FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE // EXCUSE CROSS POSTINGS // PLEASE FORWARD

Date: October 6, 2010

Contacts:

Natali Fani, 202.787.1813 <u>natali@mateagroup.com</u> Marco Loera, 626.390.6986 <u>mloera@ndlon.org</u>

IMMIGRANT, LABOR, CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES URGE LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO VOTE NO ON ANTI-IMMIGRANT AND RACIAL PROFILING PROGRAM 287(g)

National website calling for an end to the Federal Program 287(g) is launched – www.Basta287g.com

WHAT: Rally and Press Conference urging Los Angeles Board Supervisor to vote against the 287g Program; advocates launch www.Basta287g.com

WHERE: Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

WHEN: Thursday October 7, 2010 at 10:00AM

WHO: The National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON), <u>Presente.org</u>, and local advocates.

Los Angeles, CA – This Thursday October 7 at 10am, labor, immigrant, civil and human rights advocates will gather at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in Los Angeles to urge the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors to vote against anti-immigrant and racial profiling federal program 287(g), which gives authority to local police to act as immigration agents. At this time, advocates will also launch the website Basta287g.com, powered by the on-line advocacy group Presente.org, to unite efforts across the country against this anti-immigrant program.

Recently, there has been increasing collaboration between Los Angeles County and federal immigration officials, as demonstrated by Los Angeles County Sheriff Baca's meeting today with Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. On Tuesday, October 12, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors will vote on whether to continue collaborating with Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) through the 287(g) program. Secure Communities, another federal program, takes the merger of police and immigration enforcement even further by connecting police and immigration databases.

In a report issued last year, the Special Counsel to the Board of Supervisors, Merrick Bobb, wrote that "The County must carefully consider whether Secure Communities and

the proposed [287g] MOA, taken together, upset th[e] balance [between protecting and serving all residents of Los Angeles County regardless of immigration status and removing undocumented persons who are serious criminals or reinforce it." Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky raised similar concerns when Los Angeles first signed on to the program in 2005.

Since 2005, reviews of the 287(g) program, including a report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the main investigative arm of Congress, have been sharply critical. These reviews have concluded that 287(g) has lead to increased racial profiling and rampant police abuses.

During the press conference, advocates will describe in detailed the failure of the antiimmigrant and racial profiling 287(g) program and announce that they are collecting petitions to be delivered on October 12, the date the Board of Supervisors will be voting on 287(g).

###