

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

GENERAL ORDER 21.1

REVISED MARCH 2020

ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

1. GENERAL.

- a. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is a Department within the California State Transportation Agency (Section 2100 California Vehicle Code [CVC]).
- b. The Department is under the control of a civil executive officer known as the Commissioner of the CHP. The Commissioner is appointed by the Governor, with advice and consent of the Senate, to serve under the direction of the Governor (Section 2107 CVC). The powers and duties of the Commissioner are detailed within Section 2108 CVC.
- c. The Commissioner is assisted by a Deputy Commissioner, who provides oversight of the daily operations of the Department. The Deputy Commissioner is considered to be an “assistant commissioner,” in the context of Sections 2110 and 2111 CVC.
- d. Reporting to the Deputy Commissioner are two Assistant Commissioners who are appointed by the Commissioner with the approval of the Governor (Section 2110 CVC). The Assistant Commissioners carry out and execute such duties, with respect to traffic law enforcement, as may be specified by the Commissioner (Section 2111 CVC).

2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.

- a. The CHP is organized into commands and functions. Refer to Annexes A through F for organizational charts.
- b. Commands have responsibility for specific geographic regions, multiple organizational responsibilities, or multiple subordinate commands.

(1) Executive Office. Executive offices support the Office of the Commissioner and report to a member of Executive Management. Executive offices are considered commands.

(2) Division. Headquarters and field Divisions are commands, led by a Chief, which have subordinate commands and functions, and report to the Deputy Commissioner or an Assistant Commissioner.

(3) Section. Sections exist as a subordinate function within a Division and have a defined area of responsibility. Sections are led by a uniformed or nonuniformed manager and may or may not be classified as a command.

(4) Unit. Units normally exist as a subordinate function within a section; however, they may exist within a Division. Units may be led by a manager or supervisor, but are not considered a command within the CHP organizational structure.

(5) Area. Areas exist as a subordinate command to a field Division and are led by a captain or a lieutenant.

(6) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility. Commercial vehicle enforcement facilities exist as a subordinate command to a field Division and are led by a captain or lieutenant.

(7) Communications Center. Communications centers exist as a subordinate command to a field Division and are led by a captain or lieutenant.

3. REORGANIZATION OF COMMANDS.

a. Defined. A reorganization of a command is any upgrade or downgrade of command level, any boundary realignment, or any permanent change to a command's supervising Division, subordinate offices, staffing levels, or name.

b. Divisions and Commands. All reorganizations, as defined above, shall be approved by the Commissioner through the chain of command.

c. Functions. Functions may not be upgraded to command status without the approval of the Commissioner.

4. DESIGNATION OF RANK OF AREA COMMANDER.

a. General. Within Area field commands, staffing levels are primarily based on the needs of the Department. Generally, the rank of the commander should be based on criteria and evaluation factors outlined below.

b. Criteria. The rank of the commander in Area commands with 50 or more officers, Area commands with 30 or fewer officers, and Area commands with communications centers should be determined by the following criteria:

(1) An Area command with 50 or more officers should be commanded by a captain.

(2) An Area command with 30 or fewer officers should be commanded by a lieutenant.

(3) An Area command with a communications center should be commanded by a captain.

c. Evaluation Process. Any change to the rank of the commander in an Area command not identified in paragraph 4.b. shall require approval from the Assistant Commissioner, Field, after an evaluation is completed by the respective Division commander. The Division commander's recommendation to change the rank of the Area commander should address the applicable evaluation factors listed below:

(1) Facility issues.

(2) Environmental concerns.

(3) Unique geographical features.

(4) Complex or unusual fleet or equipment characteristics.

(5) Level of coordination with allied agencies.

(6) Rank(s) of allied agency peers.

(7) Number of allied agency partners.

(8) Complexity of local political issues.

(9) Level of media contact.

(10) Key contact assignments.

(11) Number of city council members and county supervisors.

(12) Number of state and federal elected officials.

(13) Miles of roadway.

- (14) Types of roadway.
- (15) Average daily traffic counts.
- (16) Number of major highway traffic corridors.
- (17) Seasonal traffic fluctuation.
- (18) Unincorporated population.
- (19) Density of unincorporated area.
- (20) Projected population growth.
- (21) Current and projected transportation projects.
- (22) Number of state facilities and state employees.
- (23) Seasonal events.
- (24) Points of entry.
- (25) Total number of employees.
- (26) Number of calls for service.
- (27) Requests for supplemental law enforcement assistance.
- (28) Unique resource requirements.

d. Nonuniformed Commands and Uniformed Administrative Commands. The foregoing criteria and evaluation factors do not apply to nonuniformed commands or uniformed commands staffed via administrative assignment of uniformed personnel.

e. Commissioner's Authority. Notwithstanding the foregoing and any other written or unwritten procedure(s) to determine the rank of a commander in a departmental command, the Commissioner retains the final authority to determine the rank of the commander in every command based on the needs of the Department.

5. DEPARTMENT SUCCESSION OF COMMAND.

- a. The Department succession of command is as follows:
 - (1) Commissioner.

- (2) Deputy Commissioner.
- (3) Assistant Commissioner, Field.
- (4) Assistant Commissioner, Staff.

b. The order of succession for the Assistant Commissioners is based on seniority in grade.

c. In the event two Assistant Commissioners are promoted on the same date, succession will be based upon seniority in grade while in their previous rank.

d. Should a catastrophic event occur rendering all four Commissioners unavailable to lead the CHP, the Chief most senior in grade will assume command. This succession will continue by descending rank and seniority in grade.

6. ORGANIZATION.

a. Commissioner. The Commissioner is the civil executive officer in command of the CHP. The following are directly responsible to the Commissioner:

- (1) Staff. Support staff as determined necessary by the Commissioner.
- (2) Office of Special Representative. The Office of Special Representative is commanded by a uniformed manager at a rank determined by the Commissioner.
- (3) Office of Inspector General. The Office of Inspector General is commanded by a nonuniformed manager at a classification determined by the Commissioner.
- (4) Office of Employee Relations. The Office of Employee Relations is commanded by a uniformed manager at a rank determined by the Commissioner.

b. Deputy Commissioner. The Deputy Commissioner is appointed by the Commissioner and is directly responsible to the Commissioner for the daily operation of the Department. The following are directly accountable to the Deputy Commissioner:

- (1) Staff. Support staff as determined necessary by the Deputy Commissioner.

(2) Office of Community Outreach and Media Relations. The Office of Community Outreach and Media Relations is commanded by a uniformed or nonuniformed manager at a rank or classification determined by the Deputy Commissioner.

(3) Office of Internal Affairs. The Office of Internal Affairs is commanded by a uniformed manager at a rank determined by the Commissioner.

(4) Office of Legal Affairs. The Office of Legal Affairs is commanded by a nonuniformed manager at a classification determined by the Commissioner.

(5) Office of Equal Employment Opportunity. The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity is commanded by a nonuniformed manager at a classification determined by the Commissioner.

(6) Office of Risk Management. The Office of Risk Management is commanded by a uniformed manager at a rank determined by the Commissioner.

(7) Office of Accreditation. The Office of Accreditation is commanded by a uniformed manager at a rank determined by the Commissioner.

c. Assistant Commissioner, Field. Assistant Commissioner, Field, is appointed by the Commissioner and is directly accountable to the Deputy Commissioner. Primary duties include directing, controlling, and coordinating the Department's field operations. The following are directly responsible to Assistant Commissioner, Field:

(1) Staff.

(a) An executive assistant at the rank of Chief.

(b) Support staff as determined necessary by the Assistant Commissioner and approved by the Deputy Commissioner.

(2) Specialized Operations.

(a) Office of Air Operations. The Office of Air Operations is commanded by a uniformed manager at the rank of captain or lieutenant.

