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## Office of Detention and Removal Operations Criminal Alien Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

VIRGINIA STATE CRIME COMMISSION HEARING

RICHMOND, VA

August 28, 2007



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## DRO Mission Statement

Promote the public safety and national security by ensuring the departure from the United States of all removable aliens through the fair and effective enforcement of the nation's immigration laws.



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## Quick Overview – Facts & Figures

For FY 2007, there are a total of 6,762 authorized positions:

- 2,036 Deportation Officers
- 3,273 Immigration Enforcement Agents
- 1,453 Administrative and Support Staff

### Workload

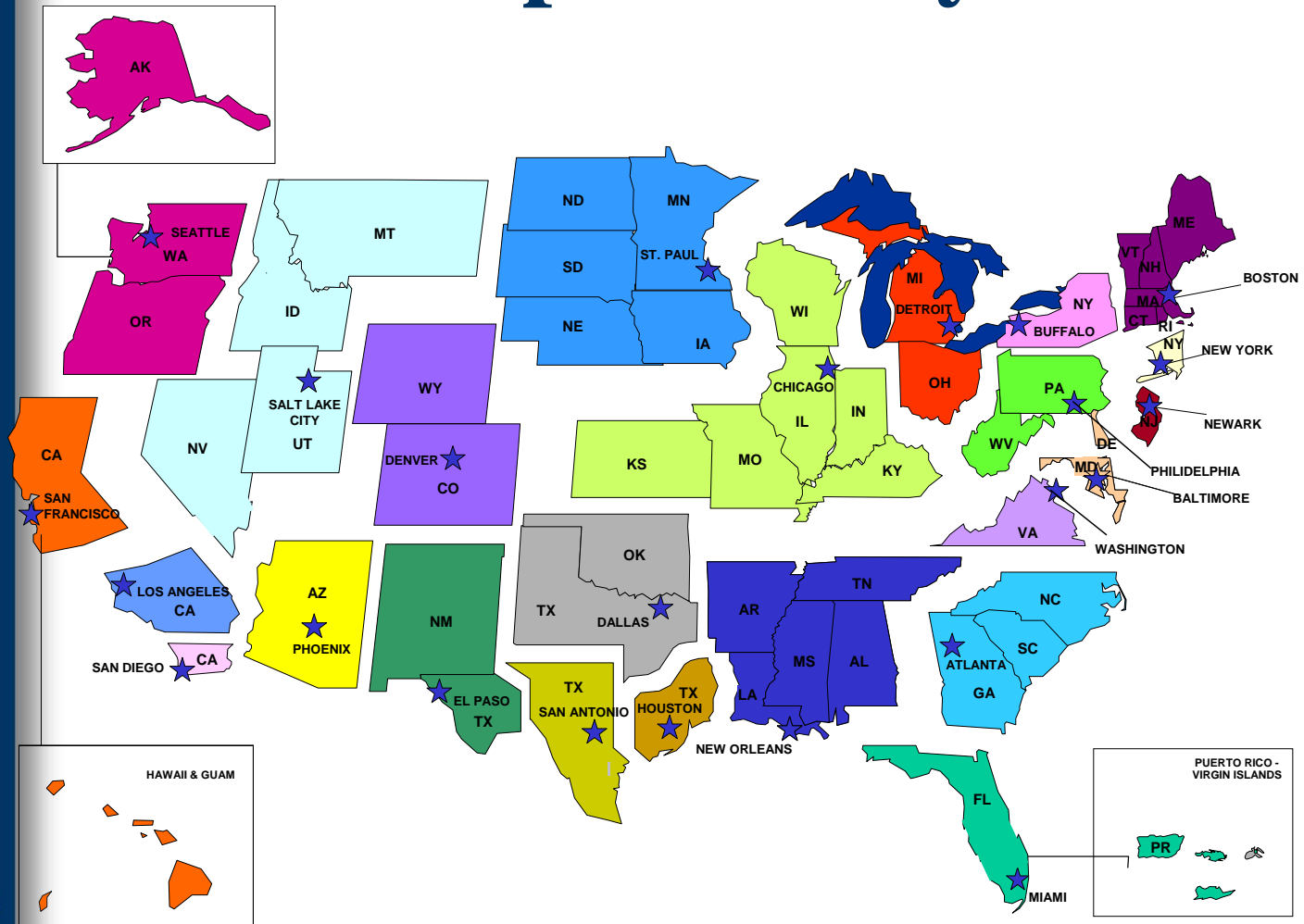
- More than 198,000 removals in FY 2006, including over 89,000 criminals.
- On average, more than 29,000 aliens in custody on any given day.
- Over 1.2 million active cases being managed by the Deportation Officer staff.
- Since creation of ICE, Fugitive Operations Teams have removed over 109,000 aliens from the fugitive population.



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## DRO Field Office Areas of Responsibility



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## 24 Field Office Locations

Atlanta

Baltimore

Boston

Buffalo

Chicago

Dallas

Denver

Detroit

El Paso

Houston

Los Angeles

Miami

New Orleans

New York

Newark

Phoenix

Philadelphia

Salt Lake City

San Antonio

San Diego

San Francisco

Seattle

St. Paul

Washington



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## DRO Headquarters Organization

### 4 Operational Divisions:

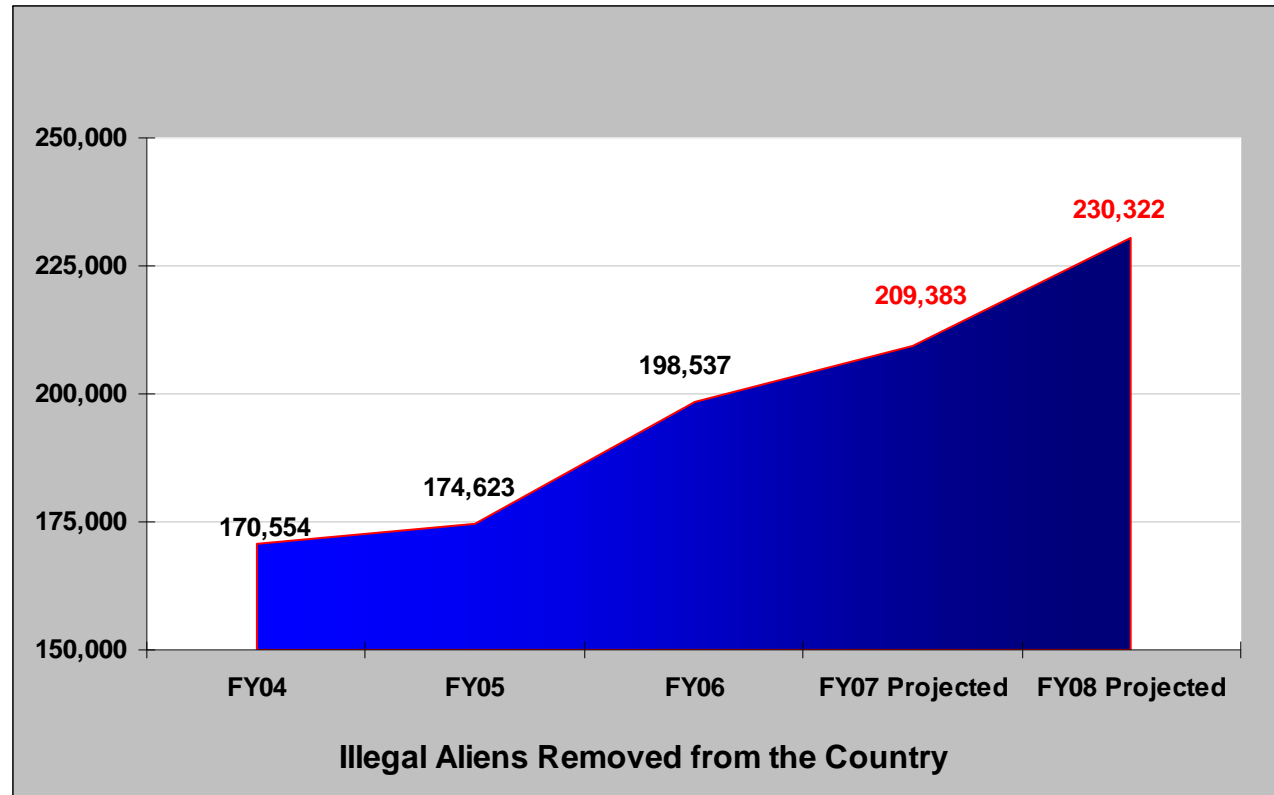
- Detention Management Division
- Removal Management Division
- Criminal Alien Division
- Compliance Enforcement Division



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## ICE Sets New Record for Alien Removals



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## Criminal Alien Program Mission

- The primary objective of the Criminal Alien Program (CAP) is to ensure that all criminal aliens serving criminal sentences are processed for removal prior to their release from Federal, State and local custody. This affirms the ultimate mission of ICE/DRO, which is to effect the removal of criminal aliens upon being turned over to ICE custody. This also allows for the reduction of the average detention time in ICE custody, thereby decreasing the number of beds and the number of personnel required to manage the detained population.



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## Criminal Alien Program Staffing

- The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved funding for a 30% increase in staffing in Fiscal Year 2008.
- There are approximately 4296 facilities in the country according to the most recent Risk Assessment including 126 in the state of Virginia.



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## Criminal Alien Program

### Accomplishments

- ICE has developed a risk assessment which is a comprehensive list of Federal, State, and County jails across the United States. A list of 4,296 facilities was compiled and weighed scores were assigned based on six risk factors: the foreign born population in a facility; the jail population (when foreign born population is unknown); number of releases to ICE; the population density surrounding the facility; whether a facility is a state release site; and security level of a facility. This risk assessment will be used to identify and assist ICE and their partners in better identifying the incarcerated criminal population.
- Initiating removal proceedings against criminal aliens in jails and prisons is a primary goal of CAP. CAP is using the number of charging documents issued on aliens encountered in jails and prisons as a measure of productivity towards achieving this goal. Since the beginning of FY 2007 DRO has seen over a 100% increase in monthly charging documents issued (CDI).



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## Criminal Alien Program

### Accomplishments

- The CAP sent out notification letters informing each federal, state, and local facilities of the Criminal Alien Program (CAP) transition to the Office of Detention and Removal Operations from the Office of Investigations was prepared and disseminated to all jail facilities within the United States. Notification letters also advised LEA's of the communication process with DRO regarding foreign-born inmates.



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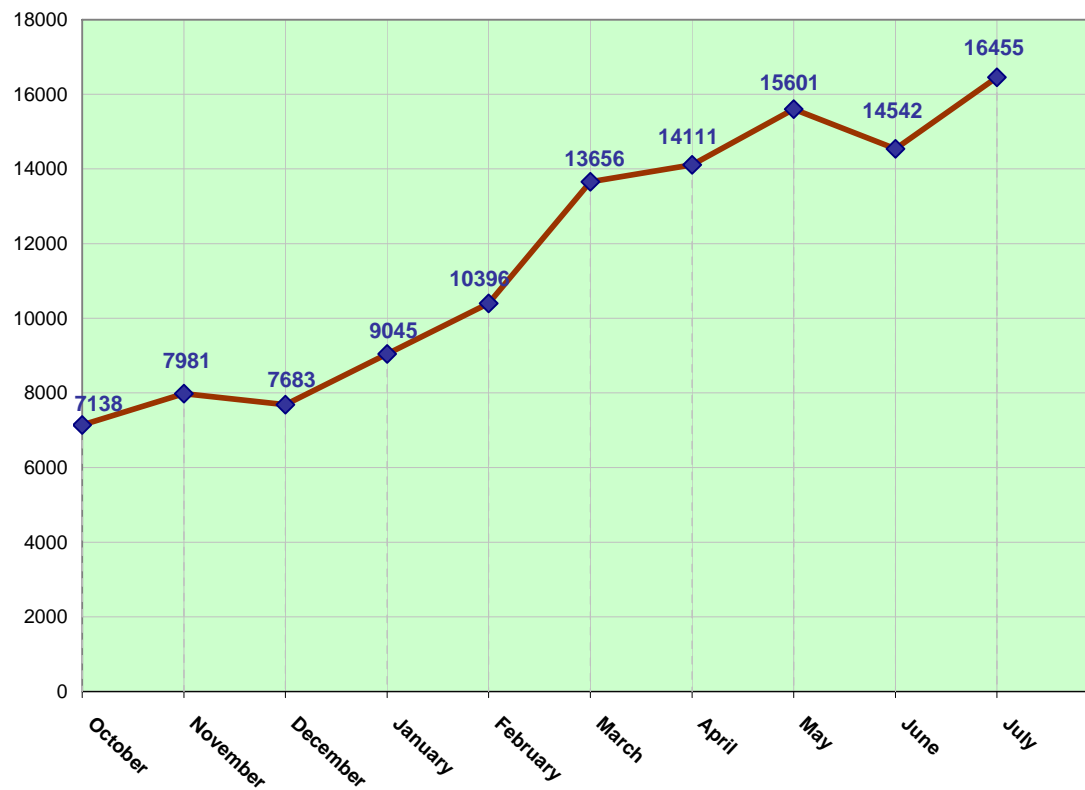
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## Accomplishments

FY 07 DRO Charging Documents Issued (CDI)

Total = 116,608

Data Source: EID 08/02/2007



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## Detention Enforcement and Processing Offenders by Remote Technology (DEPORT)

- The Detention Enforcement and Processing Offenders by Remote Technology (DEPORT) is the designated interview and processing site for criminal aliens within the Bureau of Prisons (BOP). This site commenced operations on June 1, 2006 and is located in Chicago, IL. Prior to the inception of DEPORT ICE had onsite coverage of 14 BOP locations. Now ICE has coverage of all 114 BOP facilities by utilizing remote technology.
- Since commencement, DEPORT has screened 20,945 BOP prisoners and issued 12,303 charging documents.
- Also since commencement, DEPORT identified and placed immigration holds on 6,845 criminal aliens within the BOP.



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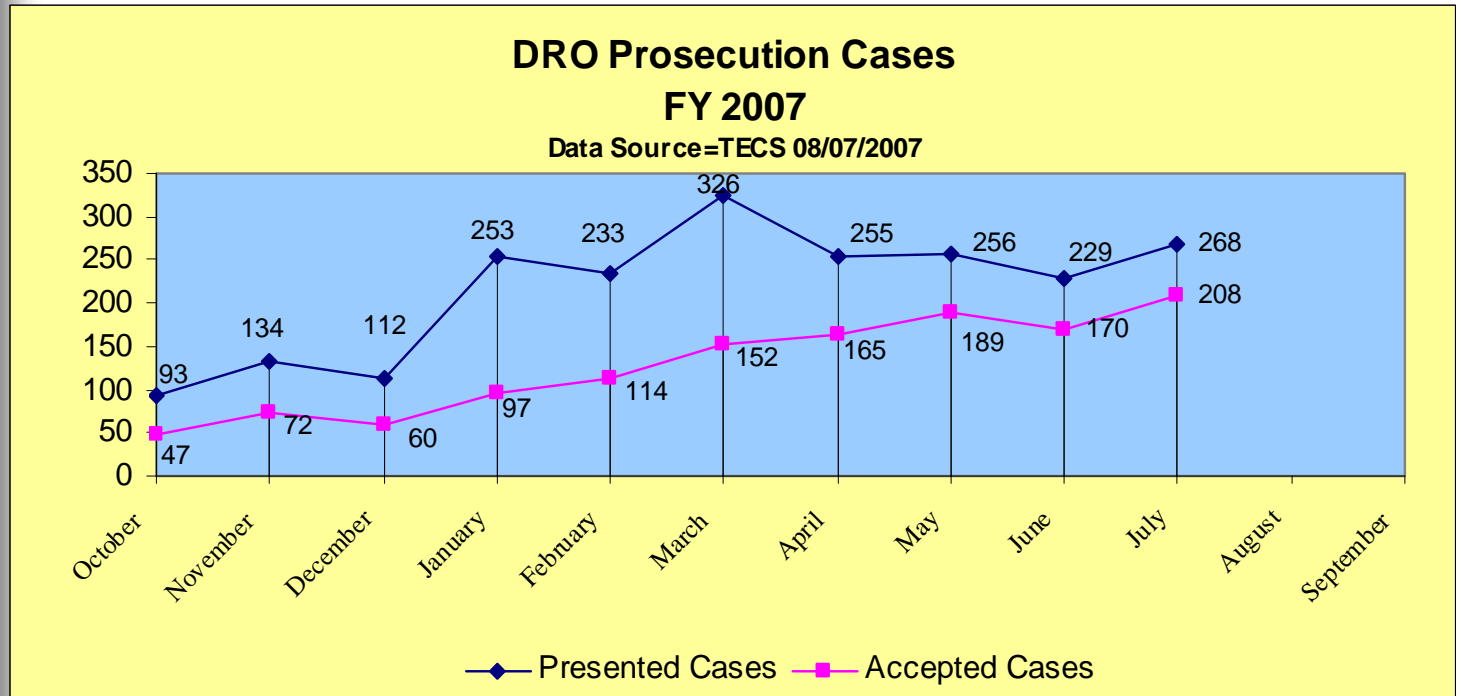
## Criminal Prosecutions

- The criminal prosecution of immigration violators is not only critical to maintaining the integrity of the immigration system, but also is a powerful deterrent to aliens reentering the United States after being removed.
- The Criminal Alien Program is aggressively pursuing criminal prosecutions of immigration violators located in jails and prisons.
- In FY 2007 Detention and Removal Operations has presented 2,159 cases to the Office of the United States Attorney of which 1,274 cases were accepted.



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## Criminal Prosecutions cont.



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## Progress of the WAS Field Office of Detention and Removal Operations

- Increased staffing within the state by adding an office in Roanoke and increasing officers in Harrisonburg, Richmond, Norfolk and Fairfax.
- Increased the number of charging documents issued in the state of Virginia from 80 in FY06 to 1,228 in FY07.
- Coordinated with the Virginia DOC in Richmond to establish ICE onsite representation at intake centers.



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## Goals for the Washington Field Office of Detention and Removal Operations

- Continuous improvement of all processes for communication and identification of illegal aliens.
- Promote ICE Agreements of Cooperation in Communities to Enhance Safety and Security (Access) – a program that provides local law enforcement agencies an opportunity to team with ICE to combat specific challenges in their communities.
- Develop lasting partnerships with local law enforcement to ensure that immigration laws are enforced.



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