

# November U.S. Immigration Alert!

A Monthly Newsletter from National Immigrant Solidarity Network

November 2006 Issue, Volume 18

No Immigrant Bashing! Support Immigrant Rights!

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**New Anti-Immigrant Laws Signed  
But We'll Not Be Silent!**

**We'll Stand Up, Resist and Call to  
Immigrant Action!**

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**May Day 2007: Call to Action!  
National Mobilization to Support Immigrant Workers!**

A national day of community, youth, peace and justice movements in solidarity with immigrant workers and support immigrant rights!

<http://www.MayDay2007.org>

## Bush Signs Border Fence and Detainee Bill: An Analysis

[Immigration News Briefs, New American Media and Media Monitors Network] On Oct. 26 at a White House ceremony, President George W. Bush signed a bill authorizing 700 miles of new fencing along the nearly 2,000-mile US-Mexico border in what was viewed as an effort to boost anti-immigrant Republican candidates just before the Nov. 7 elections. "We have a responsibility to enforce our laws," said Bush. "We have a responsibility to secure our borders. We take this responsibility serious." [AP 10/26/06] The House of Representatives passed the Secure Fence Act on Sept. 14 by a vote of 283-138. The Senate approved it on Sept. 29 by a vote of 80-19.

The law authorizes the construction of at least two layers of reinforced fencing around the border town of Tecate, California, and across nearly the entire length of Arizona's border with Mexico. Another expanse would cover much of the southern border of New Mexico, and in Texas the fencing would cover the border areas between Del Rio and Eagle Pass, and between Laredo and Brownsville. The entire fence is supposed to be completed by the end of 2008. The law also orders the Department of Homeland Security to install surveillance cameras along the Arizona border by May 30, 2007. The homeland security secretary is to achieve "operational control" of the US border within 18 months using unmanned aerial vehicles, ground-based sensors, satellites, radar and cameras.

The bill includes no money for the fence, although a homeland security spending measure the president signed earlier in October included \$1.2 billion toward the border project's cost, including access roads, vehicle barriers, lighting and high-tech equipment. The entire fence project is expected to cost some \$6 billion.

## Why Border Fence is a Racist Division Wall

Three Native American nations and 23 tribes live in the borderlands between the United States and Mexico. The construction of the border separation fence will divide in two the ancient history of these peoples. "The land is the place God put us from time immemorial. I can't imagine that now it will be difficult to visit my family," because of the construction of the fence, said Louis Gussac, chief of the Koumeyaay nation located on both sides of the California border. O'odham, Cocopah and Kickapoo are the three Native American nations that will see their culture and land divided by a fence that is at least five feet tall.

The Kickapoo nation resides in the Eagle Pass area. These Native Americans see the fence that will be built there as a tragic sign. "The territory of this reservation will be permanently divided by the hand of man," said anthropologist and Kickapoo expert Rebeca Brush.

Throughout history, the Kickapoo have had to change their traditions. In the 17th century, they lived in the Great Lakes region. A century later they were displaced to Kansas and Texas. "It's truly a tragedy. The construction of the fence doesn't make any sense," says Jose Aranda, a member of the Kickapoo in Eagle Pass. The mayor of the city, Chad Foster, has expressed strong criticism of the fence. "It's a cure that is worse than the disease," he said before Congress approved the bill.

Furthermore, Mexican residents abroad threatened with organizing rallies in the United States to protest the construction of a border wall between both nations. Members of Somos America, Red Nacional de Jornaleros and other organizations announced they will also demand the US president George W. Bush respect Mexico, a nation with which it has important commercial treaties.

"The building of the fence is an insult, a slap on migrant people who historically have contributed to the social, economic and cultural development of the US," said Salvador Reza, leader of the Tonatierra organization. "That will be an enemy wall because that's the way northerners treat us," he affirmed.

### **America, Welcome to Martial Law?**

"Will Americans push for the repeal of the Military Commissions Act and avert Martial Law? Will Americans say no to the unilateral power grab of President Bush? Or will we continue to allow our rights to be openly subverted by the smokescreen politics of fear mongering."

The Act passed the House on September 29th with 96% of Republicans supporting and 83% of Democrats opposing legislation that allows American citizens to be labeled 'enemy combatants,' incarcerated, and tortured. Senator Arlen Specter warned before he inexplicably voted for the bill that the Act would 'take our civilization back 900 years.'

