



TO: Director Leroy Smith
South Carolina Department of Public Safety

FROM: Lieutenant E. C. Johnson
Commander, SCDPS IEU

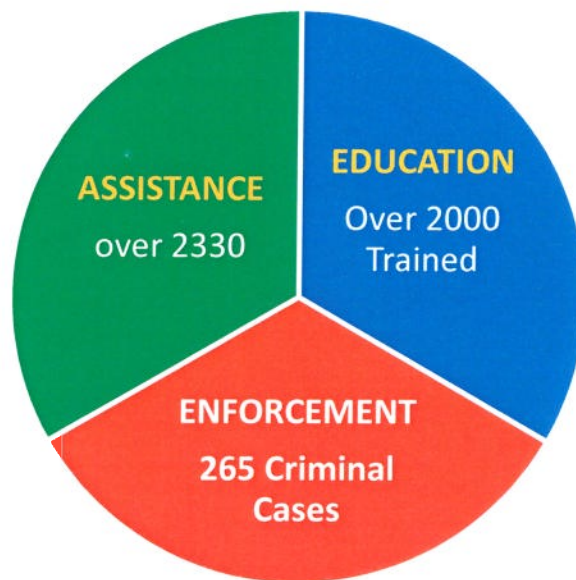
DATE: May 17, 2018

RE: SCDPS Immigration Enforcement Unit
Organizational Update

The South Carolina Department of Public Safety's Immigration Enforcement Unit (IEU) has functioned effectively over the past five and a half (5.5) years. From its beginning to its current status as a vital member of the South Carolina and national law enforcement community, the IEU has established itself as an indispensable immigration resource for Federal, State, County, and Municipal law enforcement and governmental service agencies. The IEU actively works both Federal and State criminal investigative matters involving foreign nationals. The IEU has active Memorandums of Agreements (MOU) with The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the South Carolina Attorney General's Office, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). In addition to its work with ICE HSI and the South Carolina Attorney General's Office, the IEU has or is currently working with or has assisted ICE Enforcement Removal Operations (ERO), the United States Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Internal Revenue Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Department of State, SLED, South Carolina Department of Revenue, South Carolina Highway Patrol and other state and local agencies with matters related to foreign nationals.



The Immigration Enforcement Unit's mission support functions are outlined below:



ENFORCEMENT:

The IEU has opened more than two-hundred and sixty-five (265) criminal investigative cases against foreign nationals illegally present. Approximately sixty-five (65) of the criminal cases opened by the IEU were adopted by ICE for federal proceedings at some point during the investigative process. Approximately one-hundred and thirty (130) arrests have been made as a result of the criminal cases



opened and more than three-hundred and ninety (395) criminal arrest warrants have been issued. Of the number of criminal arrest warrants issued, one-hundred and seventy-two (172) have resulted in a conviction and approximately eighty-eight (88) are pending some type of action. A breakdown of the types of warrants issued is outlined on page four of this document. The number of convictions outlined will be impacted by the number of offenders arrested and taken into custody by IEU Investigators and subsequently removed from state custody and taken into federal

custody by ICE ERO and placed into deportation proceeding before their state criminal case could be adjudicated.

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the IEU has opened more than two-hundred and sixty-five (265) criminal investigative cases against foreign nationals illegally present. Of the number of cases opened, more than one hundred (100) foreign nationals involved in those cases have been deported or placed into deportation proceedings. The IEU has also assisted ICE HSI and ERO with efforts to place more than three-hundred (300) additional foreign nationals into deportation proceedings.

During the tenure of the South Carolina Department of Public Safety's Immigration Enforcement Unit, the unauthorized immigrant population in South Carolina dropped from approximately 100,000 to 85,000, a decrease of approximately 15,000 unauthorized or illegal immigrants present in South Carolina

(PewResearchCenter, U.S. unauthorized immigration population estimates 2009 through 2014, document dated November 3, 2016).

ASSISTANCE:



The Immigration Enforcement Unit has opened more than two-thousand three hundred and thirty (2,330) immigration related incident reports of assistance to law enforcement and governmental agencies in South Carolina. Assistance has ranged from providing advice/information to individual officers and agencies to physically assisting agencies with criminal investigations, arrests and the execution of search warrants followed by the prosecution of offenders. Specific cases of assistance have included illegal drug cases, human trafficking, fraud, forgery, kidnapping, homicide, criminal domestic violence and other criminal cases.

