

COPS Office: Immigration Cooperation Certification Process Background

The following is on background, attributable to a DOJ official:

- The Department of Justice encourages cooperation between local jurisdictions and federal immigration authorities.
- The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) notified its FY2017 state, local, and tribal law enforcement grant applicants that they might receive priority consideration in funding decisions if they cooperate with federal law enforcement.
- In order to receive priority consideration, applicants must certify the following:
 - If the applicant operates a detention facility, the applicant must provide Department of Homeland Security (DHS) access to their detention facility;
 - And, the applicant must provide advance notice as early as practicable (at least 48 hours, where possible) to DHS of an illegal alien's release date and time.
- Applicants that submit the certification will receive additional points in the application scoring process in recognition of their efforts to increase information sharing with federal immigration authorities.
- Background on FY2012-FY2016 grants can be found [here](#).