



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 20, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President

As I have mentioned in previous correspondence to your Administration and in my Border Security Plan that I announced on April 22, 2010 (all attached), National Guard support is an essential component to securing the Southern Border of our country. My letter today is the aviation supplement to my earlier plans as well as a brief follow-up regarding my Joint Counter Narco-Terrorism Task Force proposal and my support for the plan offered by Senators Kyl and McCain.

1. Increase National Guard Helicopter Assets in Arizona to Support Border Security and Counter-Drug Law Enforcement Missions.

Arizona currently has only four OH-58 Kiowa helicopters available for border missions (9 are reserved for national training activities). These helicopters are extremely valuable assets in supporting law enforcement efforts on the ground. The number available, though, is inadequate to provide the kind of support needed on the Arizona border. (Note: The Arizona National Guard has other rotary aircraft—mainly UH-60 Blackhawks—but the vast majority of them are currently deployed overseas. After discussing this matter with experts, these Blackhawks are great aircraft that can perform vital military and emergency management missions, but are just not as useful as the OH-58 Kiowas in the border security/counter-drug mission.)

As I have examined the current locations of OH-58s in the National Guard, it seems reasonable to ask that serious consideration be given to reallocating at least some OH-58s to the Border States (see attached map). I recognize the concept of reallocation creates significant concerns among states. As a Governor, I understand the desire to hold on to personnel, equipment and funding. On the other hand, I believe I must be objective when national priorities are under consideration. In the case of Arizona, despite my obvious bias, I believe that there are legitimate national interests in my request to beef up aviation assets to supplement current Custom and Border Protection capabilities. Since all OH-58s

will eventually be replaced by the new LUH-72 Lakota; I would like to insure that the fielding plan for the LUH-72s account for replacing not just our current fleet of OH-58s but all additional OH-58s allocated to Arizona.

To be clear, my intention is to raise the matter not just for Arizona, but also for the other three Southwestern Border States. While the focus of this letter is Arizona, there should be consideration given to enhancing aerial reconnaissance and observation along the whole US-Mexico border. This increased effort could be coordinated with federal, state and local law enforcement to ensure maximum value of these air operations.

In the short run, you may wish to consider using, for border efforts, some of the OH-58s located in Arizona that are currently dedicated to training. Alternatively, another short-term solution could be to direct non-Southwestern Border States with OH-58s to deploy to Arizona for short duration mission support until permanent dedicated aircraft and funding could be allocated to Arizona.

In the longer term, we would hope that additional aircraft, pilots and funding could be allocated to Arizona. An Arizona OH-58 fleet of 8-10 dedicated aircraft would enable us to double our border coverage to 2,000 hours per year. To be effective, these additional aircraft must be equipped for day and night operations.

2. Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)

I would also ask you, as overseas operations in Iraq and Afghanistan permit, to consider the wider deployment of UAVs along our nation's southern border. I am aware of how effective these assets have become in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, and it seems UAV operations would be ideal for border security and counter-drug missions.

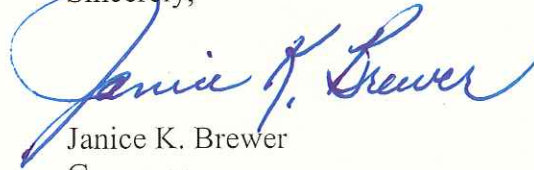
3. Joint Counter Narco-Terrorism Task Force (JCNTF) Request Follow-Up

Please let me know if my staff or I can answer any questions you may have regarding my April 6, 2010 letter reaffirming my request for additional JCNTF funding for Arizona. I am also happy to discuss the steps I have taken or am attempting to take with current JCNTF personnel/assets as well as with Arizona Army and Air National Guard training. Finally, I have expressed support for the border security plan unveiled by Senators McCain and Kyl, including their call for 3,000 National Guard troops to be deployed along the Arizona-Mexico border. As I have said in numerous situations, major resource commitments regarding border security are federal, not state, obligations. I appreciate that Arizona's U.S. Senators are approaching the matter this way, and are also proposing a transitional military role while federal law enforcement resources along the border can be further expanded.

