



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

March 21, 2018

Dear Member of Congress:

Congress must act to pass legislation to secure our borders through enforcing immigration laws, tightening border security, support the replacement and upgrades to current barriers and fencing and construction of barriers along the U.S. and Mexico international boundary as requested by those areas where it is needed, suspending and/or monitoring the issuance of visas to any place where adequate vetting cannot occur, end criminal cooperation and shelter in cities, counties, and states, and have zero tolerance and increased repercussions for criminal aliens.

I stand firm with my fellow Sheriffs throughout our nation to have our borders secured first, in full cooperation and support of our promise and mission to uphold and enforce our nation's laws, and we expect nothing less from Congress.

As elected Sheriffs, we have taken an oath to do everything in our power to keep our citizens and legal residents, our communities, and our nation safe. Year after year, we have been warning the Federal government about detrimental increases in transnational drug trafficking, gang violence, sex trafficking, murder, and other escalating incidents of crime by illegal aliens entering our country.

Because Congress has failed to enact the necessary reforms, our citizens and legal residents face even greater dangers, our national security is more vulnerable, and our enforcement efforts have been seriously compromised.

Sadly, today some state and local officials have been enacting policies and giving lawbreakers shelter from being rightfully prosecuted and removed from our communities. In fact, these same laws forbid law enforcement agencies from cooperating with one another, and go as far as forcing the release of dangerous criminals into our communities exposing our citizens and legal residents to be victimized once again.

In a recent announcement a certain state has even stated that they will prosecute law-abiding, hard-working business owners if they cooperate with law enforcement to identify and remove lawbreakers from the community drives our justice system to a new low. We cannot have law-abiding citizens threatened with criminal prosecution for cooperating with the very people who they trust to protect them.

The Sheriffs of this nation and all our law enforcement partners understand that the oath we took to uphold and enforce our laws is the guarantee that they can trust us to preserve their safety and protect their well-being.

The failure of Congress to create legitimate and comprehensive immigration reform for more than 20 years has dramatically undermined our ability to keep our communities safe. This not only puts our law enforcement at serious risk for danger, but further puts them in an untenable situation of violating our oath and promise to enforce the law.

Further delay and inaction on immigration reform will cost more innocent lives, more financial hardships, and an even greater decline in the public trust that is essential to the preservation of our Republic.

Without border security and immigration reform, more Americans will continue to be victims of crime. Now is the time to act!

Sincerely,

Baldwin County, AL- Sheriff Huey “Hoss” Mack
Jackson County, AL - Sheriff Chuck Phillips
Columbia County, AR - Sheriff Mike Loe
Logan County, AR - Sheriff Boyd D. Hicks
Apache County, AZ- Sheriff Joe Dedman
Cochise County, AZ- Sheriff Mark J. Dannels
La Paz County, AZ- Sheriff Bill Risen
Mohave County, AZ- Sheriff Doug Shuster
Pinal County, AZ- Sheriff Mark Lamb
Yuma County, AZ- Sheriff Leon Wilmot
Greenlee County, AZ – Sheriff Tim Sumner
Pima County, AZ – Sheriff Mark Napier
Kern County, CA- Sheriff Donny Youngblood
Modoc County, CA- Sheriff Mike Poindexter
Nevada County, CA- Sheriff Keith Royal
Siskiyou County, CA- Sheriff John E. Lopey
Custer County, CO- Sheriff Shannon K. Byerly
Delta County, CO- Sheriff Fred McKee
Garfield County, CO- Sheriff Lou Vallario
Hinsdale County, CO- Sheriff Ron Bruce
Gilpin County, CO – Sheriff Bruce Hartman
Larimer County, CO – Sheriff Justin Smith
Banks County, GA- Sheriff Carlton Speed
Dade County, GA- Sheriff Ray Cross
Hart County, GA- Sheriff Mike Cleveland
Stephens County, GA- Sheriff Randy Shirley
Thomas County- Sheriff R. Carlton Powell
Twiggs County, GA- Sheriff Darren Mitchum
Union County, GA- Sheriff Mack Mason
White County, GA- Sheriff Neal Walden
Benewah County, ID- Sheriff Dave Resser
Kootenai County, ID- Sheriff Ben Wolfinger
Nez Perce County, ID- Sheriff Joe Rodriguez
Bannock County, ID – Sheriff Lorin Nielsen
Brown County, IL- Sheriff Karl H. Groesch
DeKalb County, IL- Sheriff Roger Scott
Ford County, IL- Sheriff Mark R. Doran
Kane County, IL- Sheriff Don Kramer
Knox County, IL- Sheriff Dave Clague

