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LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



July 6, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE LOS
ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States Department of Homeland Security and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, which will allow the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) to perform certain immigration enforcement functions; namely, conduct interviews of foreign born inmates in the Los Angeles County Jail. The interviewers will be accessing the Deportable Alien Control System (DACS), which is a federal computer database, at no cost to the County.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), which is part of the Department of Homeland Security, has been conducting interviews of foreign born inmates in the Los Angeles County Jail for several years. The purpose of these interviews is to determine if the foreign born inmate is a convicted criminal alien or a previously deported criminal alien. Studies conducted have demonstrated that criminal aliens are a burden to the local justice system. These inmates, if they are criminal aliens and in the United States illegally, are either removed from the Country or are prosecuted on federal charges and face deportation.

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Currently, ICE only has the staffing to interview a small percentage of foreign born inmates. Therefore, we are proposing that LASD employees conduct the interviews. If approved, this will result in enhanced capacity to deal with criminal aliens in the Los Angeles County Jail.

The duties of LASD employees will be limited to interviewing inmates to determine probable cause for an immigration violation; completing required criminal alien processing to include fingerprinting and photographing; and preparing immigration detainers, affidavits and notice to appear applications for ICE supervisor review.

Therefore, LASD recommends the Board approve the MOU allowing LASD employees to interview and process foreign born and criminal alien inmates at the Los Angeles County Jail.

The ability to interview a higher percentage of criminal aliens will enhance the safety of the residents of Los Angeles County and reduce the burden on the local justice system.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no anticipated costs if the MOU is approved by the Board. Personnel needed to conduct the interviews will come from existing staff levels. The computers and access to the DACS system were provided at no cost by ICE.

FACTS AND PROVISIONAL/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

There is no term limit to this agreement. Designated LASD employees will continue to conduct the interviews until such time as either party decides to terminate the agreement. LASD employees will receive training from ICE for their designated immigration functions and will have access to DACS, the federal computer database, in order to conduct the interviews.

ICE and LASD understand and agree that except as otherwise noted in the MOU or allowed by federal law, each will be responsible for their own liability and bear their own cost with regard to their property and resources, or personnel expenses incurred by reason of death, injury, or incidents given rise to liability.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS

There will be no impact on current services or projects. LASD employees currently schedule the interviews being conducted by ICE agents. They also schedule and arrange for transportation of inmates being released to the custody of ICE. These functions will continue to be performed by LASD employees.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, LASD respectfully requests that your Board provide three (3) original signed copies of the MOU and four (4) individually adopted copies of this action to Lieutenant Margarito Robles, of the Sheriff's Department's Inmate Reception Center.

Respectfully submitted,



LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) constitutes an agreement between the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Los Angeles County (California) Board of Supervisors to create a project pursuant to which U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) authorizes nominated, trained and certified personnel of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) to perform certain immigration enforcement functions as specified herein. The LASD represents Los Angeles County in the implementation and administration of this MOU. It is the intent of the parties that this project will result in enhanced capacity to deal with immigration violators in Los Angeles County jail facilities.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to set forth the terms and conditions for this project to authorize selected LASD personnel (participating LASD personnel) to perform certain functions of an immigration officer within Los Angeles County jail facilities, and how those participating LASD personnel will be nominated, trained, authorized, and supervised in performing the specified immigration enforcement functions.

Nothing herein shall otherwise limit the jurisdiction and powers normally possessed by participating LASD personnel as members of the LASD. Nothing herein shall otherwise limit the ability of participating LASD personnel to provide, as provided by or allowed by law, such assistance in any enforcement action unrelated to immigration enforcement as may be lawfully requested by a law enforcement officer having jurisdiction over any such incident, crime or matter under consideration. The exercise of immigration enforcement authority, however, by participating LASD personnel shall occur only as provided in this MOU and shall be limited to activities at Los Angeles County jail facilities.

II. AUTHORITY

Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g), as amended by the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-276, authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary for Border and Transportation Security, to enter into written agreements with a State or any political subdivision of a State so that qualified personnel can perform certain functions of an immigration officer. This MOU constitutes such a written agreement.

