

# Translating Justice: Overcoming Language Barriers

## **Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department LEP Innovations & Initiatives**

Deputy Chief Mike Ault

*2006 COPS National Community Policing Conference*

July 28, 2006 – Washington D.C.

*Translating Justice: LVMPD Innovations & Initiatives*

- Huge Economic Growth in Las Vegas
- Incredible Influx of Hispanic Immigrants
- 1996 – 18.4% of the Population
- 2006 – 26.1% of the Population

## *Translating Justice: LVMPD Innovations & Initiatives*

- Language Barrier
- Cultural Differences
- Policia v. US Police
- Illegal Alien Backlash

## *Translating Justice: LVMPD Innovations & Initiatives*

- **Line Innovations**

Language Line Interpretation Services

Sign and Document Translation

Spanish Speaker Pay Bonus

HART (Hispanic American Resource Team)

HISP (Hispanic Interpreter Services Program)

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- February 16, 2005
- Executive Order 13166

“...Improve language accessibility by breaking language barriers with consistent standards of language assistance across Federal agencies and amongst all recipients of Federal financial assistance.”

*William Jefferson Clinton – August 2000*

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- Request for Proof of Compliance

30 Categories

90 Specific Requests

## *Translating Justice: LVMPD Innovations & Initiatives*

- Current Initiatives
  - LEP POLICY & PROGRAM
  - TRAINING
  - SIGNAGE
  - CONVERSION OF DOCUMENTS
  - TRACKING AND TABULATION
  - LEP COORDINATOR

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- Preparation & Inoculation

Copy Success

Competent Programs to Fit Local Problems

Networking: Vera Institute, DOJ

## *Translating Justice: LVMPD Innovations & Initiatives*

- **Emerging Issues**

Hispanics are not the only LEP Population

Understand Growth

Network with Growth Specialists

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- Resources:
  - LVMPD – LEP Programs
  - LVMPD – LEP Program Draft
  - LVMPD – LEP Policy Draft

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