



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

VERNON P. STANFORTH
President

JONATHAN F. THOMPSON
Executive Director and CEO

May 9, 2022

The Honorable Doug Ducey
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: The National Sheriffs' Association Supports the *American Governors' Border Strike Force*

Dear Governor Ducey:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), we write to applaud you for your leadership, and the 26 Governors across the United States, in establishing the *American Governor's Border Strike Force*. Border Sheriffs are on the front-lines of the deteriorating border situation, and all across America, Sheriffs are also well aware of how the dire situation on the border is impacting interior communities nationwide.

The border crisis is a national security crisis, a humanitarian crisis, and a public health crisis as it fuels an increase in crime, including human trafficking; the spread of Covid-19; and out-of-control opioid, fentanyl, and other illicit drug deaths in every state.

Accordingly, it is our hope that the *American Governors' Border Strike Force* will generate the leverage needed to target the cartels, both operationally and financially. We believe the *Strike Force* can do this by: increasing collaboration amongst all levels of government; improving intelligence gathering and investing in analysis; targeting human smugglers and traffickers; and stopping the flow of illicit drugs across the border and into America's local communities.

In closing, we thank you for working collaboratively with local law enforcement to secure this country's southern border; and, be assured, the National Sheriffs' Association supports the *American Governors' Border Strike Force* as this country's Sheriffs stand ready to enforce the Rule of Law in safeguarding our communities, our counties, our states, and our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vernon P. Stanforth".

Vernon P. Stanforth
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan F. Thompson".

Jonathan F. Thompson
Executive Director & CEO