Amidst a whirlwind of political sloganeering, mudslinging campaigns, and a Congressional scandal, the public debate concerning the recent passing of the Military Commissions Act of 2006 has remained eerily silent.

Law professor Marty Lederman explains the 'really breathtaking subsection is subsection (ii), which would provide that UEC [Unlawful Enemy Combatant] is defined to include any person 'who, before, on, or after the date of the enactment of the Military Commissions Act of 2006, has been determined to be an unlawful enemy combatant by a Combatant Status Review Tribunal or another competent tribunal established under the authority of the President or the Secretary of Defense.'

Read literally, this means that if the Pentagon says you're an unlawful enemy combatant -- using whatever criteria they wish - - then as far as Congress and U.S. law is concerned, you are one, whether or not you have had any connection to 'hostilities' at all.'

For legal residents who are not citizens, the Military Commissions Act is far more dangerous. The Act 'encourages the justices to uphold mass detentions without the semblance of judicial review,' says Ackerman, entirely denying immigrants access to federal habeas corpus.

'Habeas corpus does not give you any new rights, it just guarantees you have a chance to ask for your basic freedom,' states Leahy, that is 'gone for the 12 million lawful, permanent residents who live and work among us, to say nothing of the millions of other legal immigrants and visitors who we welcome to our shores each year.

[Gone] for another estimated 11 million immigrants the Senate has been working to bring out of the shadows with comprehensive immigration reform.' The Act, he says, 'not merely suspend[s]the great writ of habeas corpus, it would eliminate it permanently. We do not have to worry about nuances, such as how long it will be suspended. It is gone.'

If there is any question that there is a concrete potential for the repeat of a mass detention program profiling Muslim Americans and peoples of immigrant communities, as with the World War II Japanese internment program, consider the \$385 million dollar contract awarded to Kellogg, Brown and Root - a Halliburton subsidiary - to construct detention and processing facilities on American soil; again, significant news that we did not get in mainstream media.

Will Americans push for the repeal of the Military Commissions Act and avert Martial Law? Will Americans say no to the unilateral power grab of President Bush? Or will we continue to allow our rights to be openly subverted by the smokescreen politics of fear mongering.

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### Detention and Deportation News

<http://www.immigrantsolidarity.org/detention.html>

### ICE release reports 7 days before election, detailing their "accomplishments"

From: [willcoley@gmail.com](mailto:willcoley@gmail.com)

October 30, 2006

ICE released their annual report on Monday: three months early and one week before the mid-term elections (see below). I think it would be a good idea for folks to call ICE Director Julie Myers at 202-514-2648 and ask why she released the report three months early, right before the elections. Tell her to leave electoral politics to politicians and start instituting just policies that protect immigrant families and don't terrorize communities. -Will Coley

P.S. Note how Julie's name is the first thing in the report...She's up for confirmation in January...

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2006

<http://www.ice.gov/pi/news/factsheets/2006accomplishments.htm>

Under the leadership of Assistant Secretary Julie Myers, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) achieved historic results in FY 2006. ICE set new records for enforcement activity, ended the long-standing practice of "catch-and-release" along the nation's borders, launched major new initiatives, transformed its detention and removal process, and improved its intelligence functions. Some of these milestones include:

\* **Set New Records for Worksite Enforcement:** Total arrests made in ICE worksite enforcement cases during FY 2006 reached a level that was more than seven times greater than in 2002, the last full year of operations for U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

\* **Ended "Catch-and-Release" Along the Borders:** The practice of "catch and release" for non-Mexican aliens existed for years and was one of the greatest impediments to border control. In 2006, the Department of Homeland Security and ICE re engineered the detention and removal process to end this practice along the border, an accomplishment considered impossible in 2005 when only 34 percent of non-Mexican aliens apprehended along the border were being detained.

\* **Set New Record for Alien Removals:** ICE removed more than 186,600 illegal aliens from the country in FY 2006, a record for the agency and a ten percent increase over the number of removals during the prior fiscal year. ICE also increased its detention bed space by 6,300 during the fiscal year 2006, bringing the current number of funded beds to 27,500 immigration detainees.

\* **Nearly Tripled the Number of Fugitive Operations Teams:** During FY 2006, ICE nearly tripled the number of fugitive operations teams deployed nationwide from 18 to 50. These additional teams maximized the efficiency of ICE immigration enforcement efforts to locate, apprehend and remove primarily criminal aliens.

