



Yuma County Sheriff's Office

May 18, 2015

Leon N. Wilmot
Sheriff

Matthew Catron
Director of Administrative
Services

Capt. Eben Bratcher
Commander
Detention Bureau

Capt. Joe Lackie
Support Section
Administrator
Detention Bureau

Capt. Mark Martinez
Commander
Patrol Bureau

The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

RE: Operation Streamline and Smart on Crime Initiative

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Leon Wilmot and I am the Sheriff of Yuma County in Arizona. As Sheriff of Yuma County, my primary duties are to serve and protect the citizens of my community, and to enforce the Constitution and the laws of the state of Arizona and our nation. As Sheriff, I follow the "Rule of Law" in my service to my community and my country, and expect the same from our federal administration. I firmly believe that the existing laws of our great nation should be fully enforced and that there should be no efforts to circumvent these laws. I also believe that it is the duty and responsibility of our federal government to ensure the safety and security of our nation. As such, the southern, northern and maritime borders should be effectively and efficiently secured.

With that being said, it's no secret that the sheriffs serving in counties along the U.S./Mexico border are in the epicenter of the border crisis. As a member of the Southwestern Border Sheriffs' Coalition, I can assure you that every border sheriff is dealing with the negative impacts resulting from the smuggling of contraband and illegal drugs; the exploitation of human beings; and the infiltration of criminals and subversives determined to cause harm to our counties, states and country. The quality of life normally enjoyed by our citizens is being jeopardized by an unsecure border that enables transnational criminals and their accomplices to prey on our citizens.

141 S. Third Avenue
Yuma, Arizona
85364-2255

Phone: (928) 783-4427
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www.yumacountysheriff.org

"Dedicated to Service"

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Federal law mandates border security. However, due to an order issued by your predecessor reducing prosecutions under Operation Streamline and his "Smart on Crime" Initiative, he in essence reduced the federal government's enforcement of our nation's laws regarding border security and the prosecution of undocumented aliens (UDAs) committing crimes against our citizens, our states and our nation. The USAG's lack of prosecuting this criminal element has left a significant burden on local governments not only to bear the costs associated with the apprehension, prosecution, and incarceration of this criminal element, but to also insure that this criminal element is not released back into society to continue to prey on our citizens. Working with limited budgets and staffing, border sheriffs struggle to find ways to enhance the quality of life and safety for those they serve and to deter those who cross our borders to promote their criminal activities. Unfortunately, without aggressive prosecution by your office of all those committing criminal acts as a result of breaching our border, the American people will continue to see a border that is an open opportunity for this criminal element to exploit.

Your predecessor's orders to U.S. Attorneys concerning Operation Streamline Prosecution Guidance, along with his Smart on Crime Initiative, only confirmed his lack of willingness to do his job. As a result of his policies, during fiscal year 2014, Arizona Sheriffs incurred over 30 million dollars in costs to house UDAs in our state. Of this total, the federal government only reimbursed Arizona Sheriffs approximately 1.5 million dollars. Yuma County alone requested reimbursement for over \$965,000.00; however, we only received approximately \$57,000.00.

Due to the failure of the USAG's Office to prosecute UDAs who committed crimes in Yuma County as of October 2014, I have enclosed a bill and am requesting reimbursement of the costs incurred by Yuma County for housing these criminals who otherwise would have been released into society with no repercussions for the crimes they committed. This amount does not include the costs for medical expenses or the costs to the courts for their time or the costs to the Office of the Public Defender. Please remit payment at your earliest convenience.

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In closing, I would ask that you reconsider the directives from your office in regards to Operation Streamline and the Smart on Crime Initiative. I would like to thank you for your time and consideration of my request. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me at (928) 539-7830.

Sincerely,



Leon N. Wilmot
Sheriff, Yuma County

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Enclosure



STATEMENT

Yuma County Sheriff's Office

141 S. 3rd Avenue
Yuma, AZ 85364
(928) 782-9871

STATEMENT NO. 1
DATE May 18, 2015

BILL TO Office of the U.S. Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

DATE	NUMBER OF PRISONERS	TOTAL DAYS SERVED	RATE	TOTAL
October-2014	1	139	\$78.34	\$10,889.26
November-2014	1	191	\$78.34	\$14,962.94
December-2014	15	1,487	\$78.34	\$116,491.58
January-2015	6	444	\$78.34	\$34,782.96
February-2015	30	1,789	\$78.34	\$140,150.26
March-2015	24	830	\$78.34	\$65,022.20
CURRENT				AMOUNT DUE
\$382,299.20				\$382,299.20

REMITTANCE	
Statement #	1
Date	
Amount Due	\$382,299.20
Amount Enclosed	

Make all checks payable to Yuma County Sheriff's Office
THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!