



WESTERN STATES SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

474 Rogers Canyon Road
Laramie, Wyoming 82072
Telephone: 307 760 4075
www.westernsheriffs.org

2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD:

PRESIDENT
Sheriff Fred Lamphere
Butte County, SD

1st VICE PRESIDENT
Sheriff Leo Dutton
Lewis & Clark County, MT

SECRETARY
Sheriff Steve Rogers
Wallowa County, OR

TREASURER
Sheriff Brett Schroetlin
Grand County, CO

SGT AT ARMS
Sheriff Corey Helton
Lea County, NM

PAST PRESIDENT
Sheriff Tony Mace
Cibola County, NM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JAMES F. POND

State Representatives

Arizona
Sheriff Mark Dannells
California
Sheriff John D'Agostini
Colorado
Sheriff Tony Spurlock
Idaho
Sheriff Ben Wolfinger
Kansas
Sheriff David Groves
Montana
Sheriff Tony Harbaugh
Nebraska
Sheriff Bill Brueggemann
Nevada
Sheriff Ron Unger
New Mexico
Sheriff Tony Mace
North Dakota
Sheriff Pat Rummell
Oklahoma
Sheriff Shannon Smith
Oregon
Sheriff John Gautney
South Dakota
Sheriff Fred Lamphere
Texas
Sheriff Chris Kirk
Utah
Sheriff Steven White
Washington
Sheriff Dave Brown
Wyoming
Sheriff Danny Glick

RESOLUTION 2021- 3

WHEREAS; the Western States Sheriffs' Association Border Security Committee represents Sheriffs from seventeen states west of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS; all member Sheriffs of the Western States Sheriffs' Association take seriously our oath to uphold the law, support and defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic, and protect the safety our respective county's citizens; and

WHEREAS; the current lack of security on our border with the Republic of Mexico presents a clear national security concern as we do not know who is crossing the border undetected that might be an international bad actor wishing our citizens harm; and

WHEREAS; the current lack of security on our border with the Republic of Mexico presents a compelling public safety danger as extreme amounts of illegal drugs are being trafficked into our country leading to addiction and overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS; the current lack of security on our border with the Republic of Mexico presents a compelling public safety danger as hardened criminals and gang members exploit the lack of security to enter the country to further victimize our citizens; and

WHEREAS; the current lack of security on our border with the Republic of Mexico presents a human rights crisis as unaccompanied children cross, or attempt to cross, into our country and our victimized by the cartels, the environment and our inability to properly care of them once inside the United States; and

WHEREAS; the presentation at an international border by unaccompanied children trying to cross into another country with no adult oversight and without proper documentation to do so would be considered a crisis requiring immediate action anywhere else in the civilized world; and

WHEREAS; transnational criminal organizations and drug trafficking organizations are leveraging the introduction of unaccompanied children to the border to overwhelm border security resources in an effort to further their criminal interests and make easier the trafficking of narcotics into the United States; and

WHEREAS; our member Sheriffs recover the bodies of hundreds of undocumented immigrants in remote areas of our counties every year who have died at the hands of criminals or the harsh environment we understand that tacitly encouraging undocumented immigration is not compassionate public policy, but is in fact quite the opposite; and

WHEREAS; no matter how seemingly compassionate public policy toward undocumented immigration might be on the north side of the border we can do nothing to ameliorate the conditions on the south side of the border where migrants are victimized criminally, financially and sexually at the hands of the drug cartels who profiteer extensively from trafficking in humans; and

WHEREAS; our member Sheriffs are tired of the politics associated with border security coming out of Washington, DC, and absurd semantical gamesmanship with what to call the conditions on the border; and

WHEREAS; The Western States Sheriffs' Association, Border Security Committee believes that the current administration's policies, practices, and posture toward border security are contrary to the rule of law; and

WHEREAS; The Western States Sheriffs' Association, Border Security Committee firmly asserts that the current administration's policies and practices with respect to border security are incongruent with an understanding of the problem or seemingly a sincere desire to address it; and

WHEREAS; our members Sheriffs collectively have several hundred years of experience in border-area law enforcement and can affirm that conditions on the border have never been as bad as they are currently; and

WHEREAS; the Border Security Committee of the Western States Sheriffs' Association is concerned that our border communities are under increasing stress due to undocumented persons flooding over the border and overwhelming our nonprofits and NGOs to the point that they are unable to provide needed services to our citizens; and

WHEREAS; our member Sheriffs stand ready to assist our federal law enforcement partners in restoring security to the border region and restoring public safety to our communities without adopting responsibility for a clear federal responsibility, which is security of the border and enforcement of federal immigration laws; and

WHEREAS; the Border Security Committee of the Western States Sheriffs' Association believes that the current conditions on our border with the Republic of Mexico are untenable, unsafe, and unsustainable; and

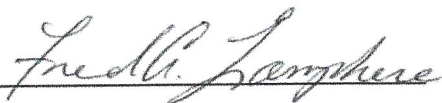
WHEREAS; the Border Security Committee of the Western States Sheriffs' Association demands immediate action from Washington, DC to recognize the conditions we face, partner with Border Sheriffs in reaching community-based solutions, cease with the political blame-game, and restore policies/practices that will secure our border; and

WHEREAS; the Border Security Committee of the Western States Sheriffs' Association holds no animus toward any person, group of persons or nationality. Our desire for border security is grounded in three unimpeachable reasons they are national security, public safety and human rights; and

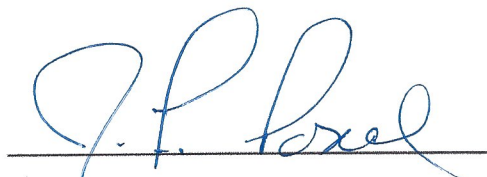
RESOLVED; the Western States Sheriffs' Association Border Security Committee recommends the following:

1. The current administration should acknowledge with absolute clarity of language that a national security, public safety and humanitarian crisis exists on the border to galvanize our national efforts to address it in a manner completely devoid of politics.
2. Federal policies must be changed to affirmatively address the crisis we face on the border.
3. Federal policies/practices must adhere to Federal Law.
4. Zealous federal pursuit, and prosecution, of transnational criminal organizations that are profiting by facilitating illegal immigration.
5. The Office of Health and Human Service take over the care of ill and/or minor illegal immigrants and allow Homeland Security personnel to return to their appropriate duties.
6. A re-deployment of federal law enforcement personnel to the border to enhance enforcement of current law.
7. Appropriations in sufficient amounts for Homeland Security and the sub-divisions under the umbrella of Homeland Security to address the crisis at the border.
8. The agencies under Homeland Security work in conjunction and active collaboration with the Border Sheriffs to combat the humanitarian and public safety crisis that has been created at the border.
9. Actively engage and communicate with our member Sheriffs to ensure proper captioning of the problems faced by border counties and ensure that solutions are effectively reached.

Be it resolved this 19th day of May 2021 at the Western States Sheriffs' Annual Conference in Reno, Nevada.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fred Lamphere". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Sheriff Fred Lamphere, President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Pond". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jim Pond, Executive Director