



El Puente

National Latino Peace Officers Association

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Honoring Family, Education, and Community through Service and Mentorship since 1972.

2007 - 2008 Executive Board



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Greetings from your President,

In the past six months since being elected, I have spoken with hundreds of members on the phone or via e-mail over that time span.

I have been enlightened with their concerns and what they feel the NLPOA needs to do to better itself. I can honestly say that each of them have the NLPOA's best interest at heart and have welcomed their thoughts and ideas.

I asked each of them to go through their State and National representatives to ensure we follow the SOP's we have in place in order to effect any type of change at the chapter level.

The COMMUNICATION process is improving but definitely has room to improve. I know in the next few months we will have some changes with respect to our legislative process and our member benefits.

Based on the input from the countless number of members we have the basis to grow even larger but at the same time ensuring we take care of the current members/chapters.

I look forward to working with each of you over the upcoming months and hope to see you at the National Spring Meeting and the National Training Institute.

May God Bless each and every one of you, while you protect our cities. across this great nation.

2007 Executive Board



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National Latino Peace Officer Association® 34th National Training Institute and Convention October 17 - 20, 2007 San Juan, Puerto Rico



Edwin Maldonado
East Coast Vice President
Plainfield, NJ

Greetings from the East Coast!

I invite all of members and friends to our 34th National Training Institute and Conference in Beautiful San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Puerto Rico Chapter has also scheduled a Golf Outing scheduled for October 17, 2007.

EXHIBIT SHOWCASE...An exposition offering attendees an excellent look at new products, services, and law enforcement products.

OPENING PLENARY SESSION... Is offered as a featured presentation by leading political figures that make and influence policy. This session is designed to set the tone for the captivated training that follows.

NATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE... 16-plus hours of meaningful and informative workshops on key issues that affect Law Enforcement in America. The presentations are offered through panel presentations, workshops and seminars.

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET... "Officer of The Year Award and Leadership Awards" are offered as a featured presentation showcasing the best in Law Enforcement today.

All information can be found in our web site at www.nlpoa.org. Should anyone need to contact me please feel free to do so at 1-908-623-9452.



Frank Balkcom
West Coast Vice President
Glendale, Arizona

Dear NLPOA Brothers and Sisters,

As we move forward to the exciting challenges that await us, I respectfully remind you of our Core Values which are Honoring Family and Community through Service and Mentorship®. In order for us to move forward we must continue to work together and enhance our vertical and horizontal communication within our Chapters, State and most importantly our National Boards. There have been issues and there will be more to come that have been sent out in regards to E.I.N.'s , Legislative activities and other issues that need to be addressed that have not been addressed as promptly as requested unfortunately due to the lack of response/s we must take a no response as an approval or disapproval based on the majority. Although, I believe in dispersed leadership in that all of us are leaders within our organization, I am of the opinion that we must be united in our movements and actions.

The days of self service must be discarded and left behind as we continue to accept the challenges that await us. I recently had the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C to the Latino Coalition Conference and was surprised to know how many Latino Organizations are out there in the business world seeking our partnership. It is only by creating partnerships with these organizations that we will all succeed and prosper. In closing, I remind you that the dreams of John Parraz and Vicente Calderon were the seeds that created this great and honorable organization and as care takers we must continue to nourish it so it may continue to flourish and grow.

Thank you all for everything that you do, it is only because of your dedication that we are where we are.

Please remember that “Coming Together is a Beginning, Keeping Together is Progress and Working Together is Success.”

God Bless you and your families and please be Safe...

Respectfully Submitted.

NLPOA at Washington D.C.
Senate Hispanic Leadership Summit
March 20-21, 2007



Jerry Hara-2nd Vice President San Diego Metro Chapter, Alan Alvarez-NLPOA National Advisor, United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, Hank Aguilar-NLPOA California Governmental Affairs Liaison. Additional Pictures: [March 20-21, 2007, NLPOA at Washington D.C. Senate Hispanic Leadership Summit](#)

National Advisor Alan Alvarez, California Governmental Affairs Liaison, Hank Aguilar and San Diego Metro Chapter 2nd Vice President attended the Republican Senate Hispanic Leadership Summit in Washington D.C. on March 20th and 21st 2007!

The Summit, Hosted by Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson. Florida Senator Mel Martinez provided a great networking opportunity for the N.L.P.O.A. to meet with leaders of the U.S. Senate and other Hispanic Leaders from throughout the United States. The topics included Immigration Reform, Education, Economic Development and Health care. The N.L.P.O.A. was well represented on the Law Enforcement and Latino role of the organization on the topic of immigration.