McHenry County, IL- Sheriff Bill Prim
McLean County, IL- Sheriff Jon Sandage
Marshall County, IL- Sheriff Rob Russell
Mercer County, IL- Sheriff David Staley
Ogle County, IL- Sheriff Brian E. VanVickle
Perry County, IL- Sheriff Steve E. Bareis
Piatt County, IL- Sheriff David Hunt
St. Clair County, IL- Sheriff Richard Watson
Stephenson County, IL- Sheriff David Snyders
Toulon, IL- Sheriff Steven Sloan
Floyd County, IN- Sheriff Frank Loop
Hancock County, IN- Sheriff Michael Shepherd
Jasper County, IN- Sheriff Terry J. Risner
Lawrence County, IN- Sheriff Mike Branham
Marshall County, IN- Sheriff Matthew Hassel
Montgomery County, IN- Sheriff Mark Casteel
Owen County, IN- Sheriff Leonard Hobbs
Warrick County, IN- Sheriff Brett Kruse
Adair County, IA- Sheriff Jeff Vanderwater
Adel County, IA- Sheriff Chad W. Leonard
Cerro Gordo, IA- Sheriff Kevin Pais
Clay County, IA- Sheriff Chris Raveling
Iowa County, IA- Sheriff Robert A. Rotter
Mills County, IA- Sheriff Eugene Goos
Palo Alto County, IA- Sheriff Lynn J. Schultes
Plymouth County, IA- Mike VanOtterloo
Sioux County, IA- Sheriff Dan Altena
Barton County, KS- Sheriff Brian J. Bellendir
Jackson County, KS- Sheriff Tim Morse
Kearny County, KS- Sheriff David G. Horner
Franklin County, KS- Sheriff Jeffrey O. Richards
Wyandotte County, KS- Sheriff Donald Ash
Grayson County, KY- Sheriff Norman Chaffins
Jefferson County, KY- Sheriff John Aubrey
Kenton County, KY- Sheriff Pat Morgan
Daviess County, KY – Sheriff Keith Cain
Fulton County, KY – Sheriff Robby Woods
Bossier County, LA- Sheriff Julian C. Whittington
Ouachita Parish, LA- Sheriff Jay Russell
Iberia Parish, LA- Sheriff Louis Ackel
Washington Parish, LA – Sheriff Randy Seal
St. Charles Parish, LA – Sheriff Greg Champagne
Barnstable County, MA- Sheriff James M. Cummings
Bristol County, MA- Sheriff Thomas M. Hodgson
Plymouth County, MA- Sheriff Joseph D. McDonald, Jr.
Frederick County, MD – Sheriff Charles a. Jenkins
Alger County, MI- Sheriff Todd Brock
Baraga County, MI- Sheriff Richard H. Johnson
Bay County, MI- Sheriff Troy R. Cunningham
Berrien County, MI- Sheriff l. Paul Bailey
Branch County, MI- Sheriff C. John Pollack
Charlevoix County, MI- Sheriff Charles Vondra
Chippewa County, MI - Sheriff Michael D. Bitnar
Crawford County, MI- Sheriff Kirk A. Wakefield