(b) Protective Services Division. Protective Services Division is commanded by a Chief and is comprised of the following sections:

1 Judicial Protection Section.

- 2 Dignitary Protection Section.
- 3 Capitol Protection Section.
- 4 Governor's Protective Detail Section.
- 5 Counterterrorism and Threat Awareness Section.
- 6 Emergency Operations and Safety Services Section.

(3) Field Divisions.

- (a) There are eight field Divisions, each commanded by a Chief.
- (b) Within the eight field Divisions, there are Area commands, communications centers, and commercial vehicle enforcement facility commands.

d. Assistant Commissioner, Staff. Assistant Commissioner, Staff, is appointed by the Commissioner and is directly accountable to the Deputy Commissioner. Primary duties include directing, controlling, and coordinating the headquarters staff, policy development, fiscal accountability, and field support activities. The following are directly responsible to Assistant Commissioner, Staff:

(1) Staff.

- (a) An executive assistant at the rank of Chief.
- (b) Headquarters Review Unit comprised of a lieutenant and nonuniformed analysts.
- (c) Commissioner's Support Unit comprised of a sergeant and officers.
- (d) Additional support staff as determined necessary by the Assistant Commissioner and approved by the Deputy Commissioner.

(2) Headquarters Offices and Divisions.

- (a) Office of Employee Safety and Assistance. The Office of Employee Safety and Assistance is commanded by a uniformed manager at a rank determined by the Assistant Commissioner.
- (b) Information Management Division. Information Management Division is commanded by a Chief and is comprised of the following sections:

- 1 Information Technology Section.
- 2 Support Services Section.
- 3 Telecommunications Section.
- 4 Communications Centers Support Section.

(c) Enforcement and Planning Division. Enforcement and Planning Division is commanded by a Chief and is comprised of the following sections:

- 1 Research and Planning Section.
- 2 Commercial Vehicle Section.
- 3 Special Projects Section.
- 4 Field Support Section.
- 5 Impaired Driving Section.

(d) Administrative Services Division. Administrative Services Division is commanded by a Chief and is comprised of the following sections:

- 1 Fiscal Management Section.
- 2 Fleet Operations Section.
- 3 Business Services Section.
- 4 Facilities Section.

(e) Personnel and Training Division. Personnel and Training Division is commanded by a Chief and is comprised of the following sections:

- 1 Academy.
- 2 Professional Training Section.
- 3 Organizational Development Section.
- 4 Human Resources Section.
- 5 Selection Standards and Examinations Section.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

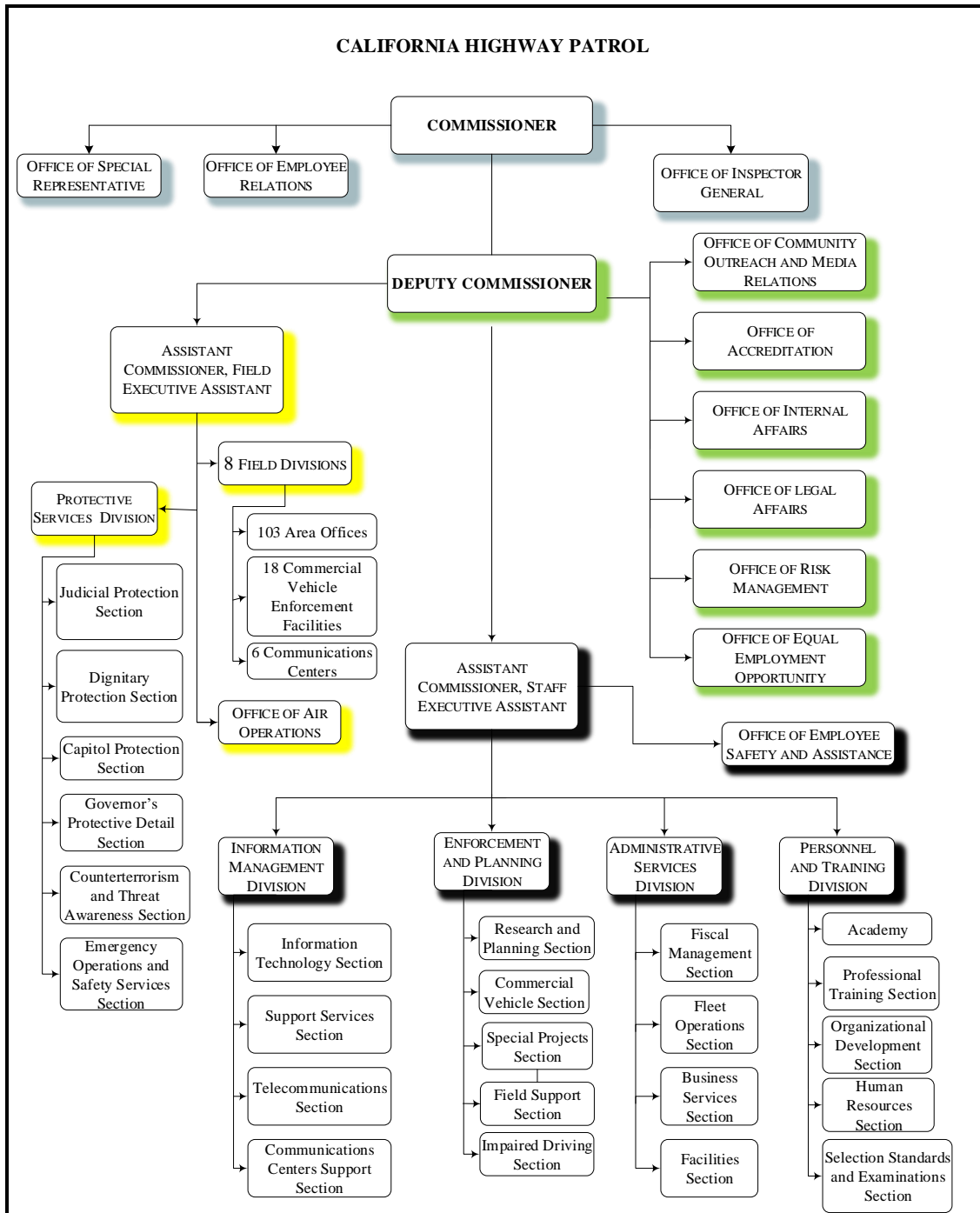
ANNEXES A, B, C, D, E, F

OPI: 061

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

ANNEX A

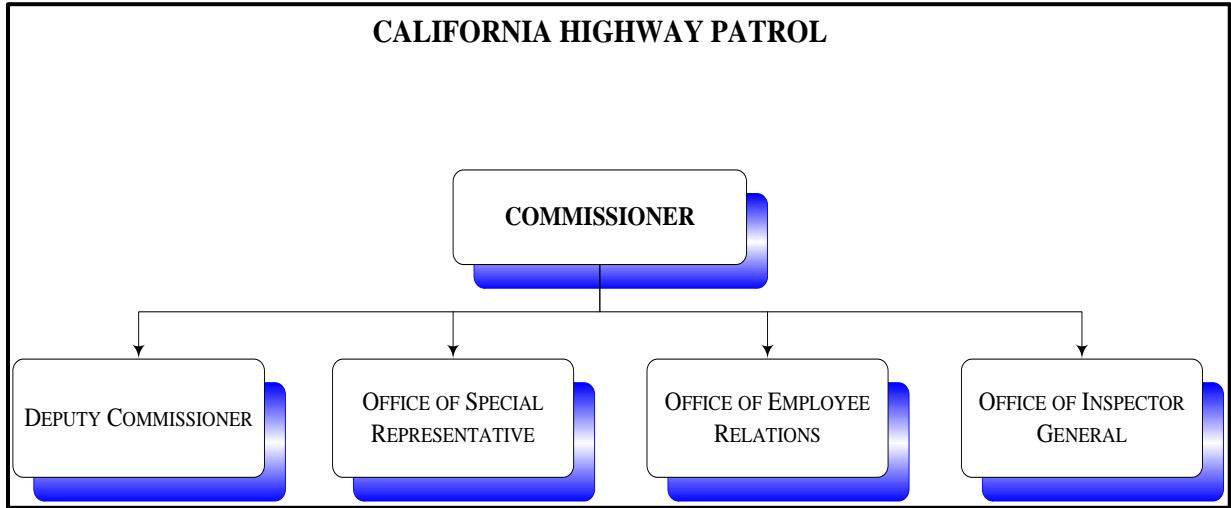
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

