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**CONTACT:**

Sgt Mike Harlan (619) 336-4423

## **National City Police Chief Talks Border Security at White House**

*Chief Gonzales met with DHS Secretary Napolitano on jobs and public safety*

Washington, D.C. – Today, National City Police Department Chief Adolfo Gonzales met with senior Administration officials - including an hour-long discussion with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano in the White House - to discuss enhancing public safety and economic development in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

Chief Gonzales joined a delegation of sheriffs, police chiefs, and other officials from the Southwest border who traveled to share their on-the-ground perspectives, success stories lowering crime rates in their communities, and ideas on how to overcome existing challenges. In the morning, they also discussed the urgent need for Congress to appropriate more money for local law enforcement jobs. President Obama's American Jobs Act would address this need by allocating \$5 billion for state and local law enforcement and first responders, creating 40,000 new law enforcement jobs around the country and mandating expedited hiring through the Department of Justice's COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) Program.

In addition to Secretary Napolitano, the Southwest delegation met with Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Alan Bersin and representatives from the National Economic Council, the Domestic Policy Council, the Office of Public Engagement, the Department of State, and the Department of Commerce.

NDN, a leading think tank and advocacy organization based in Washington, DC, helped to organize the day's events. For more about NDN's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Border Initiative, go to: <http://ndn.org/programs/21st-century-border-initiative>

Contact Person: Sgt Mike Harlan (National City Police Department)  
(619) 336-4423 / [mharlan@nationalcityca.gov](mailto:mharlan@nationalcityca.gov)

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