President Obama
May 20, 2010
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I appreciate your attention to these matters and I hope you will be supportive. Additional aviation assets would be a tremendous force-multiplier for our federal, state and local law enforcement efforts focused on border security and counter-drug operations. Further, approval of the additional resources/actions requested under my border security plan as well as the McCain/Kyl plan would be greatly appreciated.

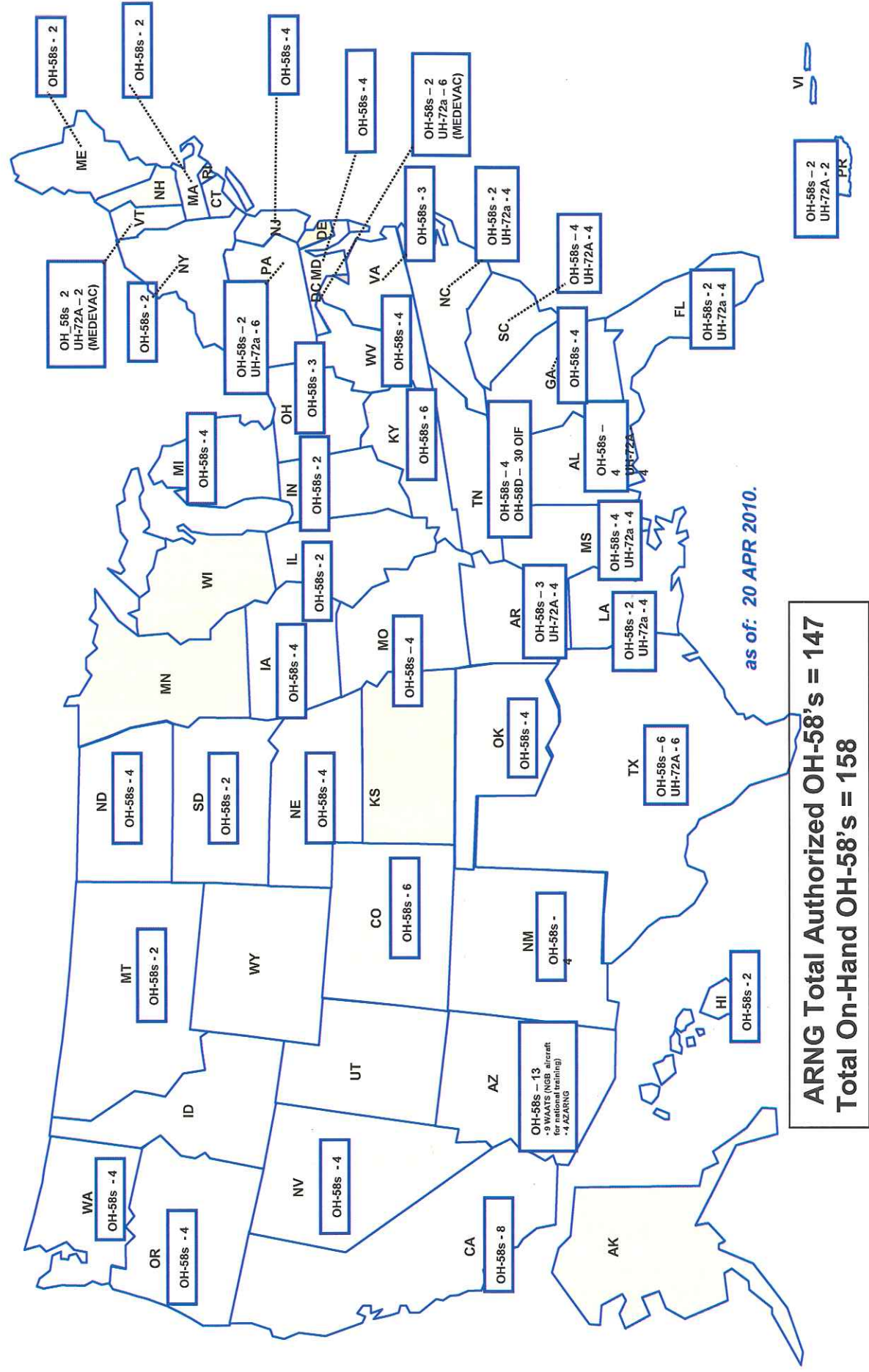
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janice K. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Attachments