III. POLICY

This MOU sets forth the scope of the immigration officer functions that DHS is authorizing the participating LASD personnel to perform. It sets forth with specificity the duration of the authority conveyed and the specific lines of authority, including the requirement that participating LASD personnel be subject to ICE supervision while performing immigration-related duties pursuant to this MOU. For the purposes of this MOU, ICE officers will provide supervision for participating LASD personnel only as to immigration enforcement functions. LASD retains supervision of all other aspects of the employment of and performance of duties by participating LASD personnel.

Before participating LASD personnel will be authorized to perform immigration officer functions, they must successfully complete mandatory training in the enforcement of federal immigration laws and policies as provided by DHS instructors and pass examinations equivalent to those given to ICE officers. This MOU further sets forth requirements for regular review of this project.

As part of its commitment to the communities it serves, LASD may, at its discretion, communicate the intent, focus, and purpose of this project to organizations and groups expressing an interest in the law enforcement activities to be engaged in under this MOU. This MOU also describes the complaint procedures available to members of the public regarding actions taken by participating LASD personnel pursuant to this agreement.

Only participating LASD personnel who are selected, trained, authorized and supervised as set out herein have authority pursuant to this MOU to conduct the immigration officer functions enumerated in this MOU.

The ICE and LASD points of contact for purposes of this MOU are identified in Appendix A.

IV. DESIGNATION OF FUNCTIONS

For the purposes of this MOU, the functions that may be performed by participating LASD personnel are indicated below with their associated authorities:

AUTHORITY	FUNCTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The power to interrogate any alien or person believed to be an alien as to his right to be or remain in the United States. INA § 287(a)(1) and 8 C.F.R. 287.5(a)(1). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interrogate in order to determine probable cause for an immigration violation

AUTHORITY	FUNCTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The power and authority to administer oaths and to take and consider evidence. INA § 287(b) and 8 C.F.R. 287.5(a)(2). • The power to issue detainers. 8 C.F.R. 287.7. • Transportation of aliens. INA § 236. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete required criminal alien processing, to include fingerprinting, photographing, and interviewing, for ICE supervisor review • Prepare immigration detainers for aliens in categories established by ICE supervisors • Prepare affidavits and take sworn statements • Prepare a Notice To Appear (NTA) application for signature of ICE officer for aliens in categories established by ICE supervisors

In the absence of a written agreement to the contrary, the policies and procedures to be utilized by the participating LASD personnel in exercising these authorities shall be DHS policies and procedures, including the ICE Use of Force Policy. However, when engaged in immigration enforcement activities, no participating LASD personnel will be expected or required to violate or otherwise fail to maintain LASD standards of conduct, or be required to fail to abide by restrictions or limitations as may otherwise be imposed by law, or LASD rules, standards, or policies.

V. NOMINATION OF PERSONNEL

The Sheriff of Los Angeles County will nominate to ICE candidates for initial training and certification under this MOU. For each candidate nominated, ICE may request any information necessary for a background check and evaluation for suitability to participate in the project. All candidates must be United States citizens. All candidates will have at least two years correctional work experience for LASD. All candidates must be approved by ICE and must be able to qualify for appropriate federal security clearances. Should a candidate not be approved, a substitute candidate may be submitted, so long as such substitution happens in a timely manner and does not delay the start of training. Any future expansion in the number of participating LASD personnel or scheduling of additional training classes may be based on an oral agreement of the parties, but will be subject to all the requirements of this MOU.

VI. TRAINING OF PERSONNEL

ICE will provide appropriate training of nominated LASD personnel tailored to the designated immigration functions and types of cases typically encountered by LASD correctional personnel at a mutually designated site in Los Angeles County, utilizing ICE-designed curriculum and competency testing. Training will include presentations on this project, elements of this MOU, scope of immigration officer authority, cross-cultural issues, the ICE Use of Force Policy, civil rights law, the U.S. Department of Justice "Guidance Regarding The Use Of Race By Federal Law Enforcement Agencies" dated June 2003, public outreach and complaint procedures, liability and other relevant issues. ICE will provide all training materials. LASD is responsible for the salaries and benefits, including overtime, for any of its personnel being trained or performing duties under this MOU. LASD will cover the costs of all candidates' travel, housing and per diem while involved in training required for participation in this project.

