



**State of New Jersey**  
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DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
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**ATTORNEY GENERAL  
LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE NO. 2007-3**

These guidelines shall establish the manner in which local, county, and State law enforcement agencies and officers shall interact with federal immigration authorities.

While enforcement of immigration laws is primarily a federal responsibility, State, county, and local law enforcement agencies necessarily and appropriately should inquire about a person's immigration status under certain circumstances. Specifically, after an individual has been arrested for a serious violation of State criminal law, the individual's immigration status is relevant to his or her ties to the community, the likelihood that he or she will appear at future court proceedings to answer State law charges, and the interest of the federal government in considering immigration enforcement proceedings against an individual whom the State has arrested for commission of a serious criminal offense. When there is reason to believe that the arrestee may be an undocumented immigrant, the arresting agency is responsible for alerting federal immigration officials, the prosecuting agency, and the judiciary.

The overriding mission of law enforcement officers in this State is to enforce the State's criminal laws and to protect the community that they serve. This requires the cooperation of, and positive relationships with, all members of the community. Public safety suffers if individuals believe that they cannot come forward to report a crime or cooperate with law enforcement. Moreover, Article 1, Paragraph 22 of the New Jersey Constitution mandates that "a victim of a crime shall be treated with fairness, compassion and respect by the Criminal Justice System." Consistent with that constitutional mandate, as well as basic



principles of effective policing, victims, as well as witnesses and other persons requesting police assistance, should not be discouraged from approaching police officers out of fear of inquiry into their immigration status.

In 1996, Congress authorized federal authorities to delegate civil and criminal immigration enforcement authority to local, county and State agencies that enter into a written agreement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).<sup>1</sup> Regardless of any additional enforcement powers granted pursuant to an agreement with ICE, however, the primary function of local, county and State agencies must be to enforce State law and to ensure public safety in the community. The exercise of federal immigration enforcement authority by State, county or local law enforcement officers must therefore be consistent with, and in support of, their State law enforcement mission. In addition, unlike federal task forces, to which participating officers are assigned on a full-time basis and are under direct and constant federal supervision, Section 287(g) officers need not obtain federal approval before taking enforcement actions in the name of the federal government.

To further the priorities of strong relationships between law enforcement and all members of the community, as well as other fundamental principles of equal protection and civil rights, New Jersey has taken a leadership position in eliminating racially-influenced policing, or racial profiling. In 2005, the Attorney General issued Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive 2005-1, which prohibits law enforcement officers from engaging in racially-influenced policing. In that directive, the Attorney General formalized and mandated the great advances that have been made in the State in eliminating racially-influenced policing practices. Additionally, the Legislature has affirmed that it is against the policy of this State for law enforcement officers to use race or ethnicity as a basis for initiating an investigation. See N.J.S.A. 2C:30-5. Consistent with public policy, statute, and Attorney General Directive, law enforcement agencies must refrain from any law enforcement strategies that risk undermining – or which create the impression of undermining – the prohibitions on racially-influenced policing.

Accordingly, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of this State, and in furtherance of securing

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<sup>1</sup> See Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, codified at 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g).

the benefits of a uniform and efficient enforcement of the criminal law and the administration of criminal justice throughout the State, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-97 et. seq., I do hereby promulgate the following directives:

I. Arrest of Undocumented Immigrants for Indictable Offenses and Driving While Intoxicated (Applicable to all Agencies and Officers)

1. **When a local, county, or State law enforcement officer makes an arrest for any indictable crime, or for driving while intoxicated, the arresting officer or a designated officer, as part of the booking process, shall inquire about the arrestee's citizenship, nationality and immigration status. If the officer has reason to believe that the person may not be lawfully present in the United States, the officer shall notify Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) during the arrest booking process. The only exception to this requirement shall be if the County Prosecutor or the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice determines, in writing, that good cause exists to refrain from notifying ICE during the arrest booking process.**
2. **Notification to ICE may be made telephonically, by facsimile transmission, or by such other means as ICE may provide. The officer shall document when and by what means notification to ICE was made and the factual basis for believing that the person may be an undocumented immigrant.**
3. **Whenever a law enforcement officer notifies ICE about a suspected undocumented immigrant, notification shall also be made to the prosecuting authority that will handle the matter (e.g., the County Prosecutor in the case of an indictable charge), and to any court officer setting bail or conditions of pretrial release.**
4. **County Prosecutors shall on an annual basis report to the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice on the total number of notifications made pursuant to this Directive and the Director shall make the aggregate data public on an annual basis.**