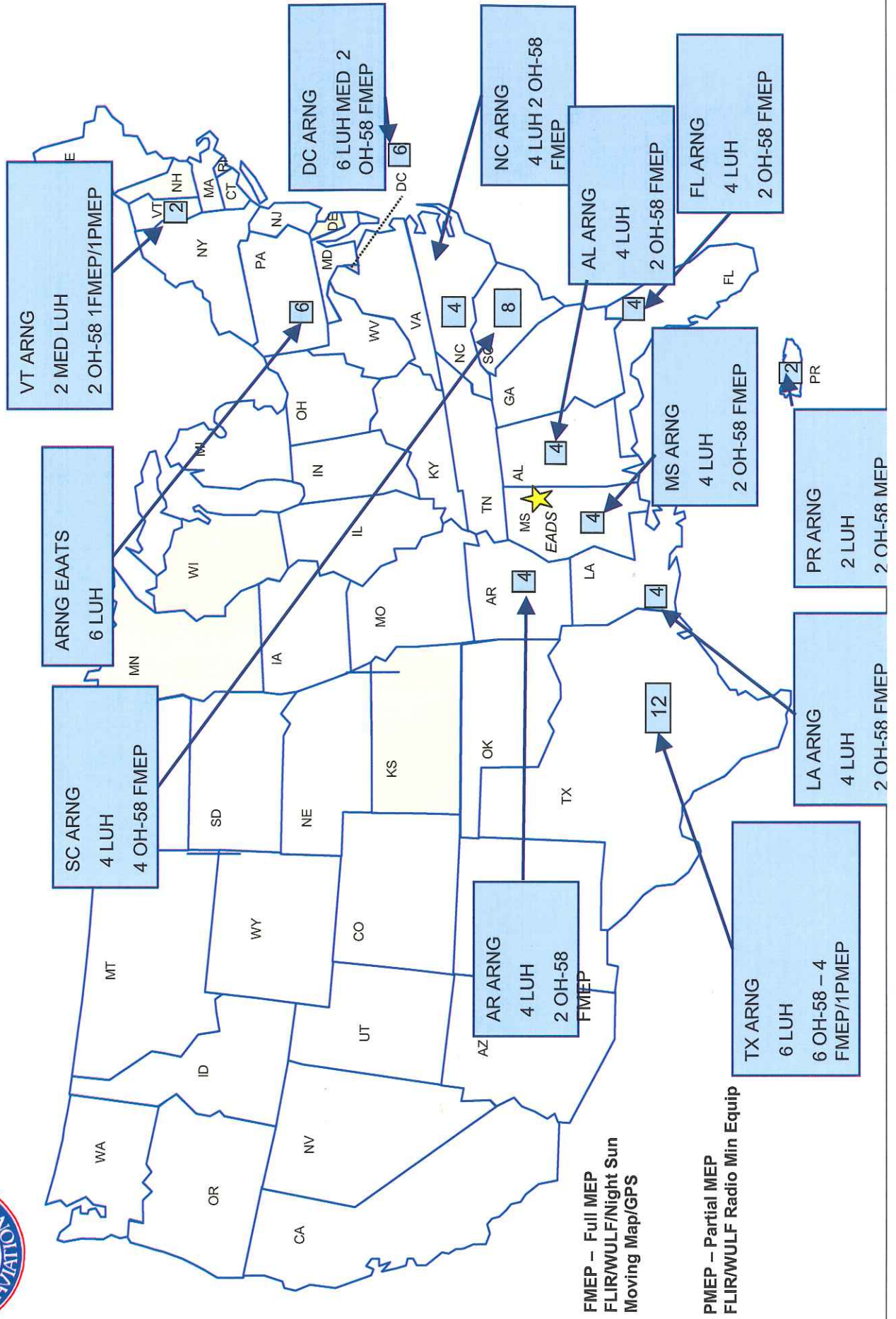
ARNG OH-58 On Hand / Authorized



ARNG Total Authorized OH-58's = 147
Total On-Hand OH-58's = 158



Fielded UH-72A States with OH-58 MEP Capability





ARNG UH-72A Fielding Schedule

UH-72 MEP Fielding → revision dated 20 APR 2010

FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15
12	28	16	32	36	32	28	16
MS(4) ★ LA(4) ★ FL(2) ★ EAATS(2) ★	FL(2) ★ NC(4) ★ EAATS(4) ★ DC(6) ★ VT(2) ★ TX(6) ★ PR(2) ★ AR(2) ★	AR(2) ★ AL(4) ★ SC(4) ★ TN(2) ★ VA(4) ★	EAATS(2) GA(4) TN(2) MS(4) LA(4) CO(4) NV(2) CA(2) SD(4) ID(2) WI(2)	PR(2) AR(4) VI(2) NE(4) OH(4) CA(6) HI(2) MD(4) DC(2) NY(2) ND(4)	OR(4) NE(4) IA(4) NM(4) OK(4) MI(4) SD(2) UT(2) MO(4)	IL(4) WV(4) PA(2) ME(2) KY(6) IN(2) NJ(4) MA(2) VT(2)	AZ(4) NV(4) WA(6) MT(2)
S&S COs S&S COs (MEDEVAC) EAATS							

Authorization Level

192 MTOE
8 EAATS

Aircraft fielded in each FY based on 24 OCT 08 Army Plan
 Looking to expand the AATS mission capability in FY 12—up to 10 aircraft
 ★ Fielding Completed



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

March 11, 2009

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary, U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon, Room 3E880
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

After considering a variety of options, I write this letter to ask for increased military presence on the border with Mexico. Specifically, I believe an increase of approximately 250 National Guard soldiers under the mandate and control of the Joint Counter Narcoterrorism Task Force (JCNTF) using federal Title 32, Section 112 funding would be the optimum step at this time.

As you are aware, Arizona and other U.S./Mexico border states continue to be confronted by a number of unique and/or disproportionate challenges relative to other states. We bear significant unreimbursed costs in the public, non-profit and business sectors associated with border-related challenges. Our communities are negatively affected by the impacts of illegal drug trade and illegal immigration, and enforcement agencies in all jurisdictions are stretched way too thin trying to address the enormity of the problems.

