

For Immediate Release // Excuse Cross Postings // Please Distribute

Contact: B. Loewe bloewe@onpointconsortium.org. 773.791.4668

Date: October 6, 2010

NDLON Reaction to DHS Press Conference

(Los Angeles, CA) - Following today's DHS press conference spinning recent immigration enforcement data, Pablo Alvarado, director of the National Day Laborer Organizing Network issued the following statement:

"Broken immigration laws should not be multiplied. In an effort to score political points, Obama Administration immigration enforcement initiatives have imperiled community safety, separated families, eroded hard-earned civil rights protections and created a domestic human rights crisis. This administration cannot continue to have it both ways: it cannot simply blame Congress for inaction while ramping up enforcement of unjust status quo laws. It is a travesty that Secretary Napolitano continues to use her home state of Arizona as a blueprint for DHS policy."

Chris Newman, NDLON's legal director and general counsel added:

"We will continue to litigate our Freedom of Information Act request to uncover the truth about programs like Secure Communities. Both the left and the right should unite in their opposition to programs that have been deployed in secret and expanded the net of Department of Homeland Security with immeasurable impacts on basic civil liberties. S-Comm is a bad idea, it has been deployed with deception, and jurisdictions are increasingly saying 'no thanks' to the program. Secretary Napolitano's home state of Arizona has proven why it's dangerous to use local police as 'force multipliers' to amplify broken immigration laws. It's time for a public debate about whether we want to use local police to enforce federal civil law codes."

###