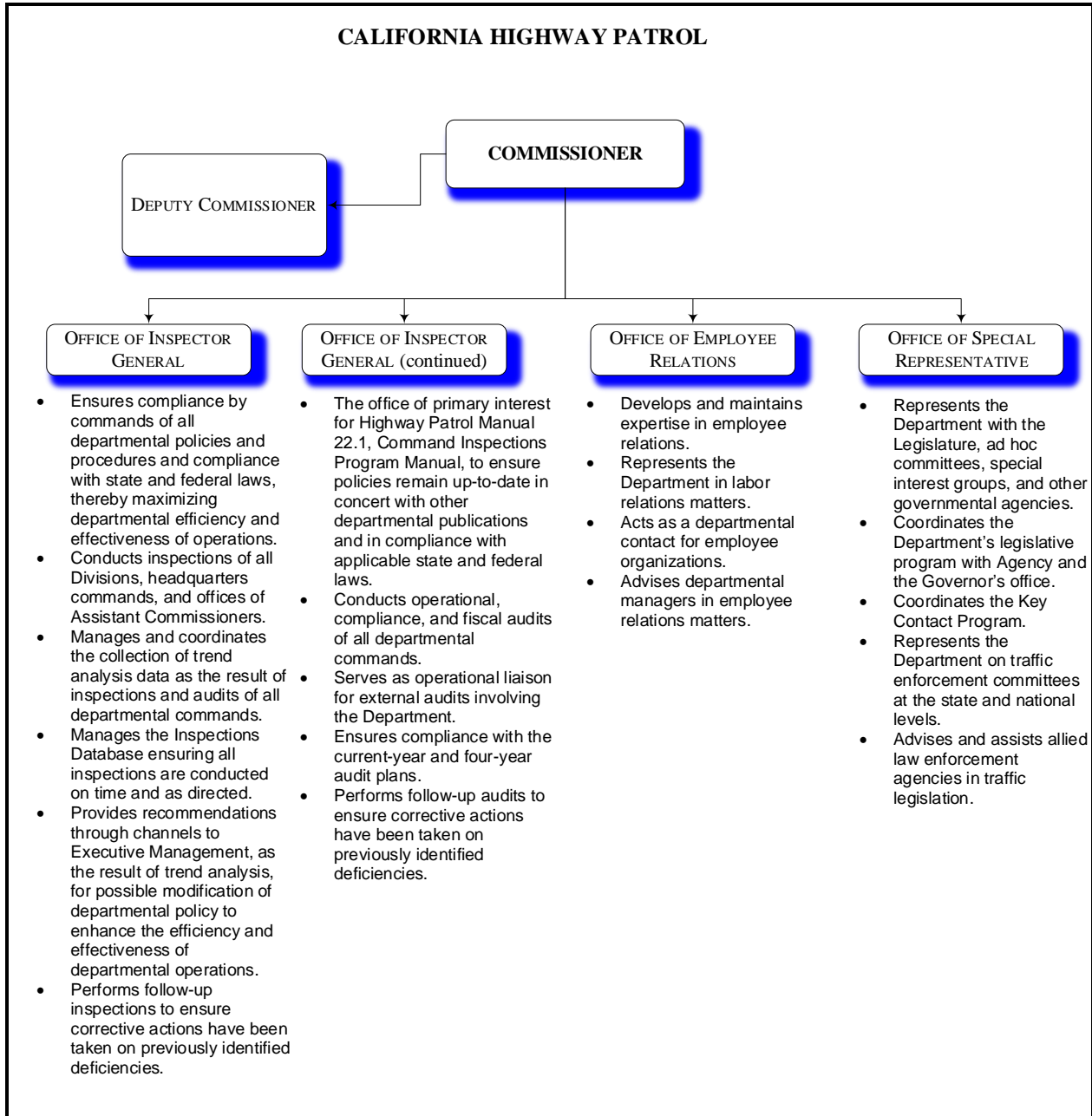
ANNEX B

**ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART
OFFICES REPORTING TO THE COMMISSIONER**



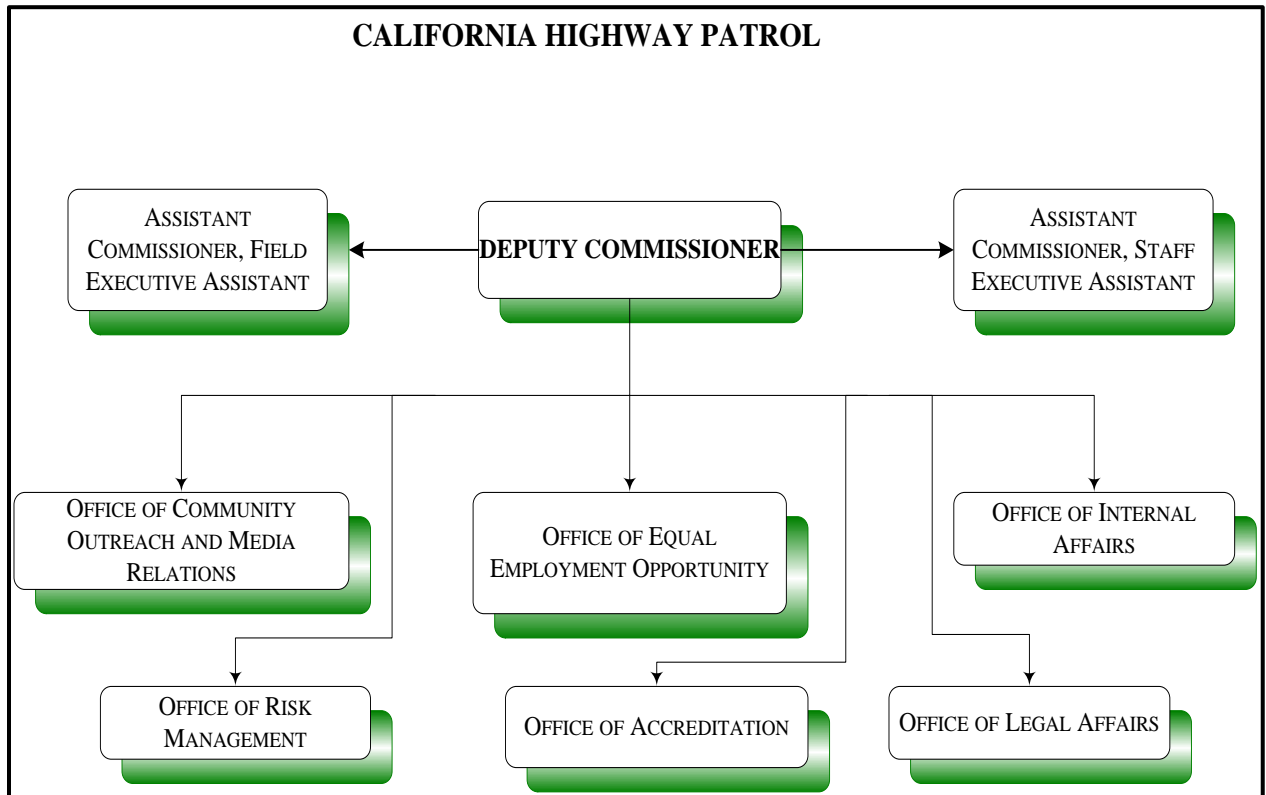
ANNEX B

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART OFFICES REPORTING TO THE COMMISSIONER *(continued)*



