



PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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August 5, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interim Report, Appendices, Board Summary on Illegal Immigration are Available on County Website

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY . . . The Police Department has placed on its website the interim report, the appendices and the summary report to the Board of County Supervisors on the Evaluation Study of the Prince William County Police Illegal Immigration Enforcement Policy.

The direct link to the web page is <http://www.pwcgov.org/default.aspx?topic=040074003460004636>. The documents can also be viewed by selecting "An Introduction" from the **Immigration Enforcement** topic menu on the main web page, then checking out the "Latest News" section.

The report outlines the interim report of the independent, non-partisan consulting group tasked with evaluating the illegal immigration enforcement policy and its impact on the Police Department, County government and the community. The evaluation team members are the University of Virginia, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) and James Madison University.

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors passed a resolution on July 10, 2007, that required the Police Department to undertake a greater role in immigration enforcement. As a result of this directive, the Police Department did two things: (1) developed a new policy, and (2) created a specialized group called the Criminal Alien Unit, whose members received specialized federal training that gives them the authority to enforce federal immigration laws.

On April 29, 2008, the Board of County Supervisors modified the original resolution, changing the mandated stage at which police officers are required to make citizenship status inquiries. As a result, police officers now question the citizenship or immigration status of all persons who are under physical custodial arrest for a violation of state or local law. If an immigration violation is believed to exist, police officers inform the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) concerning that individual.

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