II. Prohibition on Immigration Status Inquiries of Victims and Witnesses (Applicable to all Agencies and Officers)

5. **No State, county, or local law enforcement officer shall inquire about or investigate the immigration status of any victim, witness, potential witness, or person requesting or receiving police assistance. An exception to this requirement shall exist if: (a) the County Prosecutor or the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice determines, in writing, that good cause exists to inquire about or investigate the person's immigration status; (b) the person has been arrested for an indictable offense or for driving while intoxicated as set forth in Section 1 above; or, (c) as may be constitutionally or otherwise legally required during the criminal litigation discovery process.**

III. Standards for Agencies and Officers Who Enter Agreements to Exercise Federal Immigration Authority Pursuant to Section 287(g) (Applicable only to Section 287(g) Agencies and Officers)

Directives 6 through 12 apply only to those local, county, and State law enforcement agencies and officers performing functions of a federal immigration officer pursuant to an agreement with federal authorities under 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g). As used in this Directive, the term "Section 287(g) agency" means a State, county or municipal law enforcement agency that is a signatory to a written agreement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) authorized by Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g). The term "Section 287(g) officer" means a law enforcement officer employed by a Section 287(g) agency who has received the training required by Section 287(g) and is authorized by ICE to act as a federal immigration officer.

A. Provisions Applicable to Section 287(g) Officers in Detention Facilities

6. **A Section 287(g) officer may invoke or exercise federal authority under Section 287(g) with respect to any undocumented immigrant who is being detained in a county jail or State detention facility.**

B. Provisions Applicable to All Other Section 287(g) Officers.

7. A Section 287(g) officer may not exercise federal law enforcement authority under Section 287(g) unless and until the officer has arrested an individual(s) for violation of an indictable offense, or for driving while intoxicated, under State law.
8. Any law enforcement officer making inquiry or investigation into the immigration status of an individual arrested for an indictable offense, or for driving while intoxicated, shall document and report the inquiry to the officer's supervisor during the arrest booking process. The report shall include the individual's name, address, gender, date of birth, country/place of birth, race, ethnicity, location encountered, and shall specify the criminal offense that formed the basis for the arrest, the outcome of inquiry and investigation into immigration status, and indicate whether the individual was taken into custody or otherwise ordered detained based on immigration status. The officer shall attach the arrest report to the reporting document.
9. A Section 287(g) agency shall submit on a monthly basis to the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice all reports (with arrest report attached) produced pursuant to No. 8 of this Directive to ensure that immigration enforcement efforts are being performed in compliance with all applicable State laws, directives, and guidelines. The Director shall compile the information and shall make the aggregate data public on an annual basis.
10. A Section 287(g) agency shall enter into a written agreement with an appropriate ICE-approved detention facility or facilities to ensure that there is adequate space to hold potential federal detainees in addition to local, county, or State detainees. The agreement shall set forth the procedures established to ensure that the


detention of any individual solely on the basis of immigration charges comports with the requirements of 8 C.F.R. § 287.7. No agency shall exercise the authority granted by Section 287(g) prior to reaching agreement with a detention facility that meets the requirements set forth in this paragraph.

11. Nothing in this Directive shall limit the ability of local, county, or State law enforcement agencies to enter into written agreements authorized by Section 287(g) that impose greater restrictions on the agency's performance of functions under that agreement.
12. Directives 6 through 12 inclusive shall not apply to any officer who has been detailed on a full-time basis to a federal law enforcement agency or to a task force operated under the direct supervision of a federal law enforcement agency, provided that the officer is acting exclusively under the authority of federal law.

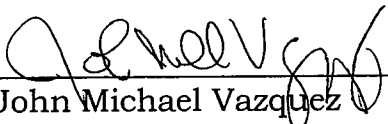
IV. General Matters

13. No law enforcement officer shall at any time engage in conduct constituting racially-influenced policing, as defined in Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2005-1. An officer or employee of a police agency in this State acting either under the authority of the laws of the State of New Jersey or pursuant to an agreement authorized by Section 287(g) shall not consider a person's race or ethnicity as a factor in drawing an inference or conclusion that the person may be an undocumented immigrant.
14. All questions concerning the interpretation, implementation or enforcement of this Directive shall be addressed to the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice, or his designee.

15. This Directive shall take effect immediately and shall remain in full force and effect unless and until repealed, amended or superseded by Order of the Attorney General.

  
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Anne Milgram  
Attorney General

ATTEST:

  
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John Michael Vazquez  
First Assistant Attorney General

Dated: August 22, 2007

**REPEALED &  
SUPERSEDED**