

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**MAY 17, 2013**

**4:30 P.M.**

## **CHIEF CRAZE DISCUSSES IMMIGRATION AT WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING**

Greenbelt Police Chief James Craze joined senior law enforcement officials, including Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, at the White House, where they were briefed on the bipartisan immigration reform bill now in Congress. The briefing covered ways that the bill will strengthen border security and homeland security, the immigration debate's impact on community relationships and the need for comprehensive reform.

Chief Craze and other frontline law enforcement officials from across the country also talked about the roles, responsibilities, concerns and impact of local police forces serving communities with immigrant populations. "Having large numbers of undocumented immigrants creates opportunities for truly dangerous criminals to hide among them and compromise police work," Craze said. "Bringing them out of the shadows will encourage more community members to report crimes, serve as witnesses and cooperate with police, no matter their immigration status."

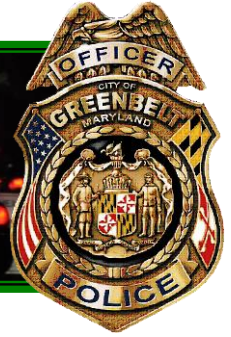
Law enforcement attendees had the opportunity to inform officials such as Department of Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano, Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council Cecilia Muñoz, Director of the Office of National Drug Council Policy Gil Kerlikowske, U.S. Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General Tony West and Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement Julie Rodriguez about the successes and challenges in their local jurisdictions, while also learning more about current policy and programs.

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# ***GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT***



Last month, the Senate’s bipartisan “Gang of Eight” introduced immigration bill S.744, including a conditional path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, reforms to the legal immigration system based upon the needs of the economy, creation of an employment verification system and an improved process for admitting future workers.

“We should be using every law enforcement tool available to keep dangerous criminals and drugs from illegally crossing the border into the U.S. and guns from moving to organized crime in Mexico,” Chief Craze said. “Practical, comprehensive reform will improve public safety by helping us focus our resources on these efforts.”

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