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# ALADS 4-1-1

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## The Impact of the Financial Crisis -- Job Security

### *ALADS members better off during economic crisis than most*

**T**he terrible economic news impacts all of us, as the credit market tightens, foreclosures are decimating some neighborhoods, and friends and families lose jobs. Unemployment here in Los Angeles County has increased 60 percent in the past year.

While Los Angeles County has more than 100,000 employees, and will probably be looking at cutting jobs and salaries to make up budget shortfalls, in each of the last major economic downturns, ALADS has successfully protected members' jobs. The reason is simple: The public wants to be protected against crime and violence, and most residents in Los Angeles County - especially the voters - know that there is a strong connection between adequate staffing and their safety.

In other areas of the state however, public sector employees have already been asked to take pay freezes or pay cuts. Los Angeles County, as well as many of our local cities, has used hiring freezes in the past in order to stay afloat.

If the County imposes a widespread hiring freeze, there will be even less civilian support for essential

services and vacant positions will not be filled, leaving fewer deputies to do more work. In the short term, some members will have to wait out the immediate crisis to move out of jail assignments or to win promotions. ALADS is preparing for that contingency by making sure every member is treated fairly, and that staffing reductions do not mean jeopardizing officer safety.

Nonetheless, the economic crisis should not be an excuse on the part of management to alter any fundamentals of our jobs or our benefits. We will continue to fight to ensure that your dedication, bravery and professionalism are fairly rewarded, even in a down economic climate.

### Political Endorsement Committee MEETING NOTICE:

The ALADS Political Endorsement Committee will meet at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21, 2009**. The meeting will be held at the ALADS offices, 2 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park. Endorsements will be considered for candidates on the upcoming 2009 Municipal Election ballot.

**Hotline: (323) 213-4020**  
**www.alads.org**