Several members of the audience, including other Law Enforcement representatives personally thanked National Advisor Alan Alvarez for his comments against local Law Enforcement having to enforce immigration issues. As he stated the N.L.P.O.A.’s position, It would be a un-funded mandate that would place a burden on local law enforcement and would take officers away from more serious criminal matters. It would also deter victims and witnesses from coming forward in the Latino communities and create distrust. Damaging Latino communities relationships that took years to build.

Alan Alvarez, Hank Aguilar, and Jerry Hara also were invited to the White House for a tour. Thanks to Hank Aguilar, they got to meet with White House Associate Director Jennifer Korn to discuss immigration reform. They also gave the White House the N.L.P.O.A.’s support for Attorney General Alberto Gonzales. They briefly met the Attorney General during the Senate Leadership Summit the next day.

(Continue on Page 4, Column 1)

On Thursday March 23rd National Advisor Alan Alvarez was sent to represent the N.L.P.O.A. at a strategy meeting on Immigration reform policy Hosted by Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez. This small gathering was attended by about 15 business leaders representing different business interests and corporations from across the United States.

The week spent in Washington D.C. was very productive for the N.L.P.O.A.

Other than meetings with our Government leaders, new contacts were also made at the summit for potential new chapters in Knoxville Tennessee and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reports receiving 475,000 reports to the CyberTipline!

ALEXANDRIA, VA – APRIL 24, 2007 – The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) today announced that it has just received its 475,000th report to its CyberTipline. These leads and tips have led to the arrest and successful prosecution of thousands of offenders. An estimated 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 10 boys will be sexually victimized in some way before they reach the age of 18. The CyberTipline provides a vital reporting mechanism to get leads into the hands of law enforcement.

CyberTipline reports are received in seven categories. However, more than 89 percent of the reports received were regarding child pornography. In recent years, NCMEC has observed a consistent growth in child pornography which is attributed to its commercial viability as well as the popularity of peer-to-peer networking sites, and widespread use of new technology such as digital cameras and videos. The statistics surrounding child pornography are alarming. An estimated 58% of children used in child pornography today are prepubescent and 6% are infants. NCMEC is seeing an alarming trend in which victims are becoming younger and younger, and images are much more violent. NCMEC is also seeing an increase in reports of online solicitation of children. Reports of online enticement of children for sexual acts represented the second largest number of reports received on the CyberTipline, and account for 5% of total leads received. During last week alone, 268 reports of online enticement were received, compared to 72 reports during the same week last year. An estimated 1 in 7 youth will receive a sexual solicitation over the Internet. The vast majority of the reports are received online through a special website: www.cybertipline.com.

About the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children NCMEC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. NCMEC's congressionally mandated CyberTipline, a reporting mechanism for child sexual exploitation, has handled more than 475,000 leads. Since its establishment in 1984, NCMEC has assisted law enforcement with more than 127,700 missing

child cases, resulting in the recovery of more than 110,200 children. For more information about NCMEC, call its toll-free, 24-hour hotline at 1-800-THE-LOST or visit its website at www.missingkids.com. Reprinted with Permission NCMEC Communications Department - (703) 837-6111 media@ncmec.org



Cecilia Armenteros-Chavez
National Secretary
Miami, FL

I am honored to have been elected as National Secretary for the National Latino Peace Officers Association. I thank the membership for their faith and confidence in my ability to serve in this position. I was fortunate to have met many members during the Las Vegas National Conference. But for those of you that I did not have an opportunity to meet, I would like to briefly introduce myself. I am a Florida attorney practicing primarily in the areas of family law, probate and real estate. During my thirteen (13) years in practice, I have also litigated cases in other areas, including traffic, juvenile, and civil (county and circuit). I am a member of the Florida Bar as well as the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida. I was raised in Miami and am happily married to Enrique Chavez (who happens to be President of the Miami Chapter of the NLPOA), a law enforcement officer with the City of Miami Police Department.

As a Hispanic female married to a police officer who immigrated to the United States at a very young age, I support the elimination of prejudice and discrimination in law enforcement. I want to assure the membership that I will serve dutifully during my tenure as National Secretary. Once again, thank you for your support.

National NLPOA Spring Meeting May 18-19, 2007 - Omaha, Nebraska!