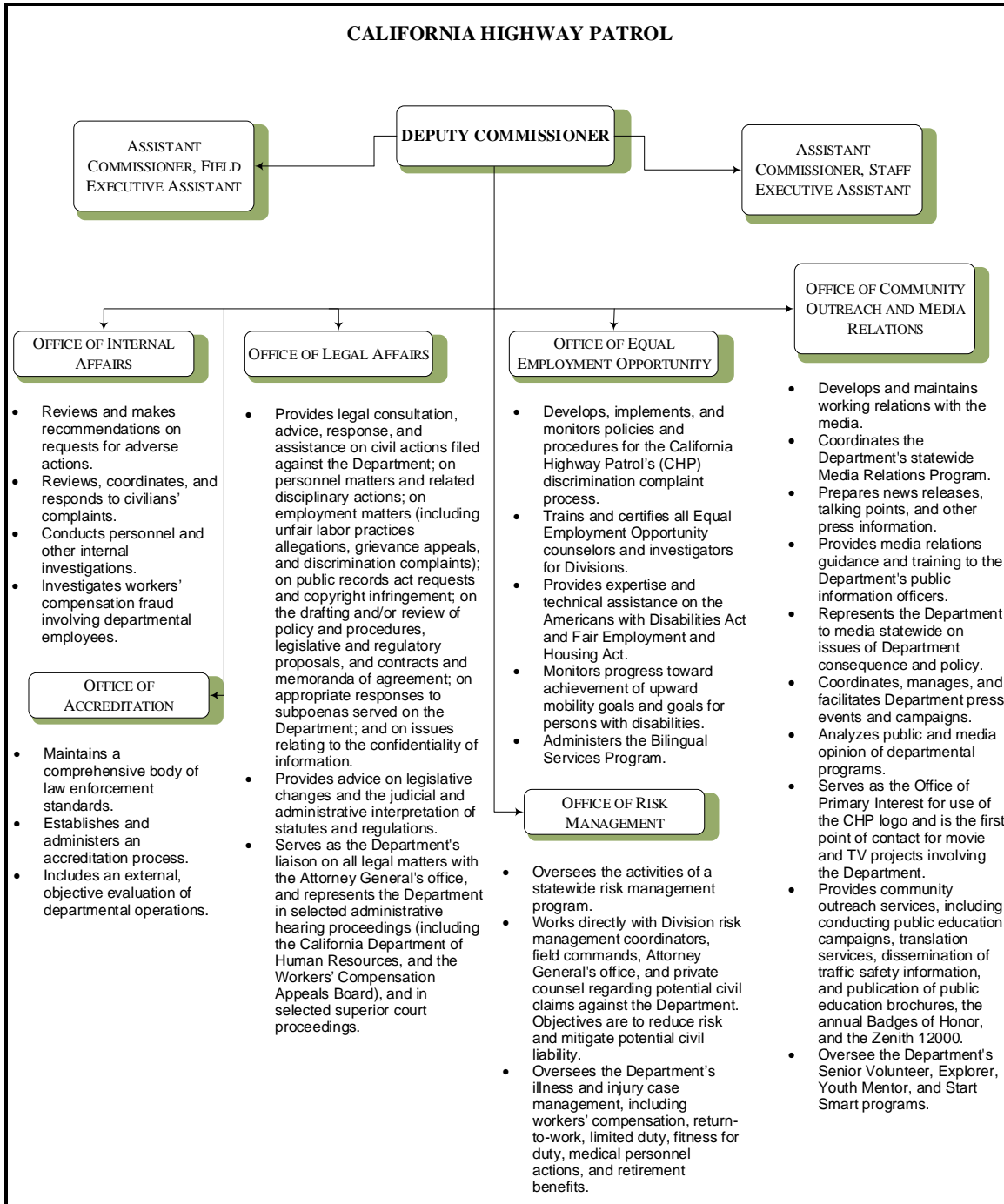
ANNEX C

**ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART
OFFICES REPORTING TO THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER**



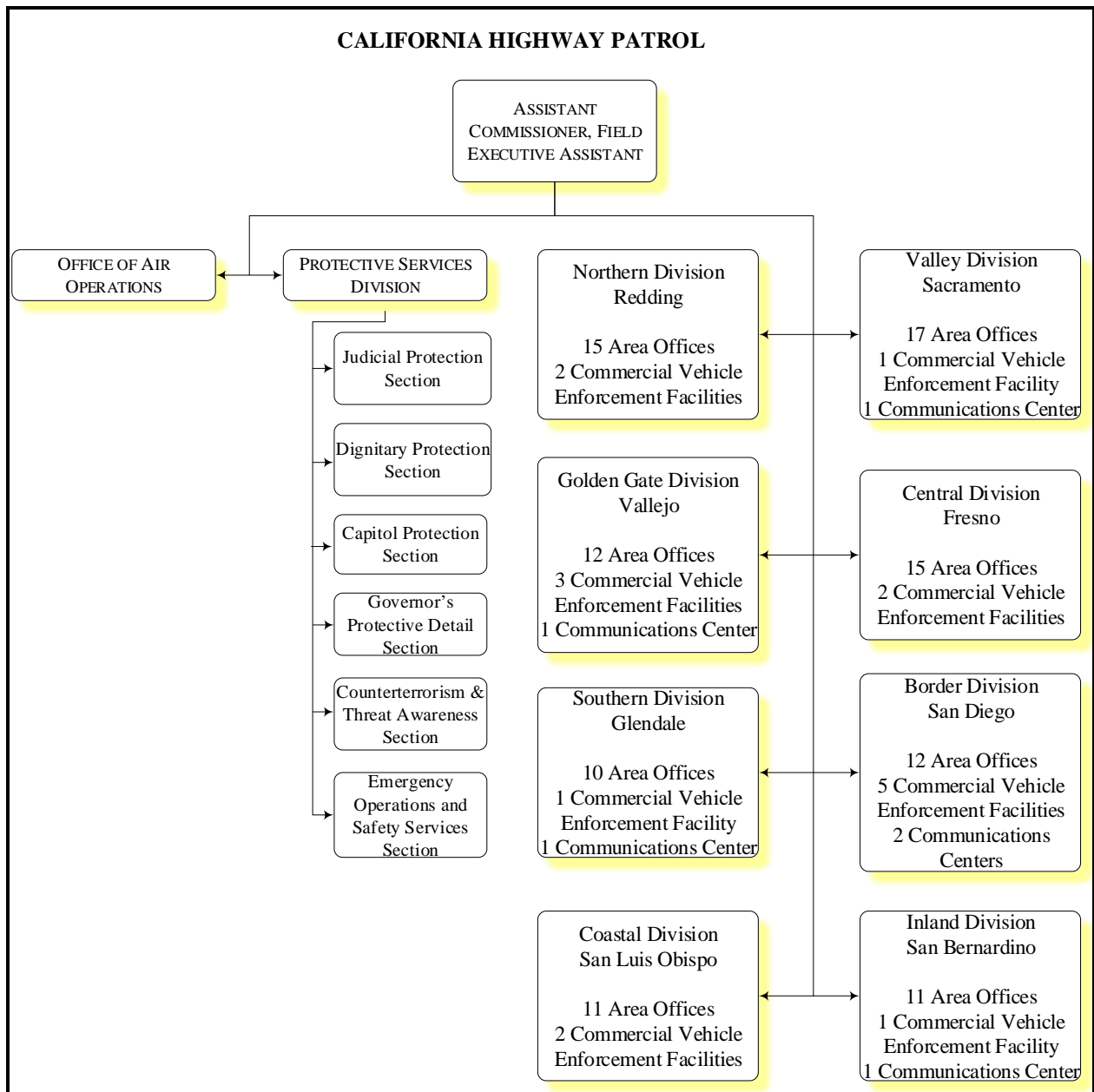
ANNEX C

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART OFFICES REPORTING TO THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (continued)



