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President of Houston Police Union Calls for 287(g)

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Local Enforcement - 287(g)

The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1996 added the 287(g) provision that allows the Department of Homeland Security to enter into contracts with state and local law enforcement agencies. The provision provides training for local officers who will help enforce immigration law under the supervision of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. As of August 2008, there were 63 local municipalities that were part of the 287(g) program.



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President of Houston Police Union Calls for 287(g)

Tuesday, March 24, 2009, 8:55 AM



While executing a drug search warrant, Houston Police Officer Rick Salter was shot and critically wounded by an illegal alien with three prior drug arrests. The incident has the president of the Houston Police Officers Union Gary Blankinship urging the Mayor of Houston to amend an old policy that forbids officers from inquiring about a suspect's immigration status and also wants the city to become part of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement

287(g) local initiative.

Blankinship called for the changes in an article published by the Houston Chronicle.

...the Houston Police Officers Union joins you [Houston Mayor Bill White] in urging Washington to live up to its clear responsibilities; but today we also are calling on you, along with Gov. Rick Perry and other state and local leaders, to finally recognize state and local governments also have a vitally important and necessary role to play in addressing illegal immigration.

It's time for you to do your job as well.

For starters, you should amend or scrap the 17-year-old Houston Police Department policy (General Order No. 500-5), which firmly states that "officers shall not inquire as to the citizenship status of any person, nor will officers detain or arrest any persons solely on the belief that they are in this country illegally."

Blankinship criticizes the Houston Mayor for blaming federal officials for not acting fast enough on convicted illegal aliens, but he also points to Houston's "sanctuary status" that allows anyone, regardless of immigration status, to benefit from the city's services and opportunities.

The bottom line, gentlemen, is that constantly pointing the finger of blame at Washington while kicking this can down the road is no way to fix this

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problem. Today, more than ever, we need real leadership, hard choices and a proactive new mindset at the state and local level.

You can read Gary Blankinship's entire article at the [Houston Chronicle's](#) website.

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SC County's Innovative Business Auditing Program Curbs Illegal Employment

Articles - Tuesday, January 13, 2009

Beaufort County has made great strides in creating a lawful employment environment in the South Carolina Low Country by implementing a creative and pioneering auditing program to help local businesses achieve compliance with immigration laws while exposing problems with fraudulent documents that enable illegal workers to get jobs. The effectiveness of this effort is further enhanced by strong state laws on illegal hiring and the county's participation in the 287(g) program. These enable local law enforcement agencies to prosecute violators and have illegal workers removed. Local officials report signs that the illegal alien population in Beaufort County has been noticeably reduced.

By Jessica Vaughan - Center for Immigration Studies

<http://www.cis.org/vaughan/SCCoBusinessAuditing>

Goddard backs changes to immigration raids

In the News - Thursday, July 16, 2009

Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said Thursday he supports changes to federal immigration polices on local police raids.

The changes could impact Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio's enforcement efforts, including raids on drop houses and businesses, conducted under a federal pact signed in April 2007.

Arpaio said, however, he will continue to conduct raids and crime sweeps under state immigration laws aimed at businesses that hire undocumented workers and the smuggling of illegal immigrants into the U.S.

by Mike Sunnucks -- Phoenix Business Journal

<http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2009/07/13/daily62.html>

Illegal immigrants netted by local police could be released

In the News - Tuesday, June 23, 2009

Some undocumented immigrants swept up on minor charges such as fishing without a license won't face federal detention. Instead, they'll be released on their own recognizance under an Obama administration directive to a Nashville, Tenn., sheriff who charged 6,000 people with immigration crimes over the past 2-1/2 years.

The "release on recognizance" order by Immigration and Customs Enforcement – a branch of the US Department of Homeland Security – could affect at least some of the 66 US law enforcement jurisdictions that are part of a controversial program which, in essence, deputizes local police to act as de facto immigration agents.

By Patrik Jonsson -- Christian Science Monitor

<http://features.csmonitor.com/politics/2009/06/23/illegal-immigrants-netted-by-local-police-could-be-released/>

Expansion of immigration enforcement could affect Prince William crackdown

In the News - Tuesday, June 16, 2009

A new immigration enforcement program from the federal government effectively could eliminate Prince William County's crackdown on illegal immigrants, experts say.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement is planning to make the program, known as Secure Communities, available to all 1,200 of the country's state and federal prisons and 3,100 local jails by the end of 2012.