I believe that supplementing the existing JCNTF personnel to bring the total to approximately 400 Army and Air National Guard soldiers and airmen makes the most sense at this time. The support these additional soldiers can provide to law enforcement agency operations would prove invaluable. While I am extremely sensitive to the demand on our Guard, Reserve and Active Duty forces associated with operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, I believe the personnel count I am proposing and the JCNTF method I am requesting is appropriate and workable. I am open to higher troop strength numbers, however, I want to ensure we can effectively deploy more than 250 additional personnel and that the missions to which such additional personnel will be assigned are both meaningful and valuable.

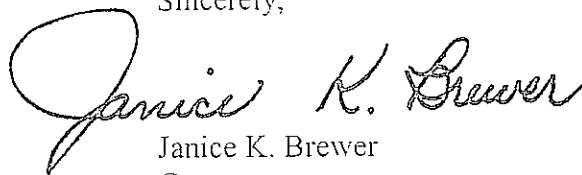
I will not use your time to summarize the current and possible duties/roles of National Guard personnel working within the JCNTF – I know you and your Pentagon Staff are familiar. I will emphasize, however, that Arizona on its own cannot and should not face the prospect of sustaining additional forces to address this federal matter. Additional support provided pursuant to Title 32 of the United States Code for National Guard activities along the border is both a lawful, justified and prudent step to take at this time.

Secretary Gates
March 11, 2009
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Before closing, I want to add that I am taking some time to examine whether our National Guard forces are fully equipped to meet the greater demands associated with an increased JCNTF commitment. Specifically, our aerial reconnaissance assets seem limited to meet the challenges posed by our nearly 400-mile long border with Mexico. Before making any requests of you, I want to study the matter further. I did, though, want to bring the matter to your attention since my first reaction was that we did not have the right quantity of air assets to most effectively address border threats.