\* **Created a National Center to Coordinate Deportation of Aliens Upon Release from Prison:** ICE created a national center that reviews aliens at all 119 federal detention facilities (as opposed to only 30 federal facilities in 2005), to ensure that criminal aliens are deported rather than released into society upon the completion of their sentences.

\* **Increased Arms and Strategic Technology Investigations:** ICE set a record in 2006 for arms and strategic technology investigations by providing additional training in this area, and doubling the number of personnel assigned to these investigations. Indictments in these cases increased by 81 percent over the prior year, while arrests rose 36 percent and convictions rose 13 percent.

\* **Targeted Transnational Gangs:** Through Operation Community Shield, ICE arrested some 2,290 gang members nationwide in FY 2006, and a total of 3,700 total since February 2005.

\* **Enhancing Worksite Enforcement Efforts.**

\* ICE arrested 716 individuals on criminal charges (against both employers and employees) and 3,667 individuals on administrative charges in worksite enforcement investigations.

\* Combined, these figures are more than seven times greater than the total number of individuals arrested in worksite enforcement cases by the INS in 2002, its last full year of operation.

\* Through "Operation Return to Sender", ICE arrested, closed the cases of, or otherwise removed 14,356 aliens from the fugitive/illegal population between May 26 and September 30, 2006. To date, 4,716 of the 14,356 aliens have been removed from the United States.

\* Expanding Partnerships with State and Local Authorities.

\* Since January, ICE has trained an additional 40 state and county law enforcement officers as part of the 287(g) program to provide targeted immigration enforcement by state and local authorities. ICE is currently negotiating agreements with additional state and local governments, and has created a new website to provide additional information about the program.

\* Using Technology to Enhance Data Entry of Immigration Violators and Fugitives.

\* Since the implementation of new electronic data entry procedures in January 2006, the ICE Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC) has entered a total of 64,706 new entries into the National Criminal Information Center (NCIC). By comparison, in FY 2005, the LESL entered just 14,004 entries into NCIC. The LESL completed more than 232,434 NCIC validations in FY 2006, compared to just 73,015 NCIC validations the prior fiscal year.

#### TRANSFORMING DETENTION AND REMOVAL

\* Ending "Catch-and-Release" Along the Borders.

\* ICE, in partnership with other DHS entities, is now detaining all illegal aliens apprehended along the borders for removal, effectively signaling the end of "catch-and-release."

\* As a result of the expanded use of Expedited Removal (ER) authority, the average length of stay in ICE custody for aliens placed in ER proceedings is roughly 19 days today, down from the average of 90 days for aliens placed in traditional removal proceedings before the Secure Border Initiative was launched.

\* Roughly 186,600 aliens were removed from the United States last fiscal year, a record for ICE and a ten percent increase over FY 2005. ICE removed 50,222 aliens from the United States via Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS) flights to foreign countries.

\* In May, ICE opened a new 500-bed facility in Williamson County, Texas that is specially equipped to meet family needs. In August 2006, only 28 family units were released, compared with 820 in the month before the facility opened, a 97 percent decline in family releases on the southern border.

\* Maximizing Bed Capacity.

\* In July 2006, ICE established the Detention Operations Coordination Center (DOCC), which allows ICE to maximize its detention capacity by monitoring detained dockets across the county in order to shift cases from field offices with limited detention space to those with available detention space.

\* The average daily population of immigrant detainees in ICE custody has risen from 19,000 to 26,000 since July, and ICE has increased detention capacity in the Southwest border area by deploying 6,300 new beds in 2006.

\* Transforming the Criminal Alien Program (CAP).

\* In June 2006, ICE launched a central interview and processing site for criminal aliens within the federal Bureau of Prisons called the Detention Enforcement and Processing Offenders by Remote Technology (DEPORT). Since June, DEPORT has processed more than 4,337 inmates in federal prisons eligible for removal and who previously may have slipped through the immigration process. Through DEPORT, ICE ensures that all criminal aliens in federal prison custody are processed for removal.

For the rest of the summary, please visit: <http://www.ice.gov/pi/news/factsheets/2006accomplishments.htm>

**Minutemen Watch: Projects of National Immigrant Solidarity Network**  
**<http://www.MinutemenWatch.net>**

**10/24 San Bernardino, CA: Labor union withdraws endorsement of Minuteman/SOS founder Joe Turner!**

**Union rescinds support**  
**Turner snubbed over immigration stance**  
**Charlotte Hsu, San Bernardino Sun, CA**  
**10/24/2006**

A San Bernardino City Unified School District union on Monday rescinded its endorsement for school-board candidate Joseph Turner, citing Turner's anti-illegal-immigration activism as a main motivation for its withdrawal of support.

