

August 29, 2019

Dear Immigrant Communities:

As members of the Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force (LEITF), we want to assure you and communities across the country that local law enforcement serves to keep everyone safe.

Following the tragic Aug. 3 shooting in El Paso, Texas, and raids the following week in Mississippi, we know that many immigrants in our communities are afraid. We are here to serve all communities.

Our primary job is to maintain public safety. To do that, we need your trust. We want you to feel safe in our communities and comfortable calling law enforcement to report crimes, serving as witnesses, and asking for help in emergencies. When you feel safe and comfortable reaching out to us, we can keep everyone safer.

We need and are committed to protecting everyone in our communities. We cooperate with federal law enforcement to respond to threats in our communities — when our safety is at stake. But immigration enforcement is, first and foremost, a federal responsibility. We want to focus our limited state and local resources on threats to public safety and security.

Your trust is paramount to state and local law enforcement's ability to maintain public safety. Please continue to call on us. We are here to serve everyone who lives here and committed to keeping everyone safe.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Margaret Mims, *LEITF Co-Chair* Fresno County, CA

Chief Art Acevedo, *LEITF Co-Chair* Houston, TX

Chief Carmen Best, *LEITF Co-Chair* Seattle, WA

Executive Director Chuck Wexler Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

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Chief Mike Soelberg Gilbert, AZ

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Chief Wayne Jerman Cedar Rapids, IA

Director of Public Safety Mark Prosser Storm Lake, IA

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Sheriff Kevin Schneider Polk County, IA

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Sheriff Ed Gonzalez Harris County, TX

Sheriff J.E. "Eddie" Guerra Hidalgo County, TX

Chief Andy Harvey Palestine, TX

Sheriff Sally Hernandez Travis County, TX

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Chief Mike Brown Salt Lake City, UT

Chief Chris Burbank, Retired/FBI National Executive Institute Associates President Salt Lake City, UT

Chief Maggie A. DeBoard Herndon, VA

Chief Michael Koval Madison, WI

Sheriff David J. Mahoney Dane County, WI