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PRESS RELEASE

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**NATIONAL LEADERS URGE PRESIDENT BUSH TO MANDATE A
TEMPORARY STOPPAGE ON RAIDS AND DEPORTATIONS**

“On a day when we celebrate love and family we are asking President Bush to have a heart and keep families together”



Washington D.C. and Albuquerque, NM- National and local leaders from across the country convene to call to action the ceasing of raids and to keep families together. Over 30 states are participating from coast to coast asking president bush a temporary moratorium on deportations.



In the recent weeks our country's laws and policy regarding immigrants' inhumane treatment, have become more surreal. Coalitions of community, civil rights and immigrant right groups, have expressed outrage about the detention of families and children saying it's immoral. The current immigration legislation requires a reasonable and just approach that goes beyond border and interior enforcement.

Over the past decade U.S. policies have been systematically and stealthily enmeshing immigrants in the criminal system and the war on terror, using detention and deportation as a critical tool. Immigrants detained in remote facilities, are enduring problems with abuse, discrimination and deplorable conditions. As a result, the raids do nothing to improve our immigration laws, what they do cause is fear among the workers, fear in our communities and have ripped families apart leaving children traumatized and alone.

“LULAC is asking for a temporary moratorium on these raids,” said Rosa Rosales, LULAC National President. “The process is having a negative impact on the immigrants,

local communities and the economy. It is causing psychological damage to the families who are being arrested and separated from loved ones.”

“These raids are occurring when Congress and the Administration are involved in a discussions about how to remedy our present immigration policies, gives the appearance that these incidents are specifically directed at discouraging the promising determination of our country to tackle immigration issues in a more productive and prudent manner,” said Paul A. Martinez, NM LULAC State Director.

In response to the raids that are breaking families apart, National leaders and organizations proposed a national day of press conferences across the country to demand a stoppage on raids and deportations.