



The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties supports the Department of Homeland Security as it secures the nation while preserving individual liberty, fairness, and equality under the law.

DHS Secretary's Statement on the Supreme Court's Ruling on Arizona v. United States

"I am pleased that the U.S. Supreme Court confirmed that state laws cannot dictate the federal government's immigration enforcement policies or priorities. DHS remains focused on enhancing public safety and the integrity of our border by prioritizing enforcement resources on those who are in the country unlawfully and committing crimes, those who have repeatedly violated our immigration laws, and those who recently crossed our borders illegally. The Court's decision not to strike down Section Two at this time will make DHS' work more challenging. Accordingly, DHS will implement operational enhancements to its programs in Arizona to ensure that the agency can remain focused on its priorities. Over the past three and half years, this Administration has dedicated unprecedented resources to secure the border and to enforcing our nation's immigration laws in a firm and reasonable fashion. We continue to urge Congress to pass comprehensive reform because nothing short of a comprehensive solution will resolve the current patchwork of immigration laws. Finally, it is important to note that today's Supreme Court decision will not impact the memorandum I issued on June 15th related to prosecutorial discretion eligibility for productive members of society who were brought to the United States as children."

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CRCL Participates in CVE Conference in Canada

CRCL recently participated in a Canada-U.S. Joint Working Session on Countering Violent Extremism: *How to Build Local-Level Capacity and Empower Communities* in Ottawa, Canada. Public Safety Canada hosted U.S. and Canadian delegations to discuss and advance CVE collaboration as required by the 2011 joint declaration between President Obama and Prime Minister Harper, [Beyond the Border: A Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness](#) and the [Beyond the Border Action Plan](#) and in continuation of bilateral work underway since 2010. *Beyond the Border* articulates a shared approach to security in which both countries work together to address threats within, at, and away from our borders, while expediting lawful trade and travel.

During the two-day meeting, senior officials from the U.S. and Canada discussed several CVE topics to include, among many others:

- *Community Engagement* – Participants shared outreach and engagement best practices and materials and discussed joint engagement opportunities with shared border communities.
- *Law Enforcement Training* – Participants identified cross-border training opportunities for law enforcement and discussed sharing law enforcement training materials as they are developed and disseminated.
- *Research* – Participants discussed the importance of collaborating and coordinating research efforts where feasible.

CRCL Partners with State Department in Community Engagement CVE Exchange

This month, a CRCL representative traveled to Dusseldorf, Hamburg, and Berlin, Germany where he gave several presentations as part of a CRCL/State Department community engagement exchange program on countering violent extremism (CVE). While in Germany, the U.S. delegation met with community leaders from local governments, law enforcement, and civil society organizations to exchange CVE strategies and discuss best practices to facilitate community resilience and engagement. Such strategies ranged from implementing new programs to curb youth crime and violence to building relationships with communities to develop trust and coordination in countering violent extremism of all forms.

The U.S. delegation, representing Chicago and Seattle, included local community leaders and educators, local law enforcement officials, and an Assistant U.S. Attorney.

Later this summer, CRCL, in partnership with the State Department, will coordinate a program for German counterparts who will visit the U.S. to participate in various community engagement activities in Chicago.



State Department U.S. delegation in Germany

DHS Celebrates LGBT Pride Month

DHS celebrated LGBT Pride Month with a commemoration event hosted by DHS Pride, the DHS-recognized employee association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender employees. Secretary Napolitano delivered remarks at the event and received the “DHS Pride Award for Service” for her many years of dedicated service and her unwavering support of DHS policies and protections for LGBT personnel.

The Secretary noted the Department’s commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all employees and the important role that groups like DHS Pride have in building that common culture. She also acknowledged the large number of LGBT leaders in DHS, as well as specific accomplishments that many DHS Components have put forth to advance LGBT equality.

“We need to recruit and retain the best people from across the country to fill our jobs, and that means leaving no pool of talent untapped,” the Secretary said.



Secretary Napolitano receives the “DHS Pride Award for Service”

DHS Works to Implement a Zero Tolerance Standard for Sexual Abuse in Detention

On May 17, 2012, President Obama issued a presidential memorandum directing all federal agencies to take steps to implement the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), which was enacted to establish a “zero tolerance standard” for sexual abuse in detention facilities in the United States.

DHS takes President Obama’s mandate, and the issue of sexual abuse in detention, seriously. The Department has formed a working group to develop its own regulations that advance the goals of PREA, to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse. CRCL is participating in this effort, which will complement existing policies related to zero tolerance. DHS will provide its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) later this year.

This past May, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), after consulting with CRCL, promulgated a new directive on Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Response in order to comprehensively address and clarify procedures at the agency level relating to investigation, coordination, and response of sexual assault and abuse in immigration detention facilities. ICE’s [Performance-Based National Detention Standards 2011](#), issued in February, contain improved standards that provide greater protections from sexual abuse for detainees.

2012 Hurricane Season

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a near-normal 2012 Atlantic hurricane season, which will be less active compared to recent years. Forecasters at NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center say there’s a 70 percent chance that nine to 15 named storms will develop this season, of which four to eight will strengthen to a hurricane and of those one to three will become major hurricanes (ranking Category 3, 4 or 5).



This year marks the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Andrew, the Category 5 storm that devastated South Florida during what was an otherwise average hurricane season in 1992. While the outlook for 2012 is also mild, Hurricane Andrew serves as a reminder that we must all remain vigilant and prepared for this season’s storms and other natural disasters, especially those living and vacationing in hurricane-prone areas.

[Ready.gov](#) provides resourceful tips for what to do before, during and after a hurricane; along with important contact information for state and local emergency management agencies. Take Ready’s “[Pledge to Prepare](#)” to ensure that you and your family have plans in place for the 2012 hurricane season.

CRCL on the Road, June

June 6 – San Diego, California

CRCL representatives presented at the US Attorney’s roundtable meeting with Somali communities.

June 11-15 – Orlando, Florida

CRCL representatives participated in the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials 29th Annual Conference.

June 11-15 – Los Angeles, California

A CRCL representative attended a CVE conference sponsored in part by the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department and the Muslim American Homeland Security Congress.

June 14 – Goshen, New York

A CRCL representative participated in the New York Law Enforcement Outreach Conference to the Jewish Community.

June 15 – Hamilton, New Jersey

A CRCL representative attended the quarterly meeting of the New Jersey Department of Homeland Security's Interfaith Advisory Council.

June 21-22 – Washington, DC

A CRCL representative presented at the 32nd Annual American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee National Convention.

June 29 – Orlando, Florida

A CRCL representative presented at the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Convention.

June 19 – Chicago, Illinois

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

June 28 – Boston, Massachusetts

A CRCL representative coordinated the BRIDGES community engagement roundtable meeting with the US Attorney's Office.

June 28-30 – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

CRCL participated in the North American South Asian Bar Association's annual convention.

Additional information, and contacting us

The goal of this periodic newsletter is to inform members of the public about the activities of the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, including: how to make complaints; ongoing and upcoming projects; opportunities to offer comments and feedback; etc. We distribute our newsletters via an email list and make them available to community groups for redistribution. We also post information pulled from the newsletter on a webpage, [CRCL at Work](#). If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, want to request back issues, or have other comments or questions, please let us know by emailing crcloutreach@dhs.gov. If you are on this list, but no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to the same address asking us to unsubscribe you. For more information, including on how to make a civil rights or civil liberties complaint about DHS activities, see www.dhs.gov/crcl.

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