and the City of Colton are to be congratulated for becoming leaders in San Bernardino County, says Robert M. Wexler, esq., who represented the association throughout the negotiations process.

The association's new three-year contract with the city, which provides for the immediate implementation of 3% at 50, makes the city one of the first in San Bernardino County to recognize the benefits of the new formula.

Under the terms of the agreement, every member will receive a 6 percent salary increase in July 2001, and an additional 7 percent in July 2002. In addition to those raises, personnel assigned as corporals and detectives will now be paid a differential of 10 percent above their base salaries.

Moreover, the city agreed to pick up any increases in the cost of providing health insurance benefits to each employee during the term of the contract. In another bold and

***New deal includes  
3% @ 50, making city  
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innovative move, the city and the association agreed to contract language that prevents the city from committing to provide any raises or benefits to any other employee group based upon the raises or benefits received by the POA.

This anti-"Me-Too" clause is thought to be the first of its type in police contracts. Finally, the association will be able to negotiate on its own merits, without the city's hands being tied by commitments to grant any benefits received by the association to other bargaining groups.

The contract was overwhelmingly approved by the membership at its ratification meeting.

Armed with a fair and pioneering contract, the Association looks forward to assisting the city council in attracting high-caliber officers to the city so the citizens of Colton can continue to receive the outstanding level of services to which they have become accustomed, said Wexler.



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