Thank you in advance for an expedited review of this request. I certainly hope to be adding additional thanks in what I hope will be a positive response to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice K. Brewer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

JB:bcm

cc: The Honorable Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security



OFFICES OF THE GOVERNORS

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
CALIFORNIA

JANICE K. BRIEWER
ARIZONA

BILL RICHARDSON
NEW MEXICO

RICK PERRY
TEXAS

April 22, 2009

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Minority Leader
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Reid, Senator McConnell, Madam Speaker and Mr. Boehner,

The National Drug Intelligence Center recognizes cross-border drug trafficking organizations as the "most pervasive threat facing the southwest region." As border governors, we can testify to the truth of that statement, and we are writing to ask for your help to overcome this tremendous challenge to the health and safety of our fellow Americans.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano recently announced the Obama administration's plan to address the rising level of violence we are experiencing along our nation's southwest border. While there are no easy solutions, it is abundantly clear that additional resources are needed – and needed now.

Congress will begin to debate the Fiscal Year 2009 emergency supplemental budget and shortly thereafter, the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Defense budget. We request that you fully fund the National Guard Counter-Drug Program to add additional personnel to the four southwest border states and ensure that this funding remains sufficient to reach a significant decline in border drug trafficking and violence.

By funding the National Guard Counter-Drug Program in the southwest border states, you will allow federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to fulfill the federal government's commitment to reduce the demand for illegal drugs in our nation. We are confident that the flow of illegal drugs and associated violence can be best addressed by increasing the capacity of the Counter-Drug Program authorized by Section 112, Title 32, of the United States Code. Over the last 20 years, this law has empowered the states, through the National Guard, to support federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations in counter-drug interdiction, drug demand reduction and narcoterrorism activities. In Fiscal Year 2008, National Guard Counter-Drug support led to \$28 billion in drugs taken off the streets and nearly \$226 million in cash seized.

The Honorable Harry Reid
The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable John A. Boehner
April 22, 2009
Page two

As the National Guard programs already exist, they can easily expand to accommodate additional personnel on the job. Expanding the Counter-Drug Program provides a good opportunity to minimize perceptions that anyone is militarizing the border by enabling National Guard personnel already familiar with drug trafficking to use their expertise and skills to support the direct services underway by law enforcement. These personnel are not employed in any form of combat or maneuver role.

Increasing the number of National Guard personnel to support these southwestern border law enforcement agencies is a priority, but we also need to maintain, and in some areas increase, the support to local law enforcement throughout the rest of our states where cross-border drug trafficking organizations are known to exist. Currently, there is more demand for support from local, state and federal authorities than our National Guard programs can actually meet.

Thank you in advance for considering our request. We stand ready to assist in any way possible.

Sincerely,



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California



Janice K. Brewer
Governor of Arizona



Bill Richardson
Governor of New Mexico



Rick Perry
Governor of Texas

cc: The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
The Honorable Thad Cochran
The Honorable Carl Levin
The Honorable John McCain
The Honorable Dave Obey
The Honorable Jerry Lewis
The Honorable Ike Skelton
The Honorable John M. McHugh



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

April 6, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Let me begin by thanking you for your support of my request to designate certain portions of Arizona as major disaster areas due to damage caused by severe winter storms in January of this year. State and local funding challenges make responding to emergencies associated with natural disasters difficult without assistance from the federal treasury. This assistance is extremely important for meeting people's immediate needs and to finance the difficult process of community recovery.

There is yet another emergency facing Arizona, but this one is not the result of a natural disaster. In contrast, this emergency has been the result of decades of neglect and an ongoing unwillingness of the federal government to fully shoulder its Constitutional duty to secure our country's southern border with Mexico.

Arizona roads and open spaces have become some of the main, if not the main, land thoroughfares for illegal alien traffic and illegal smuggling operations—drugs, arms and humans. Arizonans are at risk from these activities whether they live on or near the border itself, or elsewhere in our State. It seems to be an everyday occurrence that a drop house is found or a cache of weapons or drugs is seized.

While all Americans are at risk, the dangers are particularly apparent for those persons living along the border. I am sure you are aware that an Arizona rancher in southeastern Cochise County was recently killed. Although the matter is still under investigation, the evidence seems to point to the victim being killed as part of border-related criminal activity. If this were a single incident, I might not seek your assistance. On the contrary, though, there are numerous examples of violence that has spilled north over the border in Texas, New Mexico, California and Arizona.

