

5 facts about 287g

- 1. What is 287g?** 287g refers to a specific section of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1996. Under this section, the federal government can authorize state and local law enforcement to act as Immigration officers, racially profiling and arresting community members for deportation. Sheriff Arpaio of Arizona used 287g to wage a campaign of terror against immigrant communities. Sheriff Clarke has formally requested the guards at the Milwaukee County Jail be authorized under 287g. The program is totally discredited but Donald Trump is making a controversial attempt to revive it. Throughout Wisconsin, 38 chiefs of police and Sheriffs have declared they will not enroll in 287g.
- 2. 287g tears families and communities apart.** By arresting community members for deportation without regard to community and family ties, including those who have never been convicted of any crime, 287g separates immigrant families, causing immense hardship and traumatizing children.
- 3. By spreading fear of local law enforcement, 287g makes everyone less safe.** When thousands of community members are afraid to report crimes, including crime victims and domestic violence survivors, everyone is less safe. The International Association of Chiefs of Police opposes 287g, saying, "Without assurances that they will not be subject to an immigration investigation and possible deportation, many immigrants with critical information would not come forward." In the words of Milwaukee Police Chief Ed Flynn, "287g would create a climate of fear in immigrant communities."
- 4. 287g wastes taxpayer dollars and hurts local economies.** The few counties that have adopted the program face annual bills in the range of \$5 million, most of it unreimbursed by the federal government. In a Government Accountability Office survey of participating agencies, 62 percent reported that they did not receive *any* federal reimbursement for 287g. Maricopa County Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio's participation in 287g cost the county tens of millions of dollars in lawsuits and lost economic activity.
- 5. 287g increases racial profiling and discrimination.** Counties in Arizona, Georgia, and North Carolina have been found by the courts to have used 287g programs to engage in racial profiling. In Alamance County North Carolina, sheriffs set up checkpoints at the entrances to Latino neighborhoods, where Latino drivers were 10 times more likely to be arrested than non-Latino drivers. Nationwide sheriffs authorized by 287g have arrested Latinos for minor traffic violations and even for fishing without a license, only to place them in deportation. Sheriff Arpaio is currently facing jail for contempt after a federal court found his sheriffs authorized by 287g racially profiled community members.