



## The State Advocate's Bulletin

### NEW!!! Alabama Resource Center

CLINIC's State & Local Initiatives Project has launched its new [Alabama Resource Center](#), located on CLINIC's website. Visit this site for all manner of HB56 resources, including Q&As, talking points, legal analysis, "know your rights" materials, and more! Don't forget the "Tell Your Stories Here" portion of the site, where you can document any potential civil rights violations you observe in the enforcement of HB56. CLINIC can help you draft legal complaints and direct them to the appropriate authorities.

### CLINIC Presents on Community-Based Immigration Advocacy at CCUSA's First Annual Poverty Summit

CLINIC's State & Local Advocacy Attorney presented "State Immigration Enforcement, Human Dignity, and Poverty: What Should I Know? What Can I Do?" See [presentation](#).

### Federal Courts Address State Immigration Laws

CLINIC analyzed two recent federal court decisions to temporarily block parts of [Indiana](#) and [Georgia](#) anti-immigrant laws.

### Register Now for January Conference!

[Registration information](#) is now available for the CLINIC/USCCB January 2012 conference on state immigration policy. "Immigration: A 50-State Issue" will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah on January 11-13. You will learn critical information about the wide variety of immigration measures that are making their way through state legislatures across the country. You will also learn advocacy and messaging strategies. Don't miss it!

### Parental Rights and Immigration Enforcement

A critical new [report](#) has just been released by the Applied Research Center titled "Shattered Families: The Perilous Intersection of Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System." This report will be an essential tool in pushing back against enforcement-only measures and advocating for families.

### CLINIC Affiliates' State and Local Advocacy

Catholic Social Services, Archdiocese of Philadelphia, PA testified on behalf of the PA Catholic Conference at the state's House of Delegates to oppose a package of anti-immigrant bills, see [here](#).

Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Jackson, MS hosted convocations in October and November to prepare for Catholic Day at the Capitol in January 2012, see [here](#).

CLINIC assisted in drafting a letter sent by Birmingham immigration attorney Klari B. Tedrow (an officer of the American Immigration Lawyers Association's Alabama-Georgia Chapter) highlighting the conflict between HB56 and Alabama's Professional Rules of Conduct. Click [here](#) to read the letter, which CLINIC affiliate Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama co-signed.

Questions or comments? Contact CLINIC's State & Local Advocacy Attorney Karen Siciliano Lucas at [klucas@cliniclegal.org](mailto:klucas@cliniclegal.org) or 202-635-7410.

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#### Secure Communities

[CLINIC writes to Task Force](#) In August, CLINIC and several state and local Catholic leaders wrote to the DHS Task Force on Secure Communities to express concerns with the Secure Communities program. CLINIC's letter can be found [here](#).

[CLINIC writes to HSAC](#) In October, CLINIC wrote to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) to respond to the Task Force's recommendations for reform of the Secure Communities program. CLINIC's letter can be found [here](#).

[CLINIC meets with GAO](#) CLINIC worked to schedule a face-to-face meeting this month with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to discuss that office's upcoming review of the Secure Communities program. CLINIC continues to meet with DHS's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) regarding its ongoing audit of Secure Communities.

[CLINIC meets with DHS](#) CLINIC met this month with DHS's Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (OCRCL) about oversight of Secure Communities and other federal/state partnerships.

[New study suggests racial bias](#) A new study by the Warren Institute found evidence of racial bias in the operation of the Secure Communities program. While Latinos make up 77% of the undocumented population in the U.S., 93% of the individuals in the study — all of whom had been detained through Secure Communities — were Latino. See the report [here](#).

#### U Visas

CLINIC met this month with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (OCRCL) about difficulties in obtaining U Visa certifications from local and federal law enforcement. We are working with OCRCL to develop adequate training mechanisms for U Visa certifiers. A huge thank-you to all CLINIC affiliates who shared their experiences.

#### Change the Conversation!

Several states are considering (and some are passing!) pro-immigrant bills. See New York's domestic workers protection [bill](#); Michigan's anti-notario [bill](#); Nebraska's prenatal care [bill](#); and Maryland's human trafficking bills [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#). Local jurisdictions like [Cook County](#), IL, [Santa Clara County](#), CA, and [New York City](#), NY are also choosing to limit cooperation with ICE.