Delta County, MI- Sheriff Edward L. Oswald
Emmet County, MI- Sheriff Peter Walin
Grand Traverse County, MI- Sheriff Thomas J. Bensley
Gratiot County, MI- Sheriff Douglas Wright
Hillsdale County, MI- Sheriff Timothy Parker
Iron County, MI- Sheriff Mark Valesano
Kent County, MI- Sheriff Larry Stelma
Keweenaw County, MI- Sheriff William Luokkanen
Leelanau County, MI- Sheriff Mike Borkovich
Livingston County, MI- Sheriff Michael L. Murphy
Luce County, MI- Sheriff John Cischke
Mackinac County, MI- Sheriff Scott A. Strait
Manistee County, MI- Sheriff John O'Hagan
Mason County, MI- Sheriff Kim C. Cole
Midland County, MI- Sheriff Scott Stephenson
Montcalm County, MI- Sheriff Michael Williams
Montmorency County, MI- Sheriff Chad Brown
Muskegon County, MI- Sheriff Michael Poulin
Newaygo County, MI- Sheriff Bob Mendham
Oceana County, MI- Sheriff Craig Mast
Ogemaw County, MI- Sheriff Howie S. Hanft
Osceola County, MI- Sheriff James A. Crawford
Oscoda County, MI- Sheriff Kevin R. Grace
Otsego County, MI- Matthew J. Nowicki
Presque Isle County, MI- Sheriff Robert W. Paschke
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Van Buren County, MI- Sheriff Daniel E. Abbott
Wexford County, MI- Sheriff Trent Taylor
Pettis County, MI – Sheriff Kevin Bond
Anoka County, MN – Sheriff James Stuart
Beltrami County, MN – Sheriff Phil Hodapp
Kandiyohi County,, MN – Sheriff Dan Hartog
Kittson County, MN – Sheriff Steve Porter
Meeker County, MN – Sheriff Brian Cruze
Sherburne County, MN – Sheriff Joel Brott
Todd County, MN – Sheriff Don Asmus
Cedar County, MO- Sheriff James McCrary
Christian County, MO- Sheriff Brad Cole
Clinton County, MO- Sheriff Larry Fish
Newton County, MO- Sheriff Chris Jennings
Osage County, MO- Sheriff Mike Bonham
Jasper County, MS- Sheriff Randy Johnson
Lawrence County, MS- Sheriff Lessie Butler
Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, MT- Sheriff Tim Barkell
Madison County, MT- Sheriff Roger Thompson
McCone County, MT- Sheriff Dave I. Harris
Powder River County, MT- Sheriff Allen E. Drane, Jr.
Prairie County, MT- Sheriff Keifer D. Lewis
Sweet Grass County, MT- Sheriff Dan Tranrud
Haywood County, NC – Sheriff Greg Christopher

Henderson County, NC – Sheriff Charlie McDonald
Moore County, NC- Sheriff Neil Godfrey
Onslow County, NC- Sheriff Hans Miller
Rockingham County, NC – Sheriff Sam Page
Swain County, NC – Sheriff Curtis A. Cochran
Dixon County, NE- Sheriff Don Taylor
Douglas County, NE- Sheriff Timothy Dunning
Fairbury, NE- Sheriff Nels L. Sorensen
Gage County, NE- Sheriff Millard "Gus" Gustafson
Hooker County, NE- Sheriff Wynn Wiens
Kimball County, NE- Sheriff Harry J. Gillway
Nuckolls County, NE- Sheriff Brad Baker
Perkins County, NE- Sheriff James Bruggeman
Humboldt County, NV- Sheriff Mike Allen
Lyon County, NV- Sheriff Alvin McNeil
Hunterdon County, NJ- Sheriff Fred W. Brown
Monmouth County, NJ- Sheriff Shaun Golden
Somerset County, NJ - Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano
Salem County, NJ – Sheriff Charles Miller
Chenango County, NY- Sheriff Ernest Cutting
Delaware County, NY- Sheriff Craig S. Dumond
Essex County, NY- Sheriff Richard Cutting
Franklin County, NY- Sheriff Kevin Mulverhill
Herkimer County, NY- Sheriff Christopher P. Farber
Yates County, NY – Sheriff Ronald Spike
Cavalier County, ND- Sheriff Greg Fetsch
Eddy County, ND- Sheriff Paul Lies
LaMoure County, ND- Sheriff Robert Fernandes
McKenzie County, ND- Sheriff Gary Schwartzberger
Mercer County, ND- Sheriff Dean Danzeisen
Adair County, OK- Sheriff Jason Ritchie
Alfalfa County, OK- Sheriff Rick Wallace
Atoka County, OK- Sheriff Anthony Head
Beaver County, OK- Sheriff Reuben A. Parker, Jr.
Beckham County, OK- Derek Manning
Blaine County, OK- Sheriff Tony Almaguer
Bryan County, OK- Sheriff Johnny Christian
Caddo County, OK- Sheriff Lennis Miller
Canadian County, OK- Sheriff Chris West
Carter County, OK- Sheriff Chris Bryant
Cherokee County, OK- Sheriff Norman Fisher
Choctaw County, OK- Sheriff Terry Park
Cimarron County, OK- Sheriff Leon Apple
Cleveland County, OK- Sheriff Joseph K. Lester
Coal County, OK- Sheriff Bryan Jump
Comanche County, OK- Sheriff Kenny Stradley
Cotton County, OK- Sheriff Kent Simpson
Craig County, OK- Sheriff Heath C. Winfrey
Creek County, OK- Sheriff Bret R. Bowling
Custer County, OK- Sheriff Kenneth Tidwell
Delaware County, OK Harlan Moore
Dewey County, OK- Sheriff Clay Sander
Ellis County, OK- Sheriff Shane Booth
Garfield County, OK- Sheriff Jerry Niles