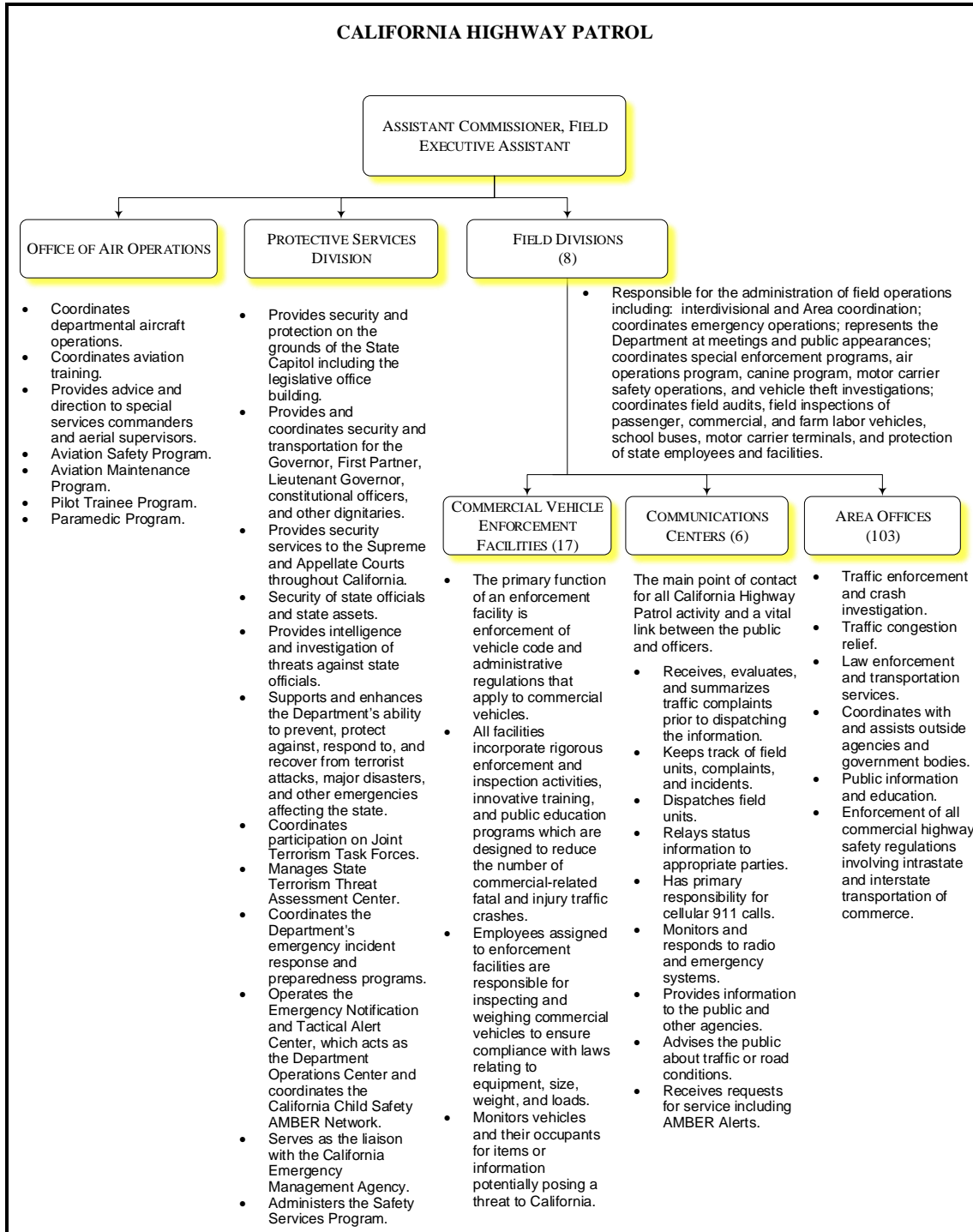
ANNEX D

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, FIELD



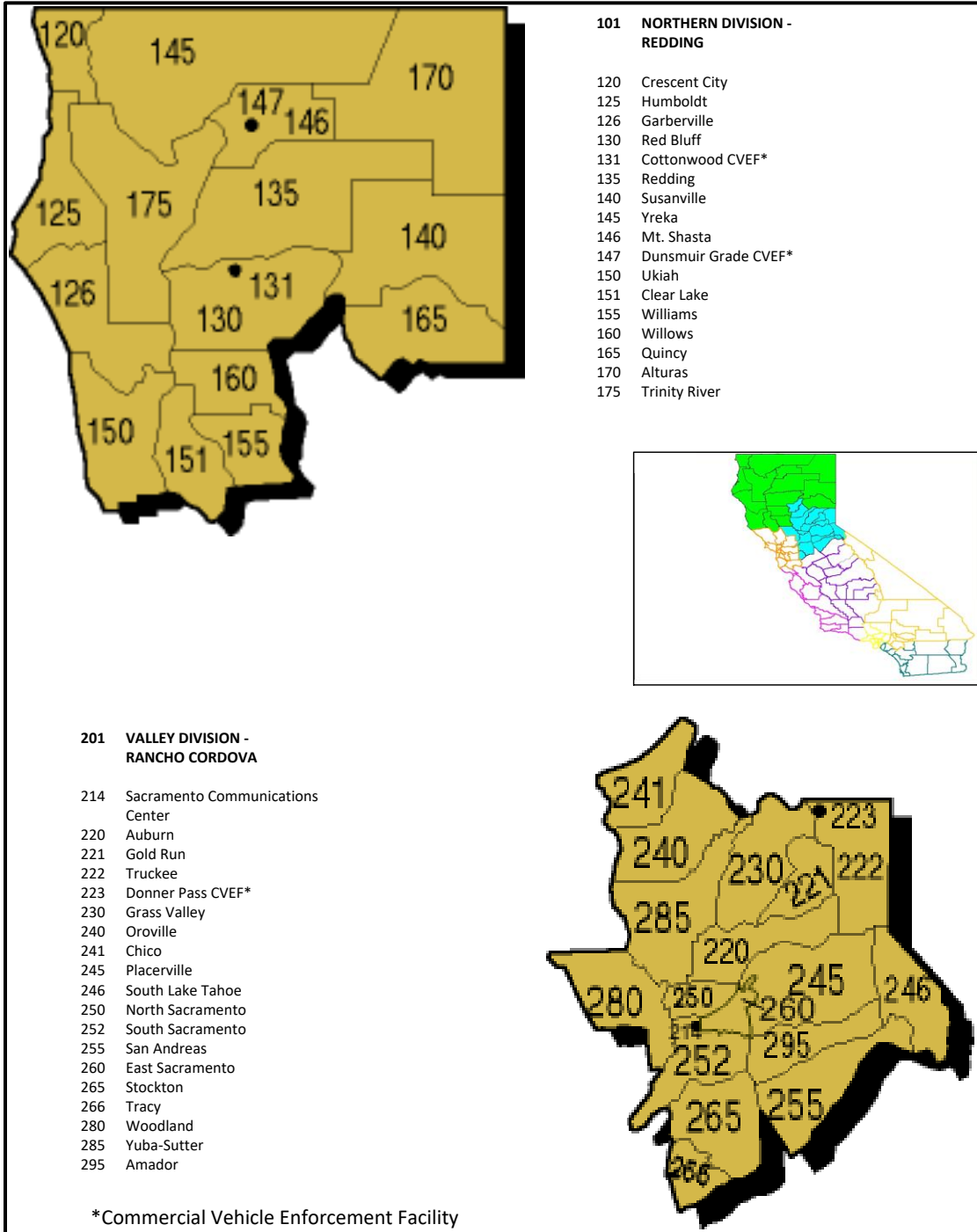
ANNEX D

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, FIELD (continued)



