

EPiSO

El Paso Interreligious Sponsoring Organization
Part of the IAF Southwest Network of Organizations
7134 Alameda Ave. El Paso, TX 79915
(915) 778-3200 FAX (915) 778-9730

Catholic Diocese of El Paso
People for the American Way
MALDEF
ACLU

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CONTACT: Kevin Courtney
(915) 276-2165

“IT’S OUR BORDER TOO!” PRESS CONFERENCE AND PANEL ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEN: Wednesday, August 16, 2006, at 6:30 PM

**WHERE: Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services (DMRS)
2400 E. Yandell (between Dallas and Piedras)**

**WHO: EPISO/IAF, Diocese of El Paso, People for the American Way,
DMRS, ACLU, MALDEF, AILA**

Speakers include: Rev. John Stowe, Vicar-General, Diocese of El Paso; Rev. Ed Roden-Lucero, EPISO; Dr. Josiah Heyman, UTEP; Kathleen Walker, American Immigration Lawyers Association; Luis Figueroa, MALDEF; Iliana Holguin, Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services; Ray Ybarra, ACLU; Sr. Lilianne Alam, Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center; Ruben Garcia, Annunciation House

Rep. James Sensenbrenