



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

July 11, 2012

Harold L. Hurtt, Assistant Director
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Office of State, Local and Tribal Coordination
500 12th Street SW, Room #11106
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Mr. Hurtt:

I write pursuant to your request that the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) provide a list of the issues for discussion with ICE Director John Morton and yourself at next Thursday's meeting (July 19, 2:00 – 4:00). You had also requested, and we have provided herein, the names and titles of persons from NSA who will be present at this meeting in addition to NSA President Sheriff Larry Amerson and NSA Executive Director Sheriff (ret.) Aaron Kennard.

A tentative list of NSA issues for discussion with ICE includes the following:

Why, specifically, did ICE suspend its 287(g) Task Force Agreements in Arizona? Moreover, why did this suspension occur with no prior notice to, or discussion with, ICE's partner law enforcement agencies in Arizona?

In light of ICE's suspension of its 287(g) Task Force Agreements in Arizona, should other local partner agencies in States with laws similar to Arizona's, such as Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina, assume that they will face similar action by ICE as they comply with laws enacted by their State legislatures?

Is ICE aware of the betrayal felt by its local law enforcement partners in Arizona? Does ICE appreciate the ripple effect of its singular action in Arizona on law enforcement trust nationwide? How can local law enforcement foster better communication and relations with ICE to avoid future situations like the one in Arizona?

Local law enforcement perceives its relationship with ICE as increasingly unilateral and its partnership with DHS/ICE as deteriorating. Is this perception unwarranted? Is there anything ICE can say to alleviate this concern?

What are ICE's intentions for the future in regard to the 287(g) program, as well as its training of local law enforcement under the program? Where does ICE see its relationship with local law enforcement agencies — which are bound to adhere

to State law — headed when local law enforcement have illegal immigrants in custody on whom ICE has no detainer?

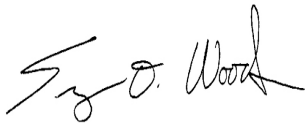
Finally, does ICE agree that there is much at stake in regards to future cooperation between ICE and local law enforcement as a result of ICE's controversial action in Arizona? And, does ICE understand that NSA and local law enforcement are not seeking confrontation but positive dialogue with ICE on national security and protecting our communities?

The following persons from the National Sheriffs' Association will join NSA President Amerson and NSA Executive Director Kennard at the meeting: John Thompson, Deputy Executive Director/Chief of Staff; Fred Wilson, Director of Operations; Susan Crowe, Director of Publications and Marketing; and myself.

In closing, on behalf of the NSA President, Board of Directors, and Executive Director, I want to share with you that Director Morton's and your visit to NSA headquarters for this two-hour meeting is very much appreciated; and we look forward to welcoming you and having a productive conversation.

Should you have any questions regarding the meeting, or if I can be of further assistance to your Office, please call upon me.

Sincerely yours,



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Sheriff (ret.) Aaron Kennard, NSA Executive Director
Sheriff John Cary Bittick, Chair, NSA Congressional Affairs Committee
John Thompson, NSA Deputy Executive Director/Chief of Staff
Fred Wilson, NSA Director of Operations
Susan Crowe, NSA Director of Publications and Marketing