All nominated personnel will receive specific training regarding their obligations under federal law and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations to make proper notification upon the arrest or detention of a foreign national.

Approximately one year after the participating LASD personnel are trained and certified, ICE will provide certified personnel with additional updated training on relevant administrative, legal and operational issues related to the performance of immigration officer functions, unless either party terminates this MOU pursuant to Section XVII, below. Local training on relevant issues will be provided on an ongoing basis by ICE supervisors.

VII. CERTIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION

The ICE Training Division will certify in writing to the ICE Special Agent in Charge in Los Angeles the names of those LASD personnel who successfully complete training and pass all required testing. Upon receipt of Training Division certification, the Special Agent in Charge will provide to the participating LASD personnel a signed authorization to perform specified functions of an immigration officer for an initial period of one year from the date of the authorization. ICE will also provide a copy of the authorization to LASD. The activities of all personnel certified under this MOU will be evaluated by the ICE supervisory officer as addressed in Section IX, below.

Authorization of any participating LASD personnel to act pursuant to this MOU may be revoked at any time by ICE or LASD. Such revocation will require immediate notification of the other party to this MOU. The Los Angeles County Sheriff and the ICE Special Agent in Charge in Los Angeles will be responsible for notification of the appropriate personnel in their respective agencies. If any participating LASD personnel becomes the subject of a complaint of any sort that may result in that individual receiving employer discipline or becoming the subject of a criminal investigation, LASD shall, to the extent allowed by state law, immediately notify ICE of the complaint. The resolution of the complaint shall be promptly reported to ICE.

Complaints regarding exercise of immigration enforcement authority by any participating personnel shall be handled in accordance with Section XII, below. The termination of this MOU shall constitute revocation of all immigration enforcement authorizations conveyed hereunder.

VIII. COSTS AND EXPENDITURES

Participating LASD personnel will carry out designated functions at LASD expense, including salaries and benefits, local transportation, and official issue material. ICE will provide training personnel, training materials and supervision.

IX. ICE SUPERVISION

Immigration enforcement activities of the participating LASD personnel will be supervised and directed by ICE supervisory officers in Los Angeles. Participating LASD personnel cannot perform any immigration officer functions pursuant to the LASD authorities herein except when working under the supervision of an ICE officer. Participating LASD personnel shall give timely notice to the ICE supervisory officer of any alien for whom the individual believes ICE arrest or detainer is appropriate to facilitate ICE action prior to any release from LA County custody. The actions of participating LASD personnel will be reviewed by the ICE supervisory officers on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance with the requirements of the immigration laws and procedures and to assess the need for additional training or guidance for that specific individual.

For the purposes of this MOU, ICE officers will provide supervision of participating LASD personnel only as to immigration enforcement functions. LASD retains supervision of all other aspects of the employment of and performance of duties by participating LASD personnel.

If a conflict arises between an order or direction provided by the ICE supervisory officer and LASD rules, standards, or policies, the conflict shall be promptly reported to the Special Agent in Charge or designee and the Los Angeles County Sheriff or designee when circumstances safely allow the concern to be raised. The Special Agent in Charge and the Los Angeles County Sheriff shall attempt to resolve the conflict.

X. LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

ICE and LASD understand and agree that except as otherwise noted in this MOU or allowed by federal law, they will be responsible for their own liability and bear their own costs with regard to their property and resources, or personnel expenses incurred by reason of death, injury or incidents giving rise to liability.

Participating LASD personnel shall not be treated as federal employees except for purposes of the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C.~ 267 1-2680, and worker's compensation

claims, 5 U.S.C. § 8101 *et seq.*, when performing a function as authorized by this MOU. 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)(7). It is the understanding of the parties to this MOU that participating LASD personnel will have the same immunities and defenses as do ICE officers from personal liability from tort suits based on actions conducted in compliance with this MOU. 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)(8). ICE will not be responsible for any intentional misconduct on the part of any participating LASD personnel.

