

HISPANIC AMERICAN POLICE COMMAND OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION 1 - 2002

At the 29th Annual Conference of the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA), the members assembled in Albuquerque New Mexico, August 19-24, 2002 rise in support of their Hispanic colleagues in the United States Customs Service who have filed a discrimination class action against the Secretary of the Treasury. We stand hand in hand with these Hispanic Special Agents in their fight to obtain fair and equal treatment.

The Hispanic men and women of the U.S. Customs Service have courageously and with great pride continued to provide services to the citizens of our great nation despite the egregious treatment against them. These men and women, at great risk to their lives, continue to work for a safer America.

WHEREAS, since 1995 U.S. Customs Special Agent Miguel Angel Contreras has been the author of a discrimination class action against the United States Customs Service and its Office of Investigations and Office of Internal Affairs,

WHEREAS, the class action consists of all Hispanic Special Agents in grades GS-12 to GS-15,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Customs Service has continuously discriminated against Hispanic Special Agents in promotions, training, transfers and disparate treatment in disciplinary actions,

WHEREAS, currently the U.S. Customs Service Office of Investigations has approximately 2,400 Special Agents nationwide and only 334 are Hispanic. Of the 436 GS-14 supervisors, only 55 are Hispanic. Of the 78 GS-15 senior managers, only 13 are Hispanic. And of the 11 senior executives, only 2 are Hispanic, and

WHEREAS, the class action was filed in Washington, D.C., where a United States District Court Judge has been assigned to preside over the case, and the U. S. Customs Service, as yet, has not responded to the complaint.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association assembled at the 29th Annual HAPCOA National Training Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 19-24, 2002 hereby support and endorse the class action filed by the Hispanic Special Agents of the U. S. Customs Service, and call upon the President of the United States of America, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of Customs to take quick and effective action to ensure justice and equal and fair treatment in promotions, training, transfers and disciplinary actions for all Hispanic Special Agents in the Customs Service.

Action Taken: _____ Approved  Disapproved _____

Date: 23-Aug-02


Sandalio Gonzalez
National President