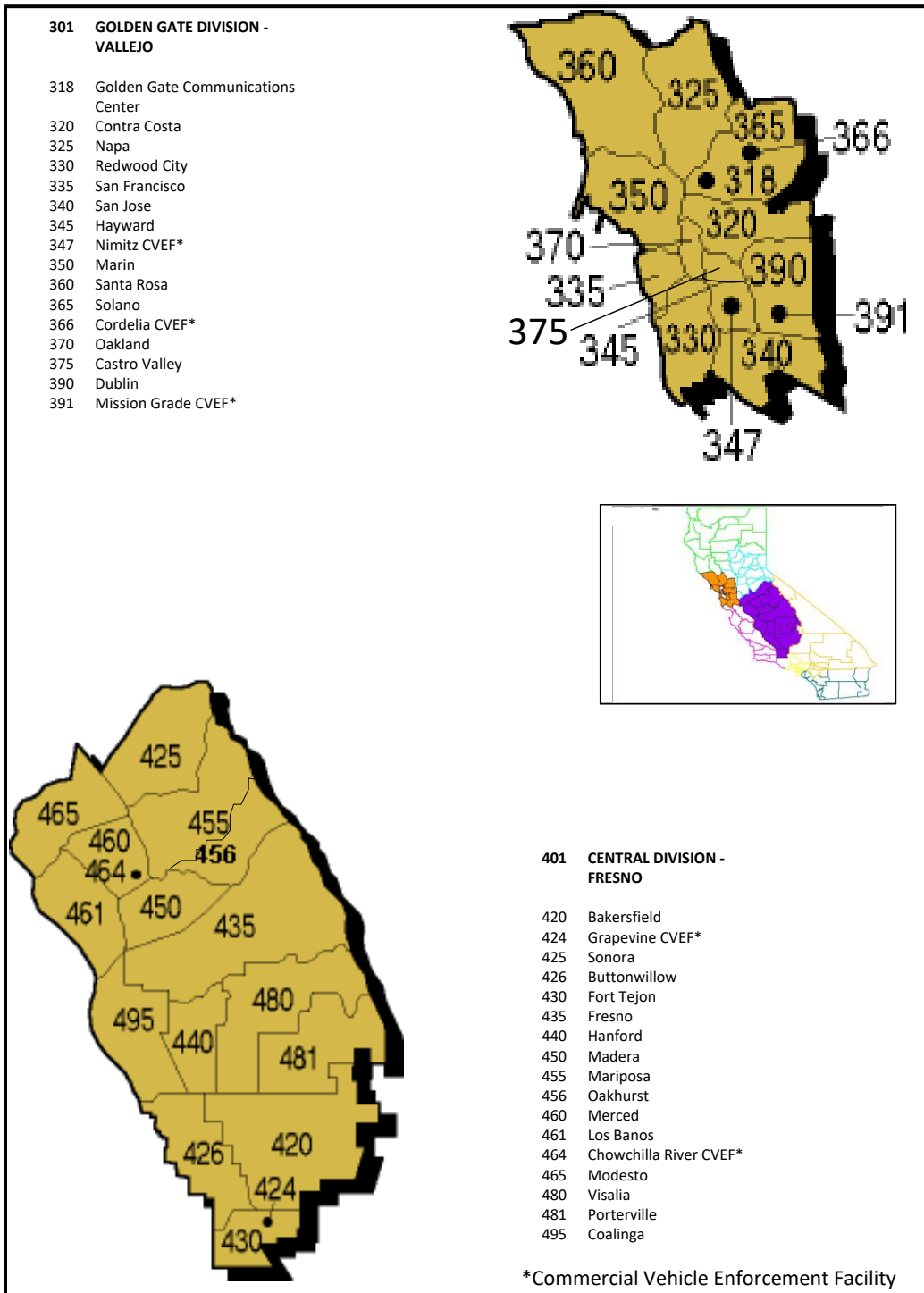
ANNEX E

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL GEOGRAPHICAL ORGANIZATION



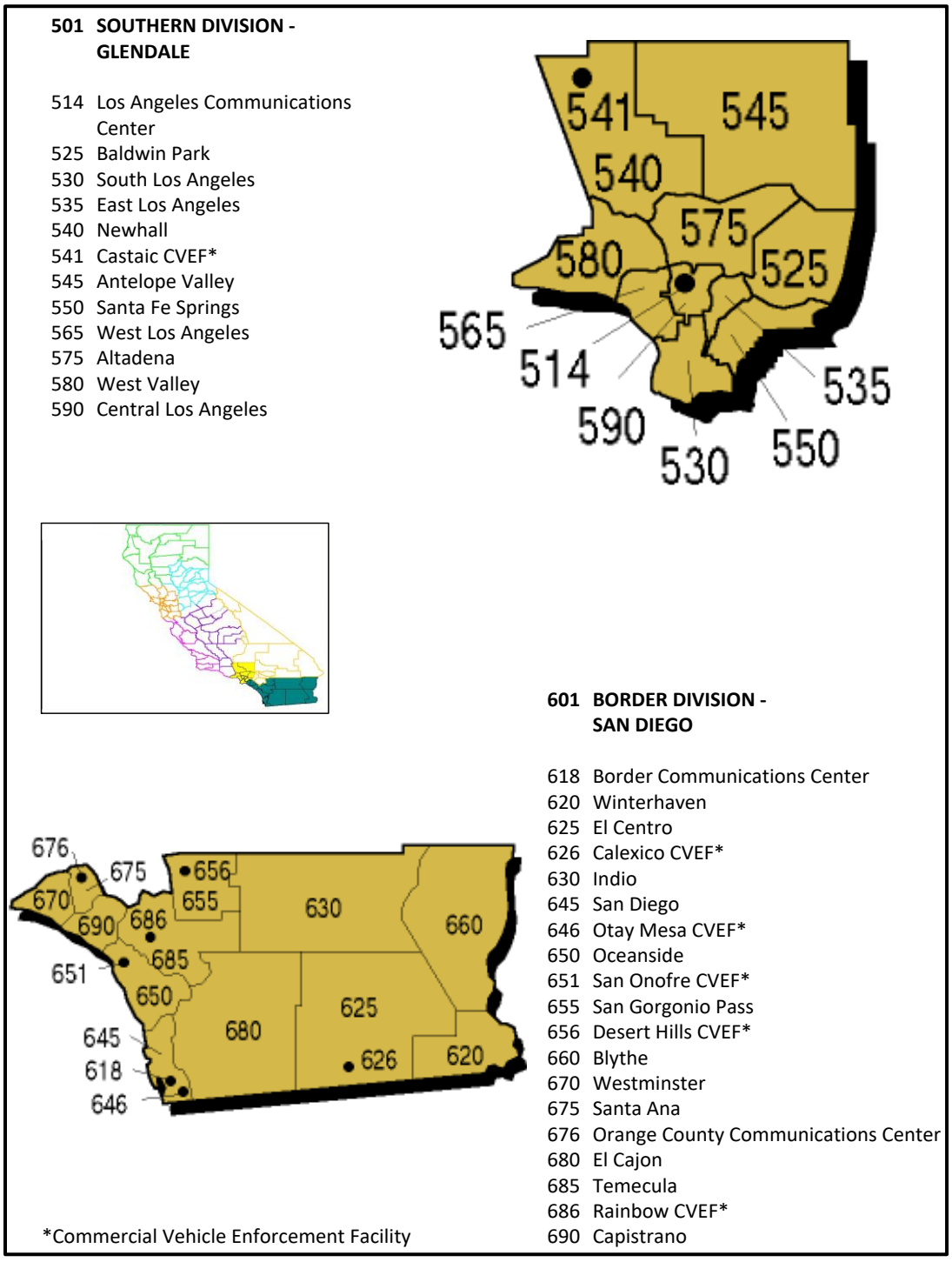
ANNEX E

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL GEOGRAPHICAL ORGANIZATION *(continued)*



