



FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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287(g) Public Disclosure Document

As Sheriff, I am making this document available because I am committed to truth, a factual understanding of our relationship with ICE, and transparency. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office believes that providing accurate information fosters public trust and accountability. Whenever legally and operationally possible, we strive to ensure our community has access to clear and reliable information.

Program Overview: *Agreement Effective Date March 10, 2025*

Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), codified at 8 U.S.C. §1357(g), authorizes DHS (through ICE) to partner with state and local law enforcement agencies. Under these agreements, designated deputies are empowered to perform certain immigration enforcement functions under ICE supervision and at the direction and discretion of the agency administrator, in this case, the Sheriff.

Benefits to the Community:

- Strengthens collaboration between local, state, and federal law enforcement
- Enhances public safety by identifying and processing individuals who pose a threat and have a deportable status
- Provides resources and training that improve overall law enforcement capabilities
- When legally appropriate and operationally feasible, uses well trained local law enforcement to assist federal law enforcement partners.

Limited Authority Granted to Deputies:

- While conducting normal FCSO duties; interview individuals believed to be aliens regarding their right to remain in the U.S and arrest and detain when lawfully appropriate
- Administer oaths, take sworn statements, and prepare charging documents (e.g., Notice to Appear).
- Issue immigration detainers and complete alien processing and transport detainees to ICE-approved facilities.
- Investigate and conduct welfare checks for missing and unaccompanied alien children (UACs)

Training & Oversight:

Deputies receive ICE-approved training prior to exercising authority. All actions are subject to ICE supervision and compliance audits. Program participation requires strict adherence to federal and agency-specific policies.

Why This Matters:

- Local law enforcement is a force multiplier and ensures immigration laws are followed, improving the efficiency of criminal justice when feasible or during normal duties.

- Builds trust and clarity with partner agencies and strengthens collaboration between local, state, and federal law enforcement.

FAQ

Can warrantless entries be made into public property or on private property to investigate or question people that may be illegal aliens?

A: Deputies operating under 287(g) authority must comply with the same constitutional standards as other law enforcement officers. Warrantless entry into public property (such as parks or streets) for questioning is generally permissible. However, entry into private property without consent or a warrant is prohibited, except under recognized exigent circumstances or other lawful exceptions.

Does ICE or 287(g) members racially profile?

A: No. ICE policy and the 287(g) MOA explicitly prohibit racial profiling. The FCSO has always conducted enforcement actions in a manner that is based on behavior, evidence, and lawful authority, not race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin. Deputies receive civil rights training and are subject to audits and oversight.

Do Sheriff's Deputies independently go out and question or enforce immigration law outside the course of normal duties, or at the request of other law enforcement officers (state, federal, or local)?

A: No. Deputies do not independently initiate immigration enforcement actions outside their normal duties or outside of the request of ICE. All 287(g) activities occur within the scope of assigned responsibilities and under ICE supervision. Deputies cannot act solely at the request of other agencies unless the action aligns with the MOA and ICE-approved procedures.

Does the Franklin County Sheriff's Office receive reimbursement for salaries, overtime, benefits, or any other expenses incurred by deputies participating in the 287(g) program?

A: Yes. The 287(g) Task Force Model program provides options for equipment and software support stipends. Since signing our MOA, the FCSO has received:

- \$167,510 in equipment and software support.
- \$0 in salary/overtime reimbursement

Should crime victims or witnesses be afraid to contact law enforcement?

A: **NO**, 911 dispatchers dispatch appropriate emergency resources to every call regardless of immigration status.

Does the FCSO support the UAC Mission of DHS through its 287g agreement?

A: **YES**, the FCSO supports DHS with the very specific mission of investigating the whereabouts and conducting welfare checks on children who have been smuggled into the U.S. by unvetted sponsors. This program is NOT an enforcement program. UAC is part of a broader effort to safeguard vulnerable children from abuse and trafficking.

Does this mean deputies will be stopping people on the street to check immigration status?

A: Deputies do not conduct independent immigration enforcement in the County outside of normal course of duties or absent a specific federal request.

What problems does this program solve?

A: Without a 287(g) agreement, local jails and local law enforcement are often required to release individuals — including those with prior criminal records — without ever notifying federal immigration authorities. That means dangerous individuals can disappear back into the community. This program closes that gap. It ensures that when someone who is here illegally has committed a crime, and come in contact with local law enforcement, they will not be released back into the community and are given due process through the Federal Courts.

Questions about the number of deputies trained, or the amount of work or specific operational questions?

A: Pursuant to 65 P.S. § 67.708 exceptions and for operational security, we do not answer questions regarding the number of deputies trained under 287(g), nor do we, or can we comment on specific criminal or civil investigative operations involving any homeland security or law enforcement operation.

For additional information regarding DHS or ICE operations, statistics, or for copies of the agreement the public is directed to visit: **[ice.gov/foia](https://ice.dhs.gov/foia)**

*******Information updated 2/20/2026*******