The local chapter of the California School Employees Association, which represents mostly non-teaching workers, held a special meeting Monday after receiving a flood of e-mails from members concerned about Turner's views.

Union President Ken Holt said members voted to cancel the Turner endorsement because of accusations that the candidate was racist. Some members were angry after seeing Internet photographs showing Turner alongside neo-Nazis at a rally against day-labor centers, Holt said.

Turner, who gathered signatures for a failed initiative that would have prohibited city-funded day-labor centers in San Bernardino, has said he would bring his fight against illegal immigration to the schools if elected.

He said he would use a seat on the school board to try to eliminate distribution of district material, including parental notices, in Spanish. Turner also said he wants to challenge a Supreme Court ruling instructing U.S. schools to enroll children regardless of their immigration status.

Union members who initially endorsed Turner said they had liked his commitment to accountability in hiring within the school district.

Turner said despite the union's withdrawal of support, he will continue to advocate for fair hiring.

"In a way, it doesn't change a damn thing," he said. "Am I angry? Am I frustrated? Yes." But he added that, "It's not the first punch I've taken."

Turner also said he is not racist and would support educating all citizens, including children who are citizens but whose parents are illegal immigrants who don't speak English.

He said photos depicting him alongside neo-Nazis don't tell a fair story. He said he and his supporters left the rally as soon as the neo-Nazis arrived and did not welcome the white supremacists' presence.

About 60 people attended Monday's union meeting, open to all CSEA members. Holt said a larger turnout for initial endorsements - also open to the entire membership - could have prevented the need to rescind support now.

Saying a handful of complaints requires union leaders to schedule a recall vote, Holt said, "It kind of isn't fair, but it's a member-run organization."

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**Immigration News Briefs from Across the Country**

*Immigration News Briefs is a weekly English-language summary of US immigration news, e-mail: [nicaig@panix.com](mailto:nicaig@panix.com).*

**1. DEPORT FLIGHT SENDS 76 TO PAKISTAN**

On Oct. 11, a chartered Boeing 757 jet arrived in Islamabad, Pakistan, from New Jersey carrying 76 deportees, including two women. Some had served criminal sentences in the US, but most were deported for having violated immigration rules. The flight was accompanied by 18 US Marshals and immigration officials. The deportees were handcuffed throughout the

entire trip, from the time they left US detention centers until an hour after the plane landed in Islamabad. During the flight, one of the women deportees fainted and had to be revived with first aid, including oxygen. Upon arrival, the deportees were detained for about three hours while officials from Pakistan's Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) recorded their statements and took fingerprints. The FIA also confiscated the deportees' passports, and

threatened to fine them if the passports were found to be false. [*DAWN (Pakistan) 10/12/06; Daily Times (Pakistan) 10/12/06*]

## **2. NY: BUFFALO AREA FARM RAIDED**

On Oct. 4, special agents from US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested 28 Mexican immigrants working for Torrey Farms in Barker, New York, 40 miles east of Buffalo. The workers were living in a building owned by Torrey Farms. All 28 were placed in ICE custody and scheduled for removal hearings before an immigration judge. An ICE investigation found the workers had used false social security numbers to get their jobs. [*ICE News Release 10/4/06*]

## **3. AZ: RAID AT YUMA CONSTRUCTION SITE**

On Oct. 10, about 50 agents from ICE and the Border Patrol, with backup from local police and a helicopter, raided the construction site for a new high school in Yuma, Arizona. The agents detained seven workers for questioning and served search warrants on the offices of a site contractor. All those detained were employed by contractors working on the \$50 million Gila Ridge High School.

Five of the seven workers gave up their right to appear before a judge and agreed to be repatriated, said ICE spokesperson Russell Ahr. The other two will face deportation hearings. Their nationalities were not given. [*AP 10/12/06*]

## **4. LAWSUIT CHALLENGES DETENTION**

In a class-action lawsuit filed on Sept. 25, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California, the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project and the Stanford Law School Immigrants' Rights Clinic charged that ICE routinely holds immigrants longer than six months in defiance of the Supreme Court's June 2001 ruling in *Zadvydas v. Davis*. "These people have been kept away from their families, their communities and their lives for years--without even a hearing to determine if their prolonged detention is justified," said ACLU staff attorney Ahilan Arulanantham.

