



# **SOMOS UN PUEBLO UNIDO**

**June 2009 Newsletter**

**WANT JUSTICE? GET CONNECTED-Sign up for the Immigration Reform Text Action Alert System**  
Text Message the word "JUSTICE" or "JUSTICIA" to the number 69866 to get updates and action alerts from *Somos* and our partners in Washington. Be the first to know and the first to act.

*Somos* members went to dozens of churches during the month of May to sign people up. BUT we can't do it alone. Please sign up your family and friends today.

The White House phone number to support the immigrant community is 202-456-1111.

## **Be a Part of the *Somos* Family! Became a Member!**

Have you renewed your membership lately? *Somos* is conducting a membership drive during the month of June. Stay connected and support the New Mexico immigrants' rights movement by sending your \$15 dues today. We couldn't do the work we do on civil rights, workers' rights and renters' rights without our members' support.

For membership form, go to <http://www.somosunpueblounido.org/membership.php>

Call us at 505-424-7832 or stop by the office located at 1205 Parkway Drive, Suite B in Santa Fe to renew or find out how you can volunteer.

## **Roswell Police to Stop Detaining Immigrants for Being Undocumented**

At a city meeting last week, Roswell Police Chief Rob Smith said the Department recently stopped its practice of detaining immigrants solely based on immigration status in order to hand them over to Border Patrol for deportation.

*Somos* has been working with church and community members from Roswell's Alliance for Peace and Justice to document and organize against law enforcement abuses. Chief Smith's announcement comes on the heels of several meetings between Alliance members and City officials about the illegal use of "ICE Holds" to arrest immigrant motorists. This is a tremendous victory for the new community group! The Alliance is now working with City officials to rewrite policies regarding immigrants.

To read more about this meeting, go to <http://www.roswell-record.com/main.asp?SectionID=49&SubSectionID=112&ArticleID=42960>

## **2009 Peace and Justice Awards Celebration**

On Saturday, May 23th, *Somos* was honored with a 2009 Peace and Justice Award from the Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice.

It was a wonderful ceremony and we feel honored by this recognition! *¡Continuamos en la lucha en defensa de nuestra comunidad!*

## **In Other National News...**

### **Supreme Court Decision on ID Theft**

The Supreme Court gave its final decision relating to the prosecution of undocumented immigrants who use false social security numbers to work. The ruling basically states that crime of identity theft is limited to those who knew they were using another person's Social Security number.

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To read the full report, go to <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-court-identity5-2009may05,0,7732350.story>

### **AgJOBS has been re-introduced in this Congress**

The bill, the product of an historic compromise between farm workers and agricultural producers, contains a legalization program for undocumented immigrant farm workers and a reform of the H-2A agricultural guest worker program.

### **President Obama's Budget Proposal affects Immigration Enforcement**

In a press release from the Department of Homeland Security, five budget priorities for the Department were listed, two of them having to do with immigration.

To read more on the budget, go to

<http://www.immigrationforum.org/policy/update-display/administration-releases-more-details-on-budget1>

### **New Polling Information from Immigration Forum**

The National Immigration Forum has released a new report regarding public opinion on immigration. "Change and Continuity: Public Opinion on Immigration Reform," can be obtained at <http://www.immigrationforum.org/images/uploads/PollingMemo09.pdf>