



MEMO

To: Brandi Asmus, Curriculum Co-Chair, Woodland College
CC: Leslie Deniz, Adjunct Faculty, Woodland College
From: Anna Hoehenrieder, Research Analyst, North Far North Center of Excellence (NFN COE), Ebony Joy Benzing, Director, North Far North Center of Excellence (NFN COE)
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026
Subject: Labor Market Data Request – Modern Policing

Background

Woodland College requested labor market data from the North Far North COE to support a new associate of science degree for Modern Policing. Rather than producing a new report, NFN COE prepared this memo to address the request.

In January 2025, NFN COE released a report on [Modern Policing in Greater Sacramento](#), which will be used to meet the college's data needs. Please refer to the report for a comprehensive analysis.

This memo supports the college's career education program development process by summarizing regional demand, wages, and program supply to identify labor market and community college gaps across the seven-county region. If the proposal advances in the program recommendation process, the college should include this memo along with the original report in any application submitted to the regional consortium or the Chancellor's Office.

Key Findings

- **Occupations Covered:** The Modern Policing in Greater Sacramento report examined four occupations: Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers (33-3051), Detectives and Criminal Investigators (33-3021), First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives (33-1012), and Private Detectives and Investigators (33-9021).
- **Demand:** Greater Sacramento had 9337 modern policing jobs in 2023, projected to grow 9% in five years. There are an estimated 893 annual openings, with 67% of these openings for police and sheriff's patrol officers, a role that typically aligns with community college training.
- **Education & Skills:** Between 30% to 46% of workers in policing occupations have some college or an associate degree, aligning with community college educational offerings. Additionally, local police departments typically require 60 college units for new hires, making a community college associate degree a strong fit.

- **Supply Gap:** While the average annual supply of policing and criminal justice programs was 945 awards per year, there may be a shortage of locally trained workers for police and sheriff's patrol officer positions. The majority of awards come from bachelor's degrees in criminal justice/ safety studies from California State University – Sacramento. Most of these students do not plan to pursue police and sheriff's patrol officer positions.

Conclusion

The North Far North COE recommends that community colleges proceed when considering the development of new programs and modification of existing programs related to modern policing. This recommendation aligns with those from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office recommendation that community colleges with existing POST-certified academies adopt the Modern Policing degree curriculum so that students can complete both an associate degree in Policing and a police academy certification.

Please contact Anna Hoehenrieder, Research Analyst or Ebony J. Benzing, Director, for further information or questions at anna.hoehenrieder@losrios.edu and ebony.benzing@losrios.edu.

Occupational Demand

Occupational Group	2023 Jobs	2023-2028 Change	2023-2028 % Change	2023-2028 Annual Openings
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	6,292	562	9%	612
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	1,669	124	7%	151
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	921	108	12%	85
Private Detectives and Investigators	456	10	2%	45
Greater Sacramento	9,337	803	9%	893

Source: Lightcast 2024.4; QCEW employees, Non-QCEW employees, and Self-Employed.

Occupational Earnings

Occupational Group	25 th Percentile Hourly Earnings
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$40.70
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	\$40.21
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	\$62.89
Private Detectives and Investigators	\$18.56

Source: Lightcast 2024.4; QCEW employees, Non-QCEW employees, and Self-Employed.

Entry-Level Education & Training Requirements

Occupation	Entry-Level Education	Work Experience	On-The-Job Training
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	Moderate-term on-the-job training
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Private Detectives and Investigators	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	Moderate-term on-the-job training

Source: Lightcast 2024.4; QCEW employees, Non-QCEW employees, and Self-Employed.

Relevant Career Education Program Areas

TOP Code Program	Aligned CIP Code Program
Administration of Justice (2105.00)	Criminal Justice/ Police Science (43.0107)
Police Academy (2105.50)	Criminal Justice/ Law Enforcement Administration (43.0103)
	Criminal Justice/Safety Studies (43.0104)

Sources: California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research TOP-CIP-SOC crosswalk

Relevant Postsecondary Supply

Program	Institution	Latest Three-Year Average			Total
		Certificates	Associate Degrees	Bachelor's Degrees	
Administration of Justice (2105.00)	American River	-	62	-	62
	Folsom Lake	-	36	-	36
	Lake Tahoe	13	12	-	25
	Sacramento City	-	111	-	111
	Sierra	1	114	-	115
	Woodland	-	28	-	28
	Yuba	-	33	-	33
Police Academy (2105.50)	Yuba	24	2	-	26
Criminal Justice/ Law Enforcement Administration (43.0103)	William Jessup	-	-	7	7
Criminal Justice/ Safety Studies	California State University - Sacramento	-	-	527	527
Totals		38	373	534	945

Source: California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Data Mart and National Center for Educational Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

Note: Community college data covers awards issued between the 2022-23 and 2024-25 academic years. Non-community college data often lags community college data by one year, and currently covers awards issued between the 2020-21 and 2022-23 academic years.