



### AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

This Agreement of Understanding is made and entered by and between the Attorney General of Baja California of the United Mexican States and the Attorney General of New Mexico of the United States of America, hereafter the "interested parties."

*AG*

**WHEREAS** the United States of America and the United Mexican States are two sovereign and independent nations that share common values and a vision of prosperity and security for North America;

*[Handwritten signature]*

**WHEREAS** the United States of America and the United Mexican States maintain strategic linkages and established collaborative partnerships among numerous stakeholders at all levels of government and the private sector;

**WHEREAS** state attorneys general of the United States of America and the United Mexican States are committed to strengthening binational cooperation as expressed at the March 10-12, 2008 Meeting of United States – Mexico Attorneys General hosted by the Conference of Western Attorneys General and Mexico's National Conference of Attorneys General;

**WHEREAS** current international conditions and challenges to combat organized crime, as well as the recently enacted Merida Initiative, have magnified the role of state attorneys general in the United States of America and the United Mexican States to ensure justice, safety, and liberty to encourage economic prosperity for all citizens within their jurisdictions;

**WHEREAS** crimes such as human trafficking, weapons trafficking, money laundering, and Internet crimes against children transcend international borders thereby requiring effective and ongoing cooperation between state and federal authorities in Mexico and the United States;

**WHEREAS** the Attorney General of the State of Baja California and the Attorney General of the State of New Mexico wish to collaborate in joint efforts and projects that enhance binational cooperation, public safety and the exchange of criminal investigative best practices between both states;

**WHEREAS** the State of Baja California is undertaking significant judicial reform efforts, transforming its criminal justice procedures from a mixed inquisitorial and written system to an oral, adversarial and transparent system that enhances the use of scientific evidence in criminal prosecutions;

**WHEREAS** the criminal adjudication process in the United States of America is based on an adversarial criminal procedural system that bases its criminal investigations on scientific evidence;

**WHEREAS** both governments benefit from a stronger relationship and from actions that promote the rule of law and cooperation in both states;

**The interested parties commit to:**

- Share legal and educational knowledge through workshops, seminars and study tours;
- Exchange information on best practices in the area of criminal investigations;
- Offer educational exchange programs between institutions that operate in the criminal justice system, including the Office of the Attorney General;
- Share information and evaluation of new technologies, software and hardware;
- Exchange information and intelligence to investigate and prosecute human trafficking, weapons trafficking, money laundering, and Internet crimes against children cases;
- Work towards the creation of an exchange and training system that assists Baja California in the administration, management, investigation, and prosecution of criminals with special emphasis on internet crimes against children;
- Work towards an agreement wherein the Office of the Attorney General of Baja California and state police can learn investigative techniques with regard to crime scene forensics, procedures and policies; and
- Facilitate prosecutorial, investigative, and other personnel exchanges as needed to encourage ongoing training and information sharing opportunities;

**The Attorney General of New Mexico pledges to:**

- Provide administrative and management training to the Office of the Baja California Attorney General, including division of work assignments, creation of work groups, and assistance in the development of policy guidelines;
- Permit New Mexico prosecutors to provide training in the State of Baja California related to case management and organization as well as preparing cases for trial;
- Train Baja California investigators on investigating Internet crimes against children;
- Create task forces to combat Internet crimes against children and human trafficking between Baja California and New Mexico;

- Allow New Mexico prosecutors to conduct training in Baja California focused on preparing criminal cases, cross-examination, forensic interviewing, and preparation of witnesses and victims for trial;
- Share information, investigation and prosecution tactics and techniques on human trafficking cases;
- Provide training on establishing and administering an internal affairs unit;
- Share information on wanted criminals that might have fled to Mexico; and
- Provide a directory of key personnel at the New Mexico Attorney General's Office to facilitate task force work and sharing of information.

This agreement was developed in both English and Spanish and in case of any discrepancy the version in English will prevail. It is signed and ratified by the Attorney General of the State of Baja California of the United Mexican States and the Attorney General of the State of New Mexico of the United States of America on this second day of August of 2008 in Seattle, Washington.



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Lic. Rommel Moreno Manjarrez  
Attorney General of the State of Baja California



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Gary King  
Attorney General of the State of New Mexico