WHAT IS THE 287(g) WSO MODEL?

The 287(g) WSO Model is authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Under the 287(g) WSO Model, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) train and partner with state and local law enforcement agencies (LEAs), under a written Memoranda of Agreement (MOA), to safely serve and execute administrative warrants to incarcerated aliens in their agency’s jail.

The 287(g) WSO Model is an opportunity for jurisdictions to participate in a narrower cooperative agreement than the 287(g) Jail Enforcement Model (JEM).

Unlike the 287(g) JEM program, WSOs do not interview individuals regarding alienage and removability. Rather, WSOs receive only limited authority to serve and execute administrative warrants, as described above.

WHY WSO?

ERO worked with law enforcement partners to develop WSO for jurisdictions that seek to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement efforts but are precluded from honoring ICE detainers as a matter of state law or local policy.

WSO PARTNER BENEFITS

- **Force multiplier**
  - for the arresting and serving of warrants on incarcerated aliens with criminal charges or convictions.

- **Reduce foreign national criminal offenders**
  - released back into the community.

- **Efficiently and safely engage**
  - criminal alien offenders in a secure and controlled environment rather than conducting at-large arrests in the community.
**HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

Interested LEAs go through the following process to participate in the 287(g) WSO Model:

- Interested LEAs submit a letter of interest to the local ICE ERO Field Office Director.
- ICE reviews and assesses the request.
- ICE approves and signs an MOA with the LEA partner.
- ICE conducts background investigations on the LEA WSO candidates.
- The ERO Field Office’s WSO POC facilitates an 8-hour in-depth training on authorities and protocol for WSO. LEA WSO candidates must complete the training prior to commencing WSO operations.
- ERO Field Offices ensure adherence to ICE policy and terms and conditions of the MOA.

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**287(g) WSO BY THE NUMBERS**

*Reflects Fiscal Year 2021 Figures*

- **76 WSO Agreements** with law enforcement agencies in **11 states**
- **589 Credentialed State and Local 287(g) WSO Officers**
- **More than 150 287(g) WSO Facilitated Arrests**

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**STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

- The *Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996* added Section 287(g) to the INA.
- This section of federal law authorizes ICE to enter into voluntary agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies, that permit trained and certified state and local officers to perform specified immigration law enforcement functions under ICE direction and oversight.

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For more info, visit: [ICE.gov/287g](http://ICE.gov/287g) or contact: [ERO287g@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:ERO287g@ice.dhs.gov)