



RESOLUTION OPPOSING OPERATION STREAMLINE

Endorsed July 2014

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is the federal agency that is responsible for protecting the national security of the United States of America and its territories; and

WHEREAS, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is responsible for the enforcement of the immigration laws of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is responsible for enforcing U.S. trade, customs, and immigration regulations; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. immigration enforcement system is overloaded with removal cases;

WHEREAS, Operation Streamline is a DHS program that requires the federal criminal prosecution and imprisonment of all unlawful border crossers; and

WHEREAS, individuals caught up in Operation Streamline are placed directly into the federal criminal justice system and U.S. federal prisons in an expedited manner, with federal courts making deportation decisions sometimes in minutes or even a few seconds; and

WHEREAS, according to a study by the Congressional Research Service, from 2005 to the end of fiscal 2012 more than 200,000 people were processed through the Operation Streamline program; which accounts for nearly half of all immigration prosecutions along the border during that period; and

WHEREAS, Operation Streamline diverts time and resources away from prosecution and imprisonment of serious criminals, has resulted in skyrocketing caseloads in many federal district courts along the border, and raises serious due process concerns; and

WHEREAS, Operation Streamline is a disproportionately harsh response to unlawful entry into the United States; and

WHEREAS; the right to due process before the taking of life, liberty, or property is a core value of the United States legal system; and

WHEREAS, the enforcement of immigration law should uphold the United States' core values of justice and fairness; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CBAC calls for DHS to end Operation Streamline; and


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CBAC authorizes its officers and staff to communicate the content of this resolution to other minority bar association members, members of the U.S. Congress, the press, and to whomever else the CBAC Board deems suitable to receive the information; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the legislative priority of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

WE, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Directors.




 Miguel Alexander Pozo
 President, Hispanic National Bar Association

July 15, 2014
 Date


 William J. Simonitsch
 President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

July 15, 2014
 Date


 Patricia Rosier
 President, National Bar Association

July 15, 2014
 Date


 Mary Smith
 President, National Native American Bar Association

15 July 2014
 Date