Garvin County, OK- Sheriff Larry K. Rhodes
Grady County, OK- Sheriff Jim Weir
Grant County, OK- Sheriff Scott Sterling
Greer County, OK- Sheriff Devin Huckabay
Harmon County, OK- Sheriff Joe D. Johnson
Harper County, OK- Sheriff Tra Snider
Haskell County, OK- Sheriff Tim Turner
Hughes County, OK- Sheriff Marcia Maxwell
Jackson County, OK- Sheriff Roger C. Levick
Jefferson County, OK- Sheriff Jeremie Wilson
Johnston County, OK- Sheriff Jon Smith
Kay County, OK- Sheriff Steve Kelley
Kingfisher County, OK- Sheriff Dennis Banther
Kiowa County, OK- Sheriff Jeff Smith
Latimer County, OK- Sheriff Jesse James
LeFlore County, OK- Sheriff Rob Seale
Lincoln County, OK- Sheriff Charlie Dougherty
Logan County, OK- Sheriff Damon Devereaux
Love County, OK- Sheriff Marty Grisham
Major County, OK- Sheriff Steven Randolph
Marshall County, OK- Sheriff Danny Cryer
Mayes County, OK- Sheriff Mike Reed
McClain County, OK- Sheriff Don L. Hewett
McCurtain County, OK- Sheriff Kevin Clardy
McIntosh County, OK- Sheriff Kevin Ledbetter
Murray County, OK- Sheriff Darin Rogers
Muskogee County, OK- Sheriff Rob Frazier
Noble County, OK- Sheriff Charlie Hanger
Nowata County, OK- Sheriff Richard Miller
Okfuskee County, OK- Sheriff R. Steven Worley
Oklahoma County, OK- Sheriff Paul D. Taylor
Okmulgee County, OK - Sheriff Eddy Rice
Osage County, OK- Sheriff Eddie Virden
Ottawa County, OK- Sheriff Jeremy E. Floyd
Pawnee County, OK- Sheriff David M. Waters
Payne County, OK- Sheriff R. B. Hauf
Pittsburg County, OK- Sheriff Chris Morris
Pontotoc County, OK- Sheriff John G. Christian
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Pushmataha County, OK- Sheriff BJ Hedgecock
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Rogers County, OK- Sheriff Clinton S. Walton
Seminole County, OK- Sheriff Shannon D. Smith
Sequoyah County, OK- Sheriff Larry Lane
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Texas County, OK- Sheriff Matt Boley
Tillman County, OK- Sheriff Bobby Whittington
Tulsa County, OK- Sheriff Vic Regalado
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Washington County, OK- Sheriff Rick Silver
Washita County, OK- Sheriff Roger L. Reeve
Woods County, OK- Sheriff Rudy Briggs, Jr.
Woodward County, OK- Sheriff Kevin Mitchell
Ashland County, OH- Sheriff E. Wayne Risner