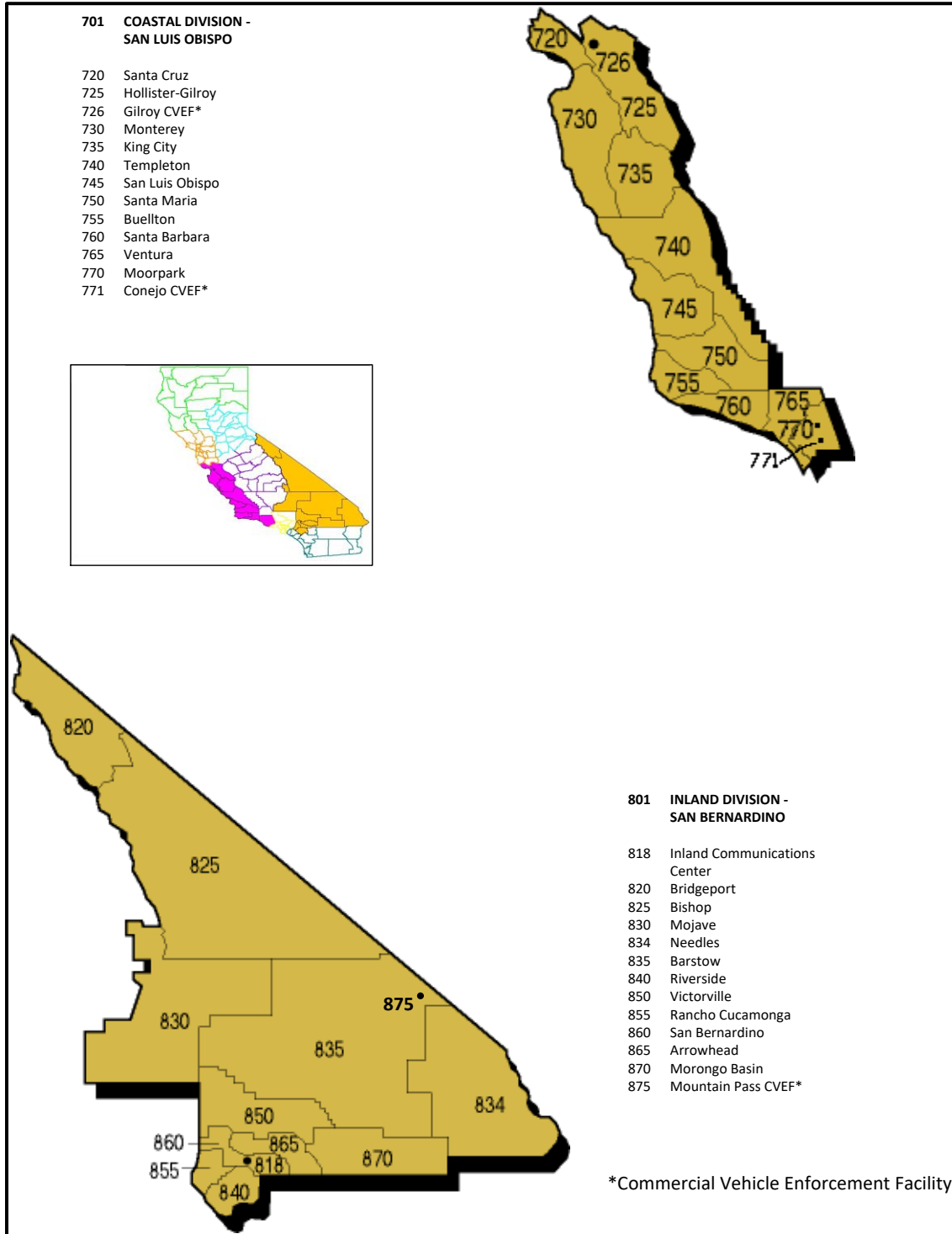
ANNEX E

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL GEOGRAPHICAL ORGANIZATION *(continued)*



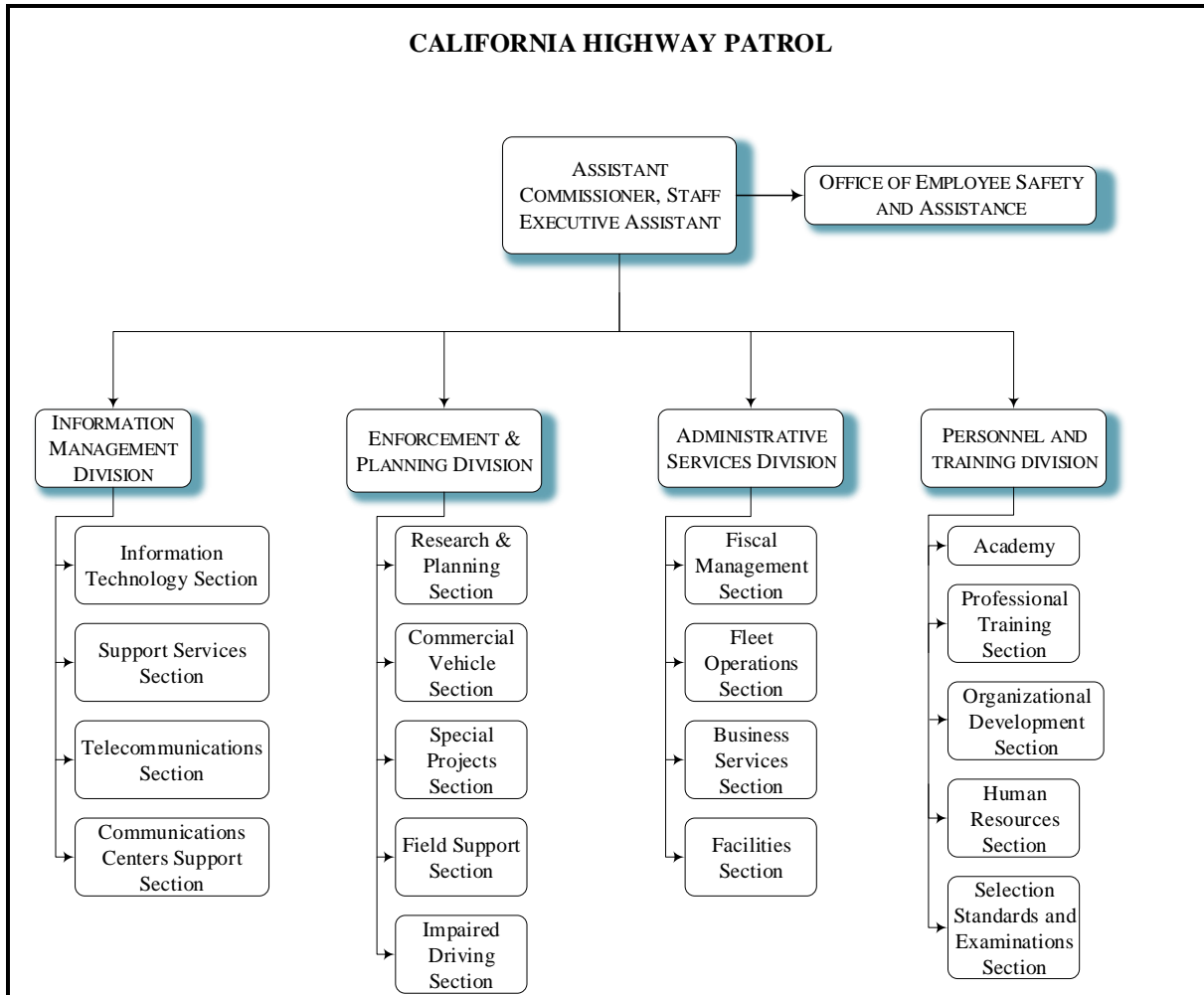
ANNEX E

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL GEOGRAPHICAL ORGANIZATION *(continued)*