Location: **Marriot Hotel**, 101 South 10th Street, Omaha, Nebraska. Contact Nick Yanez at nyanez@ci.omaha.ne.us or Rich Gonzalez @ 1-402-699-8140 or rgonzalez@ci.omaha.ne.us



Jeff Mallow
National El Puente Editor
National Web Master
NLPOA Miami Dade Chapter President, FL

The National Latino Peace Officers Association® invites you to become a part of El Puente! El Puente is the official publication of the National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA) and is published three times a year. The El Puente is distributed to more than 20,000 individuals and over 2,500 institutions and has been published continuously since 1976.

About the NLPOA: The National Latino Peace Officers Association is the largest Latino Law Enforcement Organization in the United States. With membership exceeding 20,000, NLPOA covers officers in almost every state and at all career levels.

The National Latino Peace Officers Association does not discriminate in its membership. As such, a percentage of our members are non-Latinos and have joined with us in supporting our goals and objectives.

NLPOA's goal is to promote equality and professionalism in law enforcement. We accomplish by providing our members, and members of the community, with career training, conferences and work shops and by promoting education, career advancement, mentoring, and a strong commitment to community service in all of our activities.

Why El Puente Newsletter: El Puente readers are members of the largest minority group in the country. By 2020 it is estimated that one out of every five U.S. residents will be Hispanic! El Puente is a fantastic source to cost-effectively target Latino law enforcement professionals and Latino members in the U.S. military and university systems.

We look forward to creating an El Puente advertising program for you. Contact nlpoa@bellsouth.net or 305-934-8525 to coordinate your advertising and to obtain current specials and advertising opportunities.

Jeff Mallow

National NLPOA El Puente Editor
nlpoa@bellsouth.net

Public Safety Broadband Network to Be Auctioned!

The National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA) supports a proposal submitted to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to set aside and preserve the 30 MHz block of 700 MHz spectrum for a public safety broadband network.

An auction of 60 MHz of spectrum in 700 MHz band is planned by the FCC. The planned auction as commercial use only spectrum. The FCC auction scheduled for 2008 and is required by law. The sale would leave insufficient contiguous spectrum to create a public safety network that could deliver high-quality broadband transmissions for public safety.

The NLPOA supports the following Proposal: Allocate a 30 MHz block from the planned auction of 700 MHz spectrum to be prioritized and managed for public safety communications; License the 30 MHz block to a Public Safety Broadband Trust; Design a network built to public safety specifications; Use private capital to fund a shared network. 99% population coverage; 65% terrestrial coverage; and satellite overlay.

Benefits of a Broadband Public Safety Network: provides a high performance, integrated, interoperable services and applications; provides a scalable architecture that adapts to meet the growing demands for high-speed data services; provides a cost savings derived from commercial, IP-based infrastructure; provides a highly reliable and secure communications; provides simplified operations with built-in interoperability; and provides an expanded coverage - both in-building and in rural areas.

We need an act of Congress NOW to preserve the 30 MHz block of 700 MHz spectrum for a public safety broadband network. By: The NLPOA Executive Board



NLPOA Virginia State Chapter meets with Virginia Governor Tim Kaine

to discuss Latino and Law Enforcement issues. Pictured from left to right: Henry Ruiz, Virginia State Vice President, Lenny Reyes, Virginia State President, Governor Tim Kaine, and Felipe A. Ortiz, Past National President.



Felipe Ortiz
Immediate Past President
Las Vegas NV

**Police Ethics - An Organizational Perspective:
A Survey of the Literature of Ethics and Organizational Policy**

By: Felipe A. Ortiz, MPA and Immediate Past National President.

Police in America, their purpose and role are complex and not readily understood. "Is their purpose to enforce the law, to preserve order, to catch criminals, to discourage crime, to reassure citizens that help is close at hand" (John Klenig, "Handle with Discretion" Michael Davis, *Police Discretion, and Professions*, page 15).

Why is police integrity an important issue in a democracy? Public confidence is integral to social order, economic development, and sound governmental processes. The police are the most visible symbol of government. Citizens view the quality of police service as an indicator of the quality of government. Police who are perceived as untrustworthy create fears and anxiety in citizens" ("Police Integrity Public Service With Honor," page 113).

"Some scholars have asserted that as job descriptions move from reactive to proactive policing styles, issues that relate to community policing, training and performance become more important. As departments evolve into community policing organizations, administrators must address a myriad of issues, such as decentralization, empowerment, leadership, recruitment and selection, organizational restructuring, problem solving and training (Michael L. Birzer, page 16).