Two of the six plaintiffs named in the suit were released after the suit was filed. On Oct. 6, the ACLU asked US District Judge Terry Hatter to order the immediate release under supervision of the remaining four named plaintiffs, or grant them bond hearings. Arulanantham says immigration officials purposely avoid defending their policy in court, releasing only detainees whose attorneys file challenges. In order to force the issue to a hearing and prevent ICE from simply releasing the named petitioners and moving to dismiss the case as moot, the ACLU included as additional plaintiffs any unknown detainees in the same circumstances.

ICE spokesperson Virginia Kice said the *Zadvydas* ruling does not apply to immigrants who are fighting deportation. The agency is required to detain immigrants convicted of certain felonies or considered to be flight risks or threats to public safety or national security, Kice said.

Arulanantham said Justice Stephen Breyer's majority opinion in the *Zadvydas* case applies to a much broader group of immigrants. Arulanantham said that in any case two of his clients, Ebrahim Mussa and John Rasheed, were no longer fighting deportation; judges barred their removal because they might be tortured in their homelands, but the government is prolonging the legal battle with appeals. As for the mandatory detention of convicted immigrants, Arulanantham said Mussa and Rudolph Stepanian were convicted of crimes but have been released; only one of the four remaining plaintiffs has any prior convictions.

Niels Frenzen, director of the University of Southern California (USC) Law Immigration Clinic, said he believed the Supreme Court "was probably looking at people whose appeals were completed" in its *Zadvydas* ruling. But if the immigration agency "is cutting people loose just because the case is filed," perhaps government lawyers have concluded the ruling does apply to these immigrants, he added. [*Los Angeles Times 10/10/06; Washington Post 10/10/06 from AP; ACLU Southern California News Release 10/9/06*]

## **5. IL: LOCAL ORDINANCE POSTPONED**

On Oct. 3, the Village Board of Carpentersville, Illinois, postponed discussion of a proposed anti-immigrant ordinance after nearly 3,000 people showed up to oppose it. On the advice of the village attorney, the Board deferred a meeting on the measure until a larger location is found. The proposed ordinance would deny a business permit to any employer found to have knowingly hired undocumented workers; fine landlords \$1,000 if they rented apartments to undocumented immigrants; and make English the official language for village documents, forms and signs.

A similar ordinance in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, was approved by local officials but challenged in court by the ACLU. Under court orders, Hazleton halted plans to implement the ordinance and is considering a different one, according to the ACLU. [*Chicago Tribune 10/4/06*]

## **6. RAID AT MISSOURI PRODUCE COMPANY**

On Oct. 19 in Union, Missouri, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents executed criminal search warrants at Happy Apples and Lochirco Fruit & Produce and at two residences owned by the Happy Apples business owners. Agents arrested 33 immigrants in the raids; one is from Honduras, the rest are from Mexico. In an investigation sparked by a confidential lead, ICE determined that many Happy Apples employees were living and working in the US illegally, and many were residing in apartments owned by their employers. "Business owners and managers who knowingly employ or harbor illegal aliens are committing felonies, and may be criminally prosecuted," said Pete Baird, assistant special agent-in-charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Kansas City, which oversees the states of Missouri and Kansas.

Franklin County and Warren County Sheriff's Offices, helped ICE with the operation. The Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General; Department of Labor; Department of State; and Defense Criminal Investigative Services are assisting ICE with the ongoing investigation. [ICE News Release 10/20/06]

#### 7. "RETURN TO SENDER" RAIDS SPREAD

ICE agents arrested 163 immigrants from 11 countries in Lee and Collier counties in southwest Florida during the week of Sept. 18. The raids were part of the national "Operation Return to Sender," targeting immigrants who have failed to comply with deportation orders, or who have criminal records making them eligible for deportation proceedings. [Miami Herald 9/26/06]

ICE agents arrested 111 immigrants between Oct. 12 and 18 throughout the state of New Jersey. Of the 111 people arrested, 65 were targeted because of outstanding removal orders; another 46 were only violating immigration rules. Only 34 of the 111 people arrested had prior criminal records. The 111 immigrants were from Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Guatemala, Ecuador, Syria, India and Peru. [ICE News Release 10/19/06]