EDUCAITON:

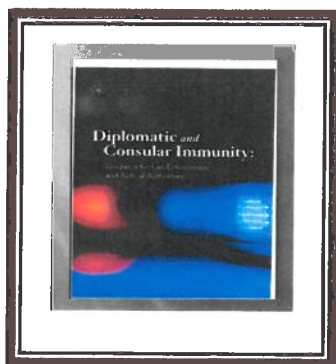
The Immigration Enforcement Unit has provided or sponsored immigration and Human Trafficking related training to more than two-thousand (2,000) law enforcement officers, judges, magistrates, prosecutors and other South Carolina governmental agencies. The IEU has sponsored law enforcement related Spanish training for more than fifty officers in South Carolina and developed a basic law enforcement Spanish training program to be delivered to law enforcement agencies in South Carolina. Specific courses presented have included basic immigration enforcement training, consular notification training, human trafficking recognition and investigation training and basic Spanish training for law enforcement officers.



Title 19 Federal Cross-Designation

At present three members of the Immigration Enforcement Unit have Title 19 Cross-Designations under the United States Department of Homeland Security. At present all ICE Task Force operations are under review by the Department of Homeland Security.

287g Program



The 287g Task Force program, which was a Federal program that authorized law enforcement officers at the state, county and municipal levels in the field to enforce immigration laws was discontinued by the Federal Administration. The 287g Task Force program, when it existed, provided two important tools to state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies. First, it provided access to immigration related data bases that contain critical information on foreign national encountered by ICE and other federal authorities and second, it provided immigration enforcement authority to state, county and municipal officers in the field.

As a member of the ICE HSI Task Force, IEU Officers have direct access to ICE data bases with up to the minute information on foreign nationals to include all criminal related activities involving foreign nationals. Additionally, being a part of the ICE HSI Task Force, IEU Officers have direct access to ICE HSI Agents who are willing to provide the necessary immigration related authority when needed.

The ongoing partnership with ICE has allowed the IEU to provide the same kind of service that would have been delivered through the 287g Task Force program.

**Immigration Enforcement Unit Warrants Issued
(By Type)**

CHARGE TYPE	CHARGE TYPE
Forgery	Identity Fraud
Fraudulent Application	Perjury
Vehicle Title Fraud	Illegal Possession of Firearm
Resisting Arrest	Making/Selling False Identifications
Providing False Information	Drivers License Violation
Narcotics Violation	Perjury



IEU STAFFING/CURRENT ACTIVITY:

At present, the Immigration Enforcement Unit consists of seven (7) Officers and one (1) Administrative Assistant. IEU Officers are assigned to three (3) regional enforcement areas within South Carolina. Three Officers work out of the Greenville ICE HSI Office, two Officers work out of the IEU Blythewood Office covering the midlands area of South Carolina and coordinating enforcement efforts with ERO Fugitive Operations and one Officer works out of the Charleston ICE HSI Office covering the Coastal and Pee Dee area of South Carolina. The IEU has four (4) FTEs that remain unfilled because of budget shortfalls. The Officers work closely with ICE to handle immigration enforcement related issues that impact South Carolina. The Immigration Enforcement Unit has ongoing investigations that involve the South Carolina Department of Revenue (DOR), the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Enforcement Removal Operations (ERO) along with a number of county and municipal agencies within South Carolina.

The Immigration Enforcement Unit has worked concurrently with and continues to collaborate with the South Carolina Department of Labor, License and Regulations' (LLR) Office of Immigrant Worker Compliance on matters involving foreign nationals involved in criminal violations.

The Immigration Enforcement Unit is currently collaborating with the South Carolina State Commission for Minority Affairs regarding their efforts to establish and maintain a twenty-four (24) hour toll free telephone number and electronic website to receive, record, collect, and report allegations of violations of federal immigration laws or related provisions of South Carolina law by any non-United States citizen or immigrant and allegations of violations of any federal immigration laws or related provision. Under South Carolina Code, Section 8-30-10 (Recording and reporting allegations of federal law violations; centralized tracking database) the State Commission for Minority Affairs are tasked with this responsibility. The IEU will receive and respond to allegations of criminal law violations by foreign nationals illegally present reported through the State Commission for Minority Affairs.

BUDGET:

Under current state appropriations the Immigration Enforcement Unit receives \$545,069 (\$426,544 personnel/\$118,525 operating expense) along with \$207,050 for fringe totaling \$752,119.