In April of last year, I joined with the Governors from these three other states to request Congressional support for additional funding of Title 32 National Guard assistance to law enforcement. Earlier, Governor Perry and I, in separate actions in January and March 2009, respectively, asked for this support from your Departments of Defense and Homeland Security. During the months that have followed, I was assured on more than

Letter to President Obama – Border Security
April 6, 2010
Page 2 of 4

one occasion that the support would be forthcoming. My Adjutant General had gone as far as seeking volunteers for the slots that we believed would be funded. My request was very reasonable—250 additional troops to bring Arizona Joint Counter Narco-Terrorism Task Force (JCNTF) to approximately 400 Soldiers and Airmen.

The support, however, never came.

I respectfully ask that you act now and provide additional JCNTF support.

This support will allow law enforcement elements—potentially in all jurisdictions—to more effectively complete their missions because of assistance provided by the National Guard. By providing additional JCNTF troops, we boost intelligence, logistics, inspections, reconnaissance/surveillance and other activities that enable law enforcement to more effectively focus and deploy the resources available to them. National Guard troops can and have assisted Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel to help that agency achieve a higher state of readiness and responsiveness. Recon/Surveillance assets provide early warning to federal and local law enforcement of possible illegal border activity. National Guard aviation activity supplements CBP work to ensure gaps are covered more effectively. Skilled intel operators serve in roles that support coordinated and unified counter-terrorism and counter-crime centers. In addition to these capabilities, there are a number of other missions that the JCNTF can accomplish in support of law enforcement.

This kind of support reflects an appropriate amount of military activity and results in a solution that avoids sending a wrong message to Mexico and other neighbors to the south. I am a supporter of legal trade, business and tourism with Mexico and Latin America. I have resisted, and will continue to resist, demonizing entire nations because of the criminal acts of a relative few. To be clear, however, enforcing our laws on immigration and maintaining vigilance on the border are neither punitive nor threatening if done properly.

I support federal law enforcement as the primary solution to border security. Given the fact that National Guard personnel serving on JCNTF conduct all activities in a support role to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, I believe increasing JCNTF activities is the most appropriate military action to take at this time. Contrary to the concerns of some, additional JCNTF troop levels do not result in “militarizing the border.”

Along with additional JCNTF resources to better support law enforcement, I also want to take this opportunity to ask for you to consider the matter of border fence construction, improvements and maintenance. By coordinating actions with Arizona and other states, the fence can be a better deterrent. Absent observation and enforcement activities, the fence has limited value. If not maintained and improved, it will have no value. I believe there are ways to bring federal fence costs down through better equipment procurement methods and the possible use of state inmate labor. Please know that the State of

Arizona, the Arizona National Guard and others stand ready to work with you on this matter.

Beyond the federal requests above, I am also evaluating other options. One is the use of National Guard troops on State Active Duty. Enacting a State Active Duty option remains a possibility, but we would be very challenged in sustaining any serious commitment given Arizona's difficult fiscal situation. In addition, the limitations on benefits available to National Guard troops while serving on State Active Duty poses another significant difficulty for sustaining a force. I have also considered options other than State Active Duty (e.g., refocusing Annual Training plans to border security missions), but I believe the numerous challenges associated with authorization, financing, sustainability and/or conflicts with wartime missions/priorities make such alternatives suboptimal choices relative to the JCNTF proposal.

Concurrent with the JCNTF request, I am looking at ways to better support local law enforcement. I have had extensive interaction with key members of my Security Cabinet about developing support concepts and will soon be rolling out additional plans to County Sheriffs and other law enforcement representatives. As part of my overall efforts, I will be contacting you and Secretary Napolitano at a later date to discuss Operation Stonegarden monies and the role those funds play in border security efforts.

These efforts would be nonexistent without the dedicated labor and expertise of countless federal, state and local personnel currently working lonely, dangerous and, all too often, thankless duty on the border. My requests should not be taken as any diminishment of, or disrespect for, their labor. On the contrary, with additional support, I believe their efforts can be even more effective.

Your Administration has an opportunity to emphasize border security in ways that are effective, prudent and fair. I am willing to do my part in such a direction. I cannot, however, accept the idea that border security is a responsibility of the Border States. We are already burdened with a disproportionate share of costs of arrest/prosecution/incarceration of criminal aliens. As I have stated in previous correspondence and a personal discussion, we should be reimbursed by the federal government for these costs that are the direct result of inadequate border control/security. We face other significant unreimbursed costs due to the negative consequences of illegal border-related activity on residences, businesses and whole communities. Our state and local government agencies, law enforcement jurisdictions and the non-profit sector are all stretched thin trying to address the enormity of the challenge.

I believe that supplementing the existing JCNTF personnel to bring the total to approximately 400 Army and Air National Guard Soldiers and Airmen makes the most sense at this time. As I said last year, I am supportive of higher troop strength numbers, but I want to ensure we can effectively deploy more than 250 additional personnel, and that the missions to which such additional personnel will be assigned are both meaningful and valuable.

Letter to President Obama – Border Security

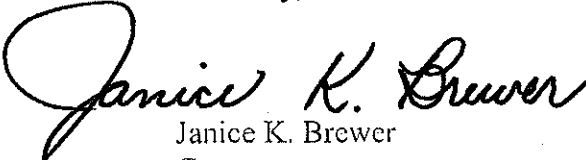
April 6, 2010

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In closing, I urge you to take very seriously the challenges faced by Arizona and the other three southwestern Border States. I also urge you to respond to these challenges by approving the requests I have made in this correspondence. Please call on me if there is anything I can do to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Janice K. Brewer
Governor

JB:bcm

cc: The Honorable Robert Gates, Secretary, Department of Defense
The Honorable Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security
The Honorable Joe Biden, Vice President
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable John Boehner, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor of California
The Honorable Bill Richardson, Governor of New Mexico
The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor of Texas
Senator Jon Kyl
Senator John McCain
Representative Jeff Flake
Representative Trent Franks
Representative Gabrielle Giffords
Representative Raul Grijalva
Representative Ann Kirkpatrick
Representative Harry Mitchell
Representative Ed Pastor
Representative John Shadegg



State of Arizona

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Main Phone: 602-542-4331
Facsimile: 602-542-7601

Governor Brewer's Border Security Plan

National Guard Actions

1. **Joint Task Force Expansion:** Asked the President to approve funding for an additional 250 National Guard personnel for the Joint Counter Narco-Terrorism Task Force (JCNTF) to support federal, state and local law enforcement drug interdiction efforts.
2. **Additional Covert Reconnaissance:** Directed Arizona's Adjutant General, Major General Salazar, to create additional "Nighthawk" ground surveillance capability within JCNTF, using existing resources. This action will result in an estimated 150 additional missions per year.
3. **Increased Aerial Patrolling:** Directed Major General Salazar to augment current JCNTF OH-58 helicopter aerial surveillance operations by reprioritizing/reprogramming existing funds for additional flight hours. This effort will allow for an estimated 70-80 additional missions through September.
4. **Additional Aviation Support Request:** Request the President to provide additional surveillance, pilots and helicopters to the Arizona Army National Guard's existing aviation resources. Those resources are currently insufficient relative to the challenges and length of Arizona's border with Mexico.
5. **National Guard Funding:** Continue advocating for additional federal funding for the National Guard. The Governor's role on the President's Council of Governors should aid in the effort to place a focus on border security and National Guard funding.
6. **National Guard Priorities:** Reprioritize and continue to shift JCNTF resources/personnel to the southern region for "Nighthawk" or sensor/camera room support of law enforcement (versus intelligence support). Emphasis for replacement personnel will be in southern Arizona, and any future growth in JCNTF will also be shifted to the southern region.
7. **Border Security Training:**
 - a. **Focus:** Issue a more formal order that, where appropriate, Arizona Army National Guard (AZ ARNG) units conduct required annual military training in southern Arizona, with specific missions and support to be determined/developed in coordination with the US Border Patrol, the JCNTF, and National Guard officials.
 - b. **Future Border Security Training Plans:** Reexamine all unit annual training plans for FY11 to identify any and all possibilities of having military police, infantry and engineer units conduct

Annual Training in southern Arizona in order to enhance border security while concurrently training on unit core competencies.

Support for Local Law Enforcement

1. **Border Security Enhancement Program:** Directed \$10 million of the Governor's discretionary federal stimulus monies allocated for local law enforcement to the new Border Security Enhancement Program (BSEP). The program will provide flexible grants designed to allow local and tribal law enforcement to propose ways to augment existing border security efforts.
2. **Interaction with Local Law Enforcement:** Governor Brewer will host a meeting with law enforcement personnel next week to provide details about the BSEP and answer any questions or concerns. She has also directed the Directors of the Departments of Public Safety and Homeland Security to regularly meet and interact with law enforcement officials serving along the border.
3. **Department of Public Safety Missions:** Directed the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Director Robert Halliday to:
 - a **Border County Support:** Begin developing plans in the event that Border Counties request additional law enforcement assistance from the State.
 - b **Federal Agency Partnership:** Engage with federal law enforcement to determine how DPS can more effectively partner in efforts to stop the smuggling of illegal drugs, weapons and aliens across the border. Governor Brewer is prepared to request deployment of DPS personnel to areas having the greatest need.

Support of Proposed Federal Actions by Senators Kyl and McCain

Governor Brewer is supportive, overall, of the border security plan announced recently by Arizona's United States Senators, and wholeheartedly endorses the proposal to increase Operation Stonegarden allocations for all southwestern Border States and the additional resources for federal Department of Homeland Security responsibilities.

Regarding the other components of the plan, she would offer the following perspectives:

1. Additional details on the deployment of the proposed force, the missions to be performed by the proposed 3,000 additional personnel, and the ways these additional military efforts would be coordinated with law enforcement entities will be useful in determining how the plan can complement existing efforts in Arizona.
2. Unlike Operation Jump Start from the past, Soldiers and Airmen should be in a position to support not just federal law enforcement agencies, but also state and local efforts.

As she has previously mentioned, the ability to sustain a force of any size requires federal funding. Governor Brewer remains very concerned about attempting any major deployment of troops using only State Funds.

###



State of Arizona

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Main Phone: 602-542-4331
Facsimile: 602-542-7601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 22, 2010

CONTACT: Paul Senseman
(602) 542-1342
psenseman@az.gov

Governor Brewer Announces Arizona Border Security Plan

Plan Focused on National Guard Actions, \$10 million in Support of Local Law Enforcement in the Arizona Border Region

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced her plan to secure the southern border by unveiling a strong, responsible, and detailed plan of action.

"The federal government has failed in its obligation and moral responsibility to secure our border," said Governor Brewer. "A government's principle responsibility to its citizens is to provide safety and security. States have never been expected, even in prosperous economic times, to sustain the national defense of our borders. With the resources we have today, I am doing everything within my power to ensure and promote safety for our citizens along our southern border."

Governor Brewer's Border Security Plan calls for additional covert National Guard reconnaissance, increased National Guard aerial patrolling, annual National Guard military exercises conducted in regions along the border, increased economic and logistical support for local law enforcement, and improved border county interaction and federal agency partnership. The Governor's plan also calls for substantial expansion of the Joint Counter Narco-Terrorism Task Force (JCNTF).

The Arizona National Guard has been directed by Governor Brewer to create additional "Nighthawk" ground surveillance capability within the JCNTF. The additional personnel performing "Nighthawk" will result in an estimated 150 additional missions per year. Personnel will continue to increase as federal funding becomes available. Additionally, Governor Brewer has directed an increase to current helicopter aerial surveillance operations, estimating an increase of 70-80 additional missions through September. These missions will be coordinated with law enforcement to ensure the effectiveness of the substantially increased aviation support.

The Governor sent a request to President Barack Obama seeking the approval of an additional 250 National Guard personnel for the JCNTF to support federal, state and local law enforcement drug interdiction efforts, beyond the current 140 Arizona National Guard members currently participating in JCNTF.

Governor Brewer has also directed \$10 million of discretionary federal stimulus monies to local law enforcement grants for the border, for a program entitled the Border Security Enhancement Program (BSEP). Governor Brewer's stimulus funds have been fully committed for job creation, education, and public safety. BSEP will provide flexible grants to allow local and tribal law enforcement to propose ways to augment existing border security efforts. Governor Brewer will host a meeting shortly with local law enforcement leadership to provide details about the BSEP.

The Governor and her Border Security Cabinet are supportive of the border plan announced recently by Arizona Senators Kyl and McCain. However, state officials await specific details regarding the deployment of the force proposed, the missions to be performed by the proposed 3,000 additional personnel and the ways in which the additional personnel would be coordinated with law enforcement entities.

###