Clermont County, OH Robert S. Leahy
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Union County, OH- Sheriff Malcum J. "Jamie" Patton
Butler County, OH – Sheriff Richard K. Jones
Gilliam County, OR- Sheriff Gary Bettencourt
Morrow County, OR- Sheriff Kenneth W. Matlack
Chester County, PA- Sheriff Carolyn B. Welsh
Berks County, PA – Sheriff Eric Weaknecht
Bradford County, PA – Sheriff Clinton “C.J.” Walters
Butler County, PA – Sheriff Michael T. Slupe
Beaver County, PA – Sheriff Tony Guy
Somerset County, PA – Sheriff Brad Cramer
Snyder County, PA – Sheriff John Zechman
Clearfield County, PA – Sheriff Michael Churner
Susquehanna County, PA – Sheriff Lance Benedict
Carbon County, PA – Sheriff Anthony Harvilla
Cameron County, PA – Sheriff Allen Neyman
Dauphin County, PA – Sheriff Nicholas Chimienti Jr.
Pike County, PA – Sheriff Kerry Welsh
Perry County, PA- Sheriff Steven Hile
Mifflin County, PA – Sheriff James Drayer
Lancaster County, PA – Sheriff Christopher R. Leppler
Blair County, PA - Sheriff James Ott
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Faulk County, SD- Sheriff Hurt Hall
Stanley County, SD- Sheriff Brad Rathbun
Sully County, SD- Sheriff Bill Stahl
Hughes County, SD – Sheriff Mike Leidholt
Dickson County, TN- Sheriff Jeff Bledsoe
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McMinn County, TN- Sheriff Joe Guy
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Borden County, TX- Sheriff Benny Ray Allison
Brazos County, TX – Sheriff Chris Kirk
Calhoun County, TX- Sheriff Bobbie BJ Vickery
Cochran County, TX- Sheriff Jorge De La Cruz
Collin County, TX- Sheriff Jim Skinner
Denton County, TX- Sheriff Tracy Murphree
Garza County, TX- Sheriff Terry Morgan
Hill County, TX- Sheriff Rodney Watson
Hood County, TX- Sheriff Roger Deeds
Jack County, TX- Sheriff Tom Spurlock
Jackson County, TX- Sheriff A.J. Louderback
Johnson County, TX- Sheriff Adam King
Lamb County, TX- Sheriff Gary Maddox
Lampasas County, TX- Sheriff Jesus G. Ramos
Lavaca County, TX- Sheriff Micah C. Harmon
Montague County, TX- Sheriff Marshall W. Thomas
Nolan County, TX- Sheriff David Warren
Parker County, TX- Sheriff Larry Folwer
Parmer County, TX- Sheriff Randy S. Geris
Randall County, TX- Sheriff Joel W. Richardson
Robertson County, TX- Sheriff Gerald Yezak

Rockwall County, TX – Sheriff Harold Eavenson
San Jacinto County, TX- Sheriff Greg Capers
San Patricio County, TX- Sheriff Charles Leroy Moody
Shackelford County, TX- Sheriff Edward A. Miller
Wheeler County, TX- Sheriff Wes Crites
Wise County, TX- Sheriff N. Lane Akin
Ochiltree County, TX – Terry L. Bouchard
Uintah County, UT- Sheriff Vance Norton
Utah County, UT- Sheriff James O. Tracy
Weber County, UT- Sheriff Terry L. Thompson
Bland County, VA- Sheriff Thomas J. Roseberry
Buckingham County, VA- Sheriff Billy Kidd
Wise County, VA- Sheriff R.D. Oakes
York-Poquoson County, VA- Sheriff J.D. Diggs
Bedford County, VA – Sheriff Mike Brown
Orange County, VT – Sheriff William Bohnyak
Klickitat County, WA- Sheriff Bob Songer
Hancock County, WV- Sheriff Ralph A. Fletcher
Jackson County, WV- Sheriff Tony J. Boggs
Burnett County, WI- Sheriff Ronald Wilhelm
Washington County, WI- Sheriff Dale K. Schmidt
Waupaca County, WI- Sheriff Bradley A. Hardel
Waukesha County, WI – Sheriff Eric Severson
Laramie County, WY – Sheriff Danny Glick
The Ohio Sheriffs' Association