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STAN BARRY, Sheriff  
Fairfax County, Virginia

November 29, 2010

### **Secure Communities Program at Work in Fairfax County**

**Join Sheriff Stan Barry in an Online Chat on Tuesday, November 30 at 2:00 p.m.**

The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office has implemented a program called Secure Communities, administered by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Secure Communities is a comprehensive strategy to identify and ultimately remove dangerous criminal aliens from our communities without imposing a major cost or resource burden on local law enforcement.

Sheriff Stan Barry will lead a live chat online, Tuesday, November 30 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss how this program makes Fairfax County safer. All are welcome and encouraged to pose their questions or concerns about the Secure Communities program at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/askfairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/askfairfax)

Since the Sheriff's Office received access to this program in March 2009, ICE officials have identified 863 criminal aliens through Secure Communities and, as of November 2010, removed 357 of them.

During the booking process, Sheriff's deputies scan an arrestee's fingerprints, which are then checked for criminal history information through the FBI's biometric database AND the biometrics-based immigration records maintained by ICE. If an individual's fingerprints match those of a person in ICE's biometric system, the new automated process notifies ICE agents and booking deputies. ICE evaluates each case to determine the individual's immigration status and takes appropriate enforcement action.

Under Secure Communities, law enforcement officers do not need to take any action to determine a suspect's immigration status; ICE agents retain this authority. This program requires little to no change to current local law enforcement procedures.

To request this information in an alternate format, call the Public Information Office at 703-246-3251. TTY 711