Participating LASD personnel who are named as defendants in litigation arising from activities carried out under this MOU may request representation by the U.S. Department of Justice. Such requests must be made in writing directed to the Attorney General of the United States, and be presented to the ICE Special Agent in Charge in Los Angeles. The Special Agent in Charge will forward the individual's request, together with a memorandum outlining the factual basis underlying the event(s) at issue in the lawsuit to the ICE office of the Principal Legal Advisor, which will forward the request, the factual memorandum, and a statement of the views of ICE with respect to whether such representation would be in the interest of the United States to the Director of the Constitutional and Specialized Torts Staff of the Civil Division of the Department of Justice.

LASD agrees to cooperate with any federal investigation related to this MOU to the full extent of its available powers. It is understood that information provided by any LASD personnel under threat of disciplinary action in an administrative investigation cannot be used against that individual in subsequent criminal proceedings, consistent with *Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U.S. 493 (1967).

The *Giglio* decision (405 U.S. 150 (1972)) relates to disclosure of potential impeachment information about potential witnesses or affiants in a criminal case or investigation. As the activities of participating LASD personnel under this MOU are undertaken under federal authority, the participating personnel will comply with federal standards and guidelines relating to such cases.

XI. CIVIL RIGHTS STANDARDS AND PROVISION OF INTERPRETATION SERVICES

Pursuant to this MOU, participating LASD personnel will perform certain federal immigration enforcement functions. In doing so, these participating personnel are bound by all federal civil rights statutes and regulations, including the U.S. Department of Justice "Guidance Regarding The Use Of Race By Federal Law Enforcement Agencies" dated June 2003.

Participating LASD personnel will provide an opportunity for subjects with limited English language proficiency to request an interpreter. Qualified foreign language interpreters will be provided by the LASD as needed.

XII. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The complaint reporting and resolution procedure for allegations of misconduct by participating LASD personnel designated, or activities undertaken, under the authority of this MOU is included at Appendix B.

XIII. REQUIRED REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The ICE Assistant Secretary and the Los Angeles County Sheriff shall establish a steering committee that will meet periodically to review and assess the immigration enforcement activities that have been conducted pursuant to this MOU. The steering committee will meet periodically in Los Angeles County at locations to be agreed upon by the parties. These reviews are intended to assess the use made of immigration enforcement authority and to ensure compliance with the terms of this MOU. Steering committee participants will be supplied with specific information on case reviews, individual participants' evaluations, complaints filed, media coverage, and, to the extent practicable, statistical information on increased immigration enforcement activity in Los Angeles County. An initial review meeting will be held no later than nine months after certification of the initial class of participating LASD personnel under Section VII, above.

XIV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

LASD will, in its discretion, engage in community outreach with individuals and organizations expressing an interest in this MOU. ICE will participate in such outreach upon LASD request.

XV. RELATIONS WITH THE NEWS MEDIA

LASD hereby agrees to coordinate with ICE any release of information to the media regarding actions taken under this MOU. The points of contact for ICE and LASD for this purpose can be found at Appendix C.

XVI. MODIFICATION OF THIS MOU

Any modifications to this MOU must be proposed in writing and approved by the signatories.

XVII. DURATION AND TERMINATION OF THIS MOU

This MOU will be in effect from the date of signing until terminated by either party.

Either party, upon written notice to the other party may terminate it at any time. Such notice shall be delivered personally or by certified or registered mail. Termination of the MOU shall take effect immediately after receipt of such notice.

Either party may, upon written or oral notice to the other party, temporarily suspend activities under this MOU when resource constraints or competing priorities necessitate. Notice of termination or suspension by ICE shall be given to the Los Angeles County Sheriff. Notice of termination or suspension by LASD shall be given to the ICE Special Agent in Charge in Los Angeles.

Except for the rights of participating LASD personnel as described in Section X, this MOU does not, is not intended to, shall not be construed to, and may not be relied upon to create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any person in any matter, civil or criminal.

By signing this MOU, each party represents it is fully authorized to enter into this agreement, and accepts the terms, responsibilities, obligations and limitations of this Agreement, and agrees to be bound thereto to the fullest extent allowed by law.

