



# Law Enforcement Officers Advocates Council

A Nonprofit Law Enforcement Advocacy Corporation  
Supporting Officers Defending America

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Date of Release: Immediate

## Advocates question latest DOJ/DHS agreements on Mexican border violence

Chino, CA –The Departments of Justice (DOJ) and Homeland Security (DHS) announced yesterday that they have signed a Letter of Intent with Mexico “to develop a coordinated and intelligence-driven response to the threat of cross border smuggling and trafficking of weapons and ammunition.” Agencies involved include the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), as well as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATFE) and Mexico’s Justice Department, the Procuradoria General de la Republica.

The Letter of Intent recommends a joint plan to develop cooperative protocols to investigate weapons and ammunition trafficking in the U.S. and Mexico, and improve information sharing between the two countries to better identify smuggling and trafficking trends and support bilateral investigation efforts. Additionally, DOJ and DHS recently signed Memorandums of Understanding between ATF and ICE to combat international firearms trafficking, and between DEA and ICE to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations.

We question the need for such agreements, for they are unnecessary between friendly nations with full diplomatic relations, and in fact show the unwillingness of the agencies to work together and enforce laws without written agreements in place, a situation that clearly defies logic.

Accordingly, several questions must be raised. Among them are the following:

- If one of the agencies violates the agreement, what is the penalty for such a violation?
- Where is the Border Patrol? The Patrol is the agency primarily responsible for the interdiction of illegal entries of persons and contraband along our international borders.
- Where is the FBI? The FBI is considered our country’s premier investigative agency.
- Will this “Letter of Intent” call for the investigation of the Juarez femicides, where hundreds of innocent women have been kidnapped and murdered? If not, why not? Is that not a serious issue affecting both nations?

We feel that much like the “drug war,” this “Letter of Intent” is just another political tool designed to fool our citizens into believing that something is being done about drugs, weapons, and human trafficking when in fact it is business as usual along the border with Mexico. Our government has long ignored the southwest border and has favored more “politically correct” regions when allocating resources to combat these crimes.

LEOAC is made up primarily of retired senior federal law enforcement agents, civilian experts, and legal counsels. Its primary purpose is to educate the public about the duties and responsibilities of federal law enforcement agencies and provide advocacy for federal law enforcement officers in need of assistance. LEOAC can provide support to officers engaged in their duties regardless of agency or union affiliation.

Visit [www.AdvocatesCouncil.us](http://www.AdvocatesCouncil.us) to learn more about the LEOAC.

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