



# Homeland Security

August 22, 2005

The Honorable Janet Napolitano  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Napolitano:

I received your letter of August 11 expressing concern on immigration enforcement issues, particularly in the Phoenix metropolitan area. This issue is of utmost important to DHS and the Administration. As you know, immediately after I took office, I and several members of my staff flew to Arizona to witness firsthand the problems we are facing. Moreover, after you and I spoke last month about these issues, I dispatched DHS representatives to participate in your office's July 12 Immigration Enforcement Summit. We have established working groups with ardent goals and short deadlines to make recommendations for better enforcement strategies all across the operational spectrum. And just last week, more members of my staff visited Nogales, Tucson, and Phoenix to learn more about the challenges we must overcome. In short, we are moving forward quickly and aggressively to fashion a comprehensive plan with real solutions.

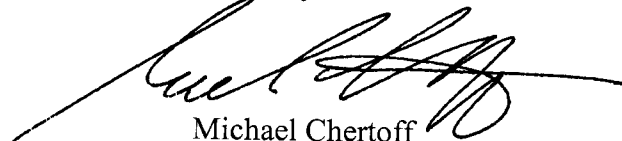
As we previously agreed, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will train Arizona law enforcement personnel in 287(g) Delegation of Authority for implementation in Arizona corrections facilities. Moreover, DHS welcomes the offer of appropriate detention bed space, at no cost to ICE. The Detention and Removal Office (ICE/DRO) will assume any additional costs of processing and removal. Currently, ICE/DRO has 2,000 beds in use in Arizona, and two hundred additional beds roughly equate to over 1,200 additional removals annually based on current trends. Neither expanded 287(g) authority nor increased bed space will, however, alone address today's border enforcement challenge, and we are working to develop a comprehensive program that addresses the right mix of personnel, technology and infrastructure needed to achieve effective control over the border. We are discussing this effort in more detail with State Homeland Security Advisors this week, and intend to build a partnership with Arizona and other states on this program.

In the near term, we would propose an integrated approach that addresses your offer of DPS resources to target the violent human smuggling trade, especially within the metropolitan area of Phoenix:

- 1. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will invite the State of Arizona to assign four (4) Department of Public Safety (DPS) investigators to participate in an ICE-led Human Trafficking Task Force in SAC Phoenix.** Currently, ICE has two Human Smuggling Groups functioning in Arizona, and this initiative would assign two DPS investigators to each group. While in the past, the State has demurred on putting such investigators on ICE task forces dealing with human smuggling, this action will provide for an integrated approach to developing Federal and State investigations and a rapid combined response.
- 2. Border Patrol will invite DPS to provide officers to work with them on Interstate 10 (Casa Grande Area of Operations) and Interstate 8 (The Gila Bend Area of Operations) and possibly other areas.** This action will enable integrated enforcement efforts related to checkpoints and roving patrols. The Border Patrol agents and the Public Safety officers would operate in tandem and in separate vehicles during operations.
- 3. ICE and Border Patrol will invite DPS to provide a full time liaison in the ICE (SAC Phoenix) office and the Border Patrol (Tucson Sector) office. Both the ICE SAC and Border Patrol Sector Chief will coordinate closely with the State Homeland Security Advisor and the DPS.** This will ensure consistent, daily coordination and communication between the State and DHS at both the component and departmental level.
- 4. ICE would appreciate assistance with transporting aliens and will discuss the transportation assistance issue further with DPS.** Additional State resources for transportation would free up Border Patrol agents to perform line detection and apprehension responsibilities that maximize use of their specialized training.
- 5. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will continue to maintain a Border Patrol presence at Sky Harbor Airport and begin periodic patrol efforts at the Phoenix Bus Station.**

In addition to these measures, I am asking Josh Filler, Director of State & Local Government Coordination at DHS, to reach out to the Director of your Office of Homeland Security to work together on an integrated immigration and border enforcement program.

Sincerely,



Michael Chertoff