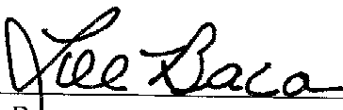
Asa Hutchinson
Under Secretary
Border and Transportation Security
Department of Homeland Security

Don Knabe
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles County

Date

Date

Michael J. Garcia
Assistant Secretary
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement


Leroy D. Baca
Sheriff
Los Angeles County

Date

Date

APPENDIX A

As called for in Section III of the MOU, the ICE and LASD points of contact for purposes of implementation of this MOU are:

For LASD: Charles M. Jackson, Chief
Correctional Services Division
450 Bauchet St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 893-5017

For ICE: Loraine E. Brown
Special Agent In Charge
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 7200
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 624-3800

APPENDIX B

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Appendix B: Complaint Procedure

This project is a joint effort between DHS/ICE and the Los Angeles County (California) Board of Supervisors, in which selected LASD personnel are authorized to perform immigration enforcement duties in specific situations under Federal authority. As such, the training, supervision, and performance of participating LASD personnel pursuant to the MOU, as well as the protections for individuals' civil and constitutional rights, are to be monitored. Part of that monitoring will be accomplished through these complaint reporting and resolution procedures, which the parties to the MOU have agreed to follow.

The MOU sets forth the process for designation, training and certification of certain LASD personnel to perform certain immigration enforcement functions. Complaints filed against those personnel in the course of their non-immigration duties will remain the domain of the LASD and be handled in accordance with LASD Manual of Policy and Procedures. The LASD will also handle complaints filed against personnel who may execute immigration authority, but who are not designated and certified under this MOU. The number and type of the latter complaints will be monitored by the steering committee established under Section XIII of the MOU.

In order to simplify the process for the public, complaints against participating LASD personnel relating to their immigration enforcement can be reported in a number of ways. The ICE Headquarters Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) and the LASD Inmate Reception Center will coordinate complaint receipt and investigation. The ICE OPR will forward complaints to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General (DHS OIG) as appropriate for review, and ensure notification as necessary to the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division (DOJ CRT).

The ICE OPR will coordinate complaints related to participating personnel with the LASD Inmate Reception Center as detailed below. Should circumstances warrant investigation of a complaint by the DHS OIG or the DOJ CRT, this will not preclude the DHS OIG, DOJ CRT or ICE OPR from conducting the investigation in coordination with LASD Internal Affairs Bureau, when appropriate.

The ICE OPR will adhere to established procedures relating to reporting and resolving allegations of employee misconduct, and the LASD Internal Affairs Bureau will follow applicable LASD policies and procedures, personnel rules, California statutes, and collective bargaining agreements.

I. Complaint Reporting Procedures

A. Dissemination of Complaint Reporting Procedures

Complaint reporting procedures shall be disseminated as appropriate by the LASD within facilities under its jurisdiction (in English and other languages as appropriate) in order to ensure that individuals are aware of the availability of such procedures.

B. Acceptance of Complaints

Complaints will be accepted from any source (e.g., ICE, LASD, personnel operating under the authority of this MOU, and the public).

C. Reporting Mechanisms

Complaints can be reported to federal authorities as follows:

1. Telephonically to the ICE OPR at the Joint Intake Center (JIC) in Washington, D.C. at the toll-free number 1-877-246-8253, or
2. Telephonically to the Resident Agent in Charge of the ICE OPR office in Long Beach, CA at (562) 980-3170, or
3. Via mail as follows:

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Office of Professional Responsibility
425 I St., NW
Room 3260
Washington, D.C. 20536

Complaints can also be referred to and accepted by any of the following LASD entities:

1. The applicable LASD Inmate Reception Bureau Commander;
2. The supervisor of any participating LASD personnel; or
3. LASD Internal Affairs bureau Unit as follows:

Operations Lieutenant
4900 Eastern Ave.
Commerce, Ca. 90040

D. Review of Complaints

1. All complaints (written or oral) reported to LASD directly, which involve activities connected to immigration enforcement activities, will be reported to the ICE OPR. The ICE OPR will verify participating personnel status under the MOU with the assistance of the Special Agent in Charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Los Angeles.
2. Complaints received by any ICE entity will be reported directly to the ICE OPR as per existing ICE policies and procedures.

