



NEWS RELEASE

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Statement by INS Commissioner James Ziglar

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner James Ziglar released the following statement encouraging undocumented aliens who may have information regarding the sniper attacks in the Washington, D.C. and Richmond regions to contact local authorities without fear of INS attempting to acquire or use that information for immigration purposes:

“All of us in the INS family are shocked and outraged by the sniper attacks that have taken place in the Washington, D.C. and Richmond regions. We are committed to supporting the investigation into the shootings in any way possible. It is crucial that local authorities get the help they need in this investigation. I want to personally urge the immigrant community to come forward if they have information that will assist in this investigation, and assure everyone that INS will not seek immigration status information provided to local authorities in this effort.”

“Further, I want to point out that a special visa status is available to people who assist law enforcement in combating and solving crime. Working with local law enforcement and other appropriate agencies, we will look favorably on granting such special visa status to anyone who can be proven to have materially aided this investigation.”

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