



# WESTERN STATES SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

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#### Washington

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## Western States Sheriffs' Association

### Position Paper

### No Confidence in DHS Secretary Mayorkas

The Western States Sheriffs' Association represents Sheriffs from 17 States. Our membership continues to work together to assist our nation's southern border Sheriffs in the ongoing crisis at the border. Over the past 10 months we have witnessed the continued breach of the border by illegal Immigrants who seek to find refuge in the United States. Many are hoping to reach our homeland in search of a life of freedom. Many will come here with a debt owed to the drug cartels of Mexico and South America. For some, reaching the United States marks the beginning of years of drug distribution, slavery, and prostitution in order to pay back the drug cartels for the privilege of being brought to the U.S.

This is not a new phenomenon. This has been occurring for decades. This is the reason our Border Patrol, southern border Sheriffs and Immigration and Customs enforcement exists. A concerted effort to curb the northward flow of illegal Immigrants has long been the focus of these enforcement officers. For the past several years, much effort and financial resources was focused on the southern border and a great deal of progress was made in limiting the number of illegal crossings.

Today we are witnessing a complete and total breakdown of efforts of the past several years. Over a million illegal crossings already this year. Hundreds of thousands of illegal Immigrants who we know for sure entered this country illegally and were never intercepted by law enforcement. What is significantly concerning is the fact that these are individuals from over 160+ different countries and some of those are from special interest countries with terrorist ties. The Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas was appointed and sworn into his position to follow the rule of law in securing our nation. Secretary Mayorkas is the head of the Department of Homeland Security and tasked with carrying out those public safety responsibilities delegated to the United States. Since his appointment we have seen his policies enacted that are personal and political ideologies that continue to dismantle the security of our country and the enforcement efforts of the hard-working federal officers assigned to an extremely difficult task.