Between Oct. 16 and 19, ICE agents arrested 49

immigrants--including nine women and at least one minor in "Return to Sender" raids in southwest Idaho. Agents arrested 22 people in Boise on Oct. 16, and 27 others over the subsequent three days in the towns of Nampa, Caldwell, Meridian and Eagle. All those arrested were from Mexico, Guatemala and El Salvador; 31 of them had been removed to Mexico as of Oct. 20. ICE officers in Denver planned the sweep, which was executed by officers based in Boise, Denver, Helena (Montana) and Salt Lake City, with help from local law enforcement agencies including the Boise Police Department, Nampa Police Department, Caldwell Police Department, Canyon County Sheriff's Office, and Ada County Sheriff's Office. [ICE News Release 10/20/06]

ICE agents arrested 16 immigrants from Albania, China, Czech Republic, Ghana, India, Mexico, Nigeria, and Poland in the Chicago metropolitan area between Oct. 16 and 19 under "Operation Return to Sender." Thirteen of the 16 had prior criminal records. ICE was assisted in the operation by the US Marshals Great Lakes Fugitive Task Force. [ICE News Release 10/20/06]

ICE agents arrested 44 immigrants from Mexico, Peru, El Salvador, Guatemala, Colombia and Pakistan in Austin, Texas, in mid-October as part of "Return to Sender." [News 8 Austin 10/16/06]

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### **Letter: Asian American Organizations Condemn Anti-Latino Voter Intimidation in Orange County**

LOS ANGELES, October 20, 2006 - Asian American and Pacific Islander organizations in Los Angeles and Orange Counties are denouncing the recent use of mailers to Latino voters in Central Orange County, calling such tactic intimidating and illegal. The groups, the Los Angeles-based Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC), which also has an office in Orange County, the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA), and the Washington D.C.-based Asian American Justice Center (AAJC), also signed on to a letter earlier this week, along with numerous Latino organizations, in requesting an investigation by the U.S. and California Attorneys General into the matter.

The letter, in Spanish only, had apparently been sent last week to Spanish-surnamed naturalized U.S. citizens born in Latin American countries who are registered voters in Orange County. The mailer purportedly warns people that only U.S. citizens are permitted to vote, that voting by immigrants is a crime and a deportable offense, and that a host of immigration restriction organizations has access to a federal computer database of properly registered voters.

"The use of such mailer as an attempt to intimidate registered voters of Hispanic decent is an attack on all minority voters, including Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who are merely exercising their rights to vote under a democratic system," said Stewart Kwoh, executive director of APALC. "Any effort by any candidate or organization to threaten or intimidate voters in any fashion is an offense to our country's democracy and should not be tolerated," Kwoh continued.

"The use of such tactic is an attack on the entire immigrant community, which has been unfairly targeted, even scapegoated, in the past year amidst the nation's debate on immigration reform," said Karen Narasaki, executive director of the AAJC.

"This is a country of immigrants and the letter and this kind of tactic is not acceptable, and is morally and spiritually wrong," said Loc Nam Nguyen, director of the Immigration and Refugee Department of Catholic Charities in Los Angeles and a member of APALC's board of directors. "Voter intimidation is a justice issue and touches upon human rights, and should not be employed for political gains," Nguyen added.

While some media outlets have indicated that investigation into the letters is proceeding, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is calling for authorities to fully investigate and prosecute whoever perpetrated this intimidating tactic and/or committed any offenses in violation of federal and state laws. Meanwhile, APALC wants to remind immigrant voters that so long as they are naturalized citizens and duly registered to vote, they can and should vote in the November election.

Groups who have signed on for denouncing the use of these intimidating tactics and for calling for full investigation and prosecution of any and all offenses include the following:

Asian American Justice Center  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center  
Korean American Coalition - Los Angeles  
Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance  
Search to Involve Pilipino Americans  
Southeast Asian Community Alliance  
Vietnamese American Community of California  
Vietnamese American Public Affairs Committee

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**We need to reach our \$50,000 goals by the end of the October!**  
**Can You be part of the history to support us to support our immigrant organizing?**

Friends:

I am again personally appeal for fund raising appeals for National Immigrant Solidarity Network. This is the critical moments for the immigrant rights, and peace & justice movements! Right-Wing anti-immigrant, pro-war, anti-labor forces in the Washington D.C. are pushing their racist agendas to against immigrants and more money for the war. We need to continue organize ourselves to send our LOUD VOICE to the Congress and the President our mass dissent!

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ISN is a coalition of community, immigrant, labor, human rights and student activist groups, founded in 2002 in response to the urgent needs for the national coalition to fight immigrant bashing, support immigrant rights, no to the sweatshops exploitation and end to the racism on the community. Please visit our website:  
<http://www.ImmigrantSolidarity.org>

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