By David Sherfinski -- Washington Examiner

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/local/Expansion-of-immigration-enforcement-could-affect-Prince-William-crackdown-48200917.html>

3 California counties will check immigration status as inmates enter jail

In the News - Thursday, May 14, 2009

"Los Angeles, Ventura and San Diego will become the first counties in California to begin checking the immigration status of all inmates booked into jail as part of a national effort to identify and deport more illegal immigrants with criminal records.

Law enforcement officials in the three counties will begin running inmates' fingerprints through federal databases this month to see if they have had any contact with the immigration system. Immigration officials will place holds on those believed to be in the country illegally. Once the inmates have finished serving their sentences, they will be transferred to immigration custody for possible deportation...."

Anna Gorman, LA Times, 14 May 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-immigjail14-2009may14.0.7781561.story>

Missouri lawmakers vote to reject federal Real ID Act

In the News - Wednesday, May 13, 2009

"Missouri lawmakers on Wednesday voted to direct the Department of Revenue to not comply with federal driver's license requirements.

The federal Real ID Act, passed in 2005, requires states to collect and verify certain information about applicants for driver's licenses and state ID cards. It was passed in response to national security concerns after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

But some Missouri lawmakers argue Real ID is an unwelcome intrusion into privacy and requires several new technologies that could increase the risk of identity theft...."

Lee Logan, AP, 13 May 2009

http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/1195917.html

Frederick (Md.) Moves Into Forefront of Immigration Enforcement

In the News - Friday, May 1, 2009

National attention and heavy political criticism aren't burdens that quiet, rural Frederick County often has to bear.

Yet the county is becoming notorious as Maryland's most aggressive combatant in the widespread struggle over immigration enforcement.

By Megan Miller -- Southern Maryland Online

<http://somd.com/news/headlines/2009/9927.shtml>

Sheriffs: Are you in school legally?

In the News - Tuesday, April 28, 2009

"Some border county sheriffs want Arizona schools to start asking students whether they're in this country legally.

Pima County Sheriff Clarence Dupnik originated the idea and said millions of dollars in Arizona taxes go to teach English to children who have no legal right to be here. He also said there's a link involving illegal immigration, social problems and gangs.

Only thing is, a 1982 U.S. Supreme Court decision appears to make it illegal for school officials to ask. In a 5-4 decision, the justices overturned a Texas law that authorized school districts to refuse to enroll anyone who couldn't prove legal residence."

Howard Fischer, Capitol Media Services, 28 April 2009

<http://www.azstarnet.com/metro/290558>

ICE Rolling Out Secure Communities

In the News - Sunday, April 26, 2009

The controversial federal immigration program that turned some Mecklenburg County deputies into de-facto immigration agents may soon be replaced with a similar program using better technology.

By Franco Ordonez -- The Charlotte Observer

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/local/story/687573.html>

Hispanic Community Prepares for New Immigration Law

In the News - Friday, April 10, 2009

"Salt Lake City's Hispanic community is gearing up for the implementation of Senate Bill 81, a controversial immigration reform that has many concerned about how it will be enforced. Archie Archuleta with the Utah Coalition of La Raza said people share Police Chief Chris Burbank's concern that the law encourages racial profiling.

"We don't want our people picked up while driving, driving while brown," Archuleta said. "And we're telling people to be careful, and to be calm, and to comport themselves well with the police, and that they have certain rights, which include being able to call your consulate, being able to call a lawyer, being able to call a friend."

Elizabeth Ziegler, KCPW (Salt Lake City) , 10 April 2009

<https://kcpw.org/article/7703>

SLCPD won't enforce immigration law

In the News - Thursday, April 9, 2009

The Salt Lake City Police Department's decision not to participate in a new law that will allow local officers to enforce federal immigration law has infuriated the bill's legislative sponsor.

"I'm worked up about this," said Rep. Mike Noel, House sponsor of SB81, which takes effect July 1. "It's not their choice to decide which laws they enforce."

By Cathy Mckitrick -- The Salt Lake Tribune

http://www.sltrib.com/portlet/article/html/fragments/print_article.jsp?articleId=12102282&siteId=297

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