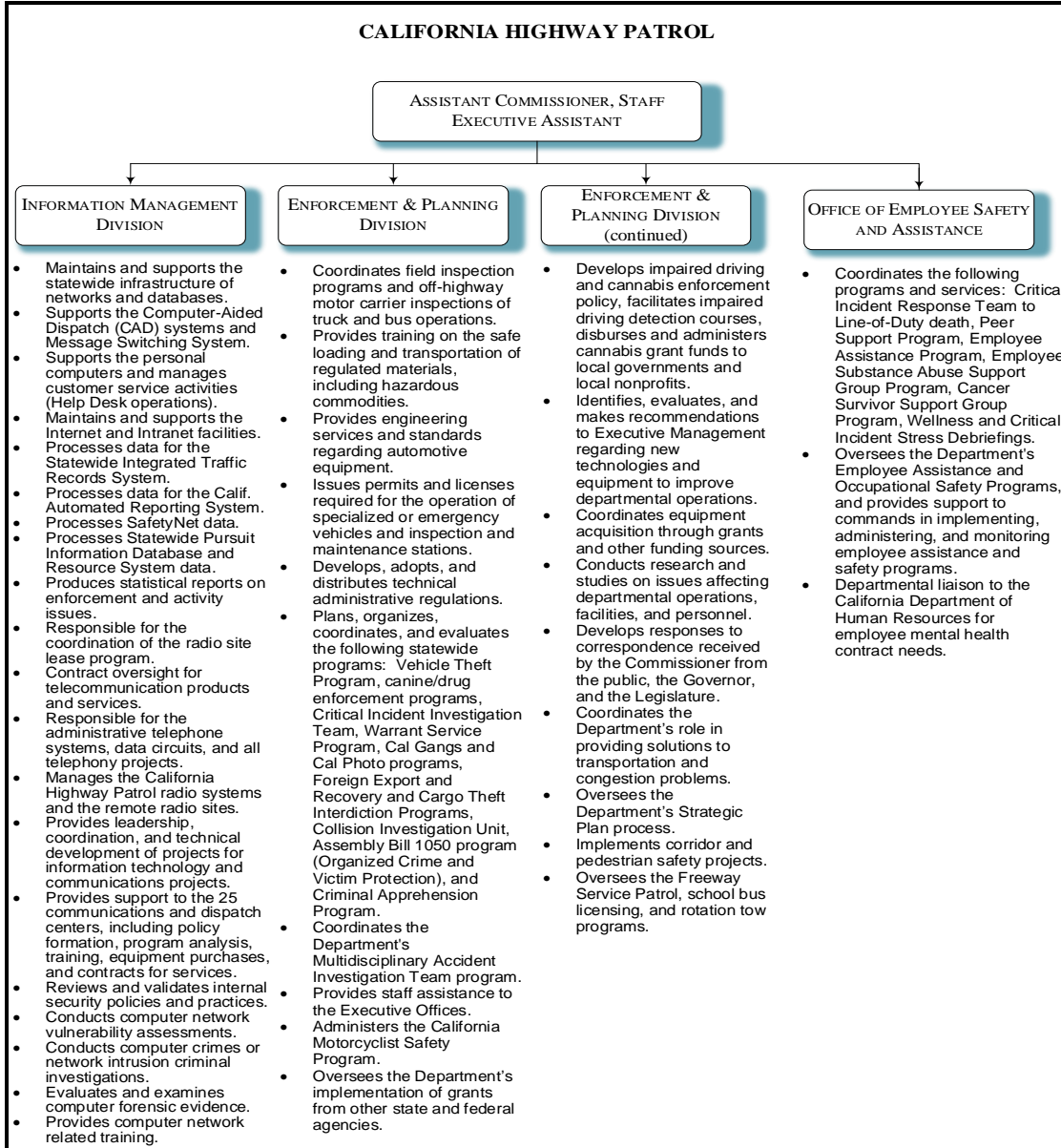
ANNEX F

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, STAFF



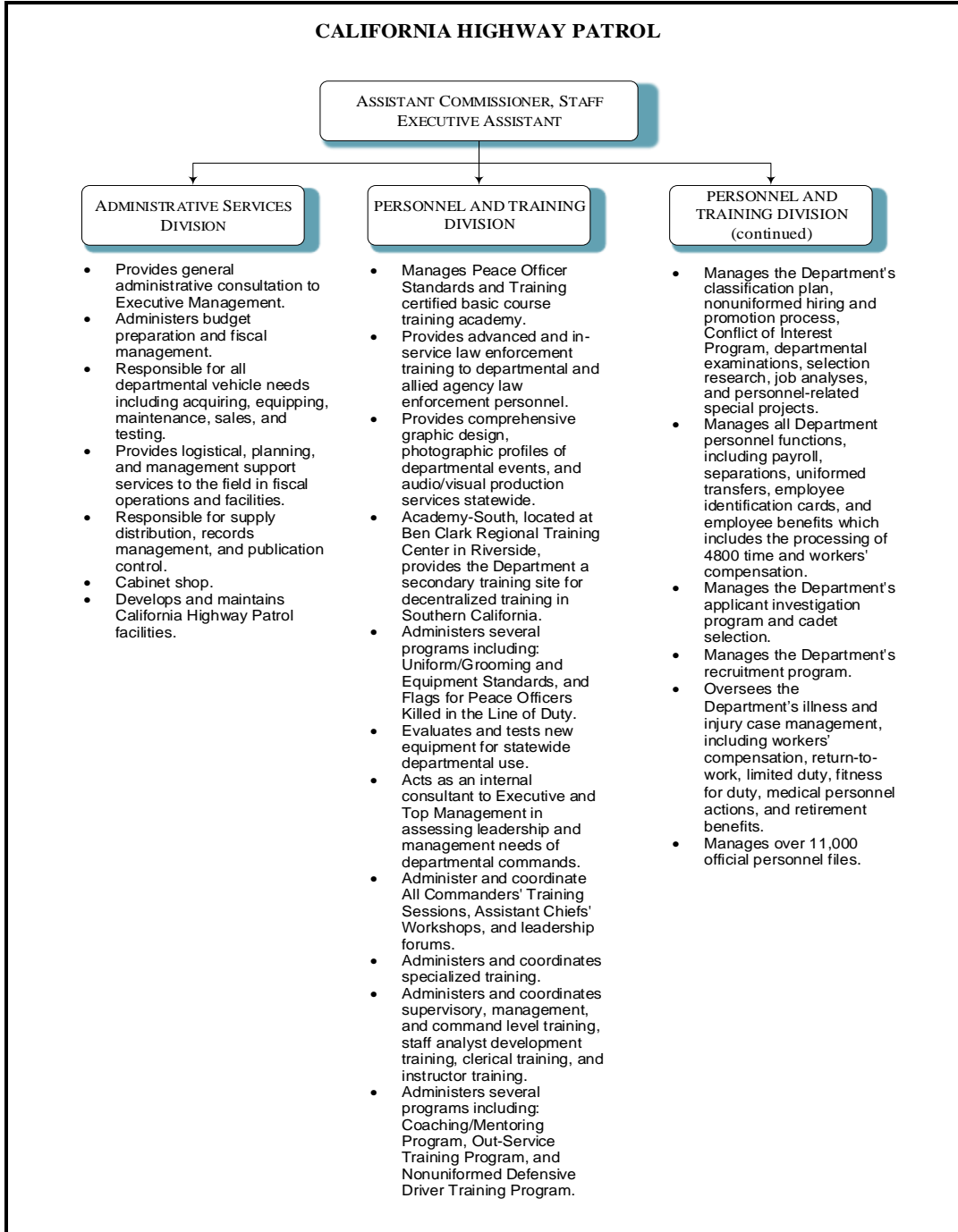
ANNEX F

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, STAFF *(continued)*



ANNEX F

ORGANIZATIONAL/FUNCTIONAL CHART ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, STAFF *(continued)*



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK