SAN DIEGO — Police chiefs and sheriffs attending a worldwide law enforcement conference met today with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) leadership to discuss immigration and community policing.

Members of the <u>Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force</u> held an open policy conversation with DHS officials including Deputy Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas during the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Annual Conference and Exposition in San Diego.

Leaders focused part of their policy discussion on how lawful permanent resident (LPR) police officers can enhance community policing efforts.

Task force members also thanked Mayorkas for his engagement and his leadership on immigration issues ahead of his Oct. 28 departure.

"Deputy Secretary Mayorkas has been dedicated to facilitating collaboration between federal and local law enforcement on immigration," said **Tom Manger, Chief of Police in Montgomery County, Maryland, and Co-Chair of the Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force**. "These conversations have served as a great resource in our continued efforts to build strong relationships with our immigrant communities."

The Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force includes more than 50 police chiefs, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials from wide-ranging jurisdictions across the country.

On Tuesday task force members will hold a <u>panel discussion</u> on LPR hiring as part of the IACP conference, and on Wednesday members will participate in a border tour with Customs and Border Protection.

"State and local law enforcement continue to engage with immigrant communities to make policing more effective," said **Ali Noorani, Executive Director of the National Immigration Forum**. "We thank Deputy Secretary Mayorkas for his commitment to hearing the perspectives of local leaders and working directly with them to tackle difficulties they have faced."