"The Bureau of Justice Statistics indicates that officers spend 10% of patrol activity on criminal-related matters and the remaining 90% on a variety of service related calls, e.g. neighborhood disturbances, conflict resolution, etc." (Michael L. Birzer, page 17).

Part I - Community & Police History

The term police officer evolved in the late 1800's. Marshals, sheriff, magistrates, and deputies were used as peace officers. Traditionally the peace officer did not wear a uniform, but did wear a badge and was easily recognized by the town folk. The police officer replaced the peace officer and wore a uniform (Michael Davis "Police, Discretion, and Professions" page 15).

In the early 1900's, corruption in police departments was rampant in the United States of America. As a result, the police were withdrawn from the community and police departments began to use science and professionalism as the new model for law enforcement (Michael D. Wiotraski, page 102). This withdrawal

continued into the mid 1960's. The consequences were "communities characterized by advanced states of decomposition and disorganization" (IBID, page 103). The administration of justice was conducted with a lack of understanding of the communities they served (IBID, page 103). In the late 1960's, police departments began to establish Police-Community Relations Bureaus. However, because of the "serious community disruptions" in the 1970's, the police "abandoned" community relations (IBID, page 103).

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) was the Nixon's Administration's massive plan to transform American policing with federal money." This included monies for education in which one million law enforcement personnel were given monies to attend college" (Sidney L. Harris & Ray, "Policing a Class Society," page 77).

In the late 1980's and the beginning of the 1990's saw an increase of Community Oriented Policing, which continues today. "The development of community oriented policing represents a movement towards a reassessment of the role of the police in the community away from that of simply responding to crime to that of attempting to strengthen the ability of the communities to respond to the crime problem as a whole" (Michael D. Wiatrowski, page 105).

"The police are a legal institution operating at the intake level of a large criminal justice system. They take clues from prosecutors and judges. The U.S. Supreme Court, first under Chief Justice Warren Burger and under Chief Justice William H. Renquist, has handed down around 100 decisions since the 1970's that encourages aggressive police work, exaggerating the social interest in crime detection while minimizing the human interest in personal integrity and autonomy" (Sidney L. Haring & Ray, "Policing a Class Society," page 79).

The following sections will be published in future El Puente issues:

- Part II. Police - Professional or Quasi-Military?
- Part III. Organizational Philosophy
- Part IV. Police: A Physical Science or Social Science
- Part V. Police Discretion
- Part VI. Past Studies
- Part VII. Community - Social Contract Theory
- Part VIII. Informal - Police Culture
- Part IX. Police Officer's Beliefs/Attitudes
- Part X. Formal - Academy Training
- Part XI. Leadership & Conclusion

May 25 is National Missing Children's Day!

It's a reminder for all parents, guardians, teachers and other role models to make child safety a priority.

WHAT WORKS TO REDUCE GANG VIOLENCE



Juan Espinal
Sgt-At-Arms

NLPOA Washington D.C. Chapter President

The NLPOA-D.C. Chapter would like to report that we have added approximately 25 new members, with assistant of the past NLPOA President Felipe Ortiz, NLPOA President Roy Garivey, NLPOA VP Frank Balkcom, Hank Aguilar, Alan Alvarez, the Dallas chapter and other guest during their visit to D.C. Various Officers recruited in New York to work for the Washington, D.C. Police Dept. and were recruited to join the NLPOA organization. The new NLPOA members attended the 5 De Mayo Event at White House. Also attending were NLPOA N.Y. State Chapter president's Anthony Cruz and NLPOA N.Y. Chapter President Carlos Ortiz.

Juan Espinal and two NLPOA members traveled to the Dominican Republic and provided training to the Dominican National Police.

In addition, we are in the process of establishing a long over due national presence in the Nations Capital by opening an NLPOA Office, we have also arranged to have (10) VIP seats and a booth at the Police Week Memorial events, assisted several members with EEO issues, continue to provide guidance and assistance to the NY / NJ Port Authority Police, US Marshals and the Denver Colorado chapter with their upcoming discrimination Class Action Law Suit.

