



**2011-1**

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF  
SHACKLES ON PREGNANT INMATES**

**WHEREAS**, the National Sheriffs' Association is committed to the health and safety of incarcerated pregnant women and believes law enforcement should use the least restrictive restraints necessary on an inmate in her 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of pregnancy unless there are compelling grounds to believe an inmate presents: an immediate and serious treat or harm to herself or others; or is a substantial flight risk and cannot be reasonably contained by other means;

**WHEREAS**, many law enforcement agencies, have successfully implemented regulations, policies and procedures that address this issue;

**WHEREAS**, enactment of regulations, policies and procedures would allow for compassionate and humane treatment of incarcerated pregnant women;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association does hereby strongly and respectfully request law enforcement agencies establish regulations, policies and procedures to insure that pregnant inmates will not be inappropriately shackled, unless there is a compelling, articulated public safety reason.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in St. Louis, MO on June 20, 2011.