



"Honoring family, education, and community through service and mentorship."

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## NLPOA

### Position Statement

#### Immigration Enforcement and Undocumented Citizen Victims of Crime

The NLPOA Board of Directors is committed to fulfilling our mission. We operate within specific, core values that are the bedrock of our organizations decisions.

*NLPOA mission statement - The mission of the association is to eliminate prejudice and discrimination in the criminal justice system (particularly law enforcement); to create a fraternal/professional association that provides support, advocacy, personal and professional development to its members; to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency; and to lessen neighborhood tension in minority communities through awareness and modeling.*

The values below speak directly to our concerns with immigration enforcement and citizen victims of crime. Specifically, Value 2 – To promote equality and professionalism in public safety and Value 4 – Bridging the gap between minorities and public safety fundamentally guide us. We are asking public safety officials to adhere to the following recommendations:

- ❖ It is imperative that law enforcement actions due to criminal activity within immigrant populations be carried out with dignity and respect for the sanctity of life regardless of an individual's immigration status
- ❖ Preserving the trust of minority communities that may also be at an additional disadvantage due to a second language is crucial. We strongly embolden public safety officers to assure victims and/or witnesses that their safety and the apprehension of the criminal element is our top priority
- ❖ We implore public safety officials and their respective organization's leadership to create bridges between immigrant communities in order to protect innocent individuals from being further victimized
- ❖ We must extinguish an immigrants fear of reprisal in order to gain the assistance necessary from these populations in order to successfully apprehend, prosecute and support deportation of violent criminals which may be embedded in their communities

#### NLPOA Core Values

1. *Keeping America safe*
2. *To promote equality and professionalism in public safety*
3. *Recruitment of minorities into law enforcement*
4. *Bridging the gap between minorities and public safety*
5. *Honoring family, education and community through service and mentorship*

Therefore, the board is providing this guideline to establish consistent dialogue for all local chapters of the NLPOA. One must understand that each city, county and state entity has different policies, issues and challenges. We rely on the local, county and state leadership to utilize professional, fair and transparent practices regardless of an individual's immigration status. The NLPOA remains steadfast in ensuring the equitable, non-biased, and judicious application of the law.

Respectfully,

*Cindy M. Rodriguez*

National Latino Peace Officers Association

National President