GANG PROBLEM STATISTICS –

By: Congressional Research Office, Gang Deterrence and Community Protection Act of 2005 (H.R. 1279)

- Gang Violence in America is a Growing Problem – 100 percent of all cities larger than 250,000 have reported gang activity.
- 8,000 -10,000 MS-13 Members are operating in 31 States.
- Over 631 Gang-Related Homicides Occurred in 2001.
- 819 Juvenile Gang Killings in 2003.
- Over 25,000 Gangs in more than 3,000 Jurisdictions.
- Estimate of Over 750,000 - 850,000 Gang Members in our Nation.
- Gangs have been directly linked to narcotics trade, human trafficking, identification document falsification, violent maiming, assault and murder, and the use of firearms to commit deadly shootings.

- Stiff Mandatory-Minimum Penalties for Crimes of Violence and Other Gang. Crimes to Gain Leverage to Secure Cooperation of Insiders to Solve Gang Crimes.
- Joint Task Forces of Federal, State and Local in order to Bring Federal Resources and Local Intelligence Together.
- Sharing of Intelligence among Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement.
- Juvenile Justice Reform to ensure that Violent Juvenile Gang Members are prosecuted for Acts of Violence.

NLPOA Alameda County Chapter, CA IN THE LINE OF DUTY HONORING THE FALLEN OFFICER

HONORED OFFICERS 2007

This May, 13-19, 2007 is National Police Week. The California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremonies: May 3, 2007, were held in Sacramento, California.

The Alameda County Chapter of the National Peace Officers' Association joins with California, and the Nation, honoring officers that have given their lives in the Line of Duty.

Please join chapter President Arturo Bautista, Sergeant, Oakland Police Department, In Remembrance of the sacrifice by our fellow Law Enforcement brothers:

Officer Rich May
East Palo Alto Police Dept.
EOW: Jan 7, 2006

Officer Earl H. Scott
CHP - Modesto
EOW: Feb. 17, 2006

Officer John Bailey
CHP - Rancho Cucamonga
EOW: Feb 25, 2006

Deputy Pierre W. Bain
Los Angeles Co. Sheriff's Dept.
EOW: March 23, 2006
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Sergeant Scott A. Hanson
Covina Police Dept.
EOW: July 3, 2006

HONORED OFFICERS 2007 continued

Officer Nick-Tomasito Birco
San Francisco Police Dept.
EOW: July 26, 2006

Officer Brent W. Clearman
CHP - Oakland
EOW: Aug. 6, 2006

Officer Landon M. Dorris
Los Angeles Police Dept.
EOW: Oct. 22, 2006

Deputy Jeffrey V. Mitchell
Sacramento Co. Sheriff's Dept.
EOW: Oct. 27, 2006

Deputy William Joe Hudnall
Kern Co. Sheriff's Dept.
EOW: Nov. 14, 2006

Officer Daniel S. Bessant
Oceanside Police Dept.
EOW: Dec. 20, 2006

Officer Bryan D. Tuvera
San Francisco Police Dept.
EOW: Dec. 23, 2006

NLPOA Miami Chapter Florida



Officer Enrique Chavez Miami Chapter President (Miami Police Department) and Master Sergeant John McLaughlin Miami Treasurer (Miami-Dade Police Department)

Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, held its' 2007 National Conference, in Seattle, Washington. This years conference coincided with Alpha Phi Sigma's election of its' National Officers. NLPOA member Enrique Chavez (Miami Chapter President) was re-elected to a two year term, as National Vice-President. Enrique is pursuing his Masters Degree, in Criminal Justice, at Florida International University. Also re-elected was Master Sergeant John McLaughlin (Miami Chapter Sergeant-at-Arms), as a

National Advisor. Along with his re- election, John was awarded the distinct honor of "Advisor of the Year."



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**New NLPOA-LA LEY,
Los Angeles City Chapter!**



Arturo Placencia, Chapter President

The National Latino Peace Officers Association Welcomes the officers of the Los Angeles Police Department, California and the more than 600 members of the NLPOA-LA LEY Chapter into the NLPOA Family of Chapters.



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2006 NLPOA OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

Cecilio Flores, Officer, San Diego City Schools Police, CA.
 (Left)

Henry Prendes, Sgt., Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, NV. End of Watch - 02/01/06 (Right)

NLPOA Joins a Travel Network!

Help the NLPOA with their Resource Development. The NLPOA has a travel website where NLPOA members and their families receive discounted prices and the NLPOA receives commissions on all travel, hotels, concerts, etc.

Visit www.nlpoatravel.com



Washington State Governor Gregoire attends the NLPOA 2007 Cinco de Mayo event in Seattle, Washington!

NLPOA Seattle Chapter President P. Diane Schneider (Left) and Governor of the State of Washington Christine O. Gregoire (Right).