



2015 - 04

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF
SHACKLES ON PREGNANT INMATES**

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) is committed to the health and safety of incarcerated pregnant women and believes law enforcement should use the least restrictive restraints necessary on an inmate in her 2nd and 3rd trimester of pregnancy unless there are compelling grounds to believe an inmate presents: an immediate and serious threat or harm to herself or others; or is a substantial flight risk and cannot be reasonably contained by other means, and;

WHEREAS, many law enforcement agencies have successfully implemented regulations, policies and procedures that address this issue, and;

WHEREAS, enactment of regulations, policies and procedures would allow for compassionate and humane treatment of incarcerated pregnant women;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association does hereby strongly and respectfully request that law enforcement agencies establish regulations, policies and procedures to insure that pregnant inmates will not be inappropriately shackled, unless there is a compelling, articulated public safety reason.