

TALKING POINTS FOR NHLA SPOKESPEOPLE

- Earlier this year, leaders in Congress and all of America stood up and heard millions of Latinos and other immigrant communities as they organized for real comprehensive immigration reform, not just 700 miles of wall.
- We organized and we chanted, “Today we March, Tomorrow We Vote.” Well, we marched and now we must vote.
- That’s why the next and most critical step to take is to ensure that the millions of voices heard in the marches throughout our nation are heard again on Tuesday, November 7.
- The truth is every election, more Latinos register and vote, but there are millions more who don’t. Until our community makes its voices heard on election day, America and decision makers in Washington will not take us seriously.
- **In the 2006 election, there has never been more at stake for all Latinos living in this country.** The debate about immigration reform in Congress and across the nation is no longer about illegal immigrants, but about us. Congress and the media say that the laws they are passing and the debates they are having are only about keeping illegals out. But we know better. We listen and we know what we are hearing. What we hear is mean-spirited, it is about us and it is very anti-Hispanic.
- Make no mistake. This WILL NOT CHANGE until legislators, commentators, and other national leaders realize that the Latino community does not only take to the streets, but they understand the power of the vote and will no longer allow themselves to be marginalized and demeaned.
- It is incumbent upon EVERY member of our community to do our part. We need to engage in the political process here and now, and we need to help our brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, aunts and uncles, sons and daughters, friends and neighbors to do the same thing.
- It all starts with one person – it starts with you – the listener or viewer. You must do your part. If you are a citizen, register to vote. If you are registered, make sure you vote and take all your friends and family with you to ensure they vote.
- This is a great opportunity to translate voting, something often perceived as an individual act, into a communal act, one contributing not just to the well-being of our entire community but to the recognition that we deserve dignity and respect as important and contributing members of American society.
- If we fail to show up in substantial numbers this November, we will sadly only have ourselves to blame and we will have no right to complain about all the anti-immigrant and anti-Hispanic legislation that will be passed by our Senators and Representatives.
- Be part of making history by adding your vote and your family’s vote and your friends’ votes to the millions of other Latino voices who, with your help, will show up at the polls and help make our voices heard.
- We need to make our legislators accountable for what they do. If we do not, no one else will. Until we really flex our political muscle, all the noise we make will only be that – noise. IT IS TIME FOR ACTION.
- MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. REGISTER. VOTE.