For both of the above, the ICE OPR, as appropriate, will make an initial determination regarding DHS investigative jurisdiction and refer the complaint to the appropriate office for action as soon as possible, given the nature of the complaint.

3. Complaints reported directly to the ICE OPR will be shared with the Inmate Reception Center when the complaint involves LASD personnel. Both offices will then coordinate appropriate investigative jurisdiction, which may include initiation of a joint investigation to resolve the issue(s).

II. Complaint Resolution Procedures

Upon receipt of any complaint, the ICE OPR will undertake a complete review of each complaint in accordance with existing ICE allegation criteria and reporting requirements. As stated above, the ICE OPR will adhere to existing ICE reporting requirements as they relate to the DHS OIG and/or the DOJ CRT. Complaints will be resolved using the existing procedures, supplemented as follows:

A. Referral of Complaints to LASD Inmate Reception Center

The ICE OIA will refer complaints, as appropriate, involving LASD personnel to the LASD Inmate Reception Center for resolution. Inmate Reception Center will inform ICE OPR of the disposition and resolution of any complaints referred by ICE OPR.

B. Interim Action Pending Complaint Resolution

Whenever any participating LASD personnel are under investigation and subject to interrogation by LASD for any reason that could lead to disciplinary action, demotion, or dismissal, the requirements of LASD Manual of Policy and Procedures shall be honored. If appropriate, an individual may be removed from participation in the activities covered under the MOU pending resolution of an inquiry.

C. Time Parameters for Resolution of Complaints

It is expected that any complaint received will be resolved within 90 days. However, this will depend upon the nature and complexity of the substance of the complaint itself.

E. Notification of Resolution of a Complaint

ICE OPR will coordinate with the Inmate Reception Center to ensure notification as appropriate to the subject(s) of a complaint regarding the resolution of the complaint.

APPENDIX C

PUBLIC INFORMATION POINTS OF CONTACT

Pursuant to Section XV of the MOU, the signatories agree to coordinate any release of information to the media regarding actions taken under this MOU. The points of contact for coordinating such activities are:

For LASD:

Margarito Robles, Lieutenant
Inmate Reception Center - Classification Unit
450 Bauchet St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 893-5340

For ICE:

Garrison Courtney, Public Affairs Officer
Office of Public Affairs and Internal Communication
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
425 I Street, NW Room 7232
Washington, DC 20536
(202) 514-2648



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



May 25, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

On January 25, 2005, your Board granted approval for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The current status of the pilot program is outlined below:

- On April 26, 2005, ICE instructors began a four-week training session with seven Custody Assistants who were selected and approved for the pilot program after successfully completing a background check.
- On the eve of the training, Supervisor Molina advised the Sheriff's Department she wanted a representative from her office to observe the training. The Sheriff's Department approved the attendance of the representative over the objections of the ICE Academy instructors. Vicki Santana was present and actively participated in the entire first day of training.
- The Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) requested permission to attend the training. As it is the goal of the Sheriff's Department to be a transparent organization which is open to partnership with the community, the Sheriff's Department approved their request.
- On April 26, 2005, Captain Argott, Unit Commander of the Inmate Reception Center, and Sergio Guzman, ICE Academy Supervisor, met with Chief Klugman to discuss ICE objections to having non-law enforcement observers in the training program. The discussion focused on the issue of exposing these observers to law enforcement sensitive information. Although ICE officials agreed to allow a representative from Supervisor Molina's office, they refused to allow MALDEF or any other non-government representative to attend the training.

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- On April 27, 2005, due to the impasse between ICE and the Sheriff's Department, Chief Klugman temporarily suspended the training program.
- On April 28, 2005, the ICE instructors collected their training material and returned to their former assignments.
- Currently, the training program remains suspended pending resolution of the issue.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please call me or Chief Marc Klugman, of Correctional Services Division, at (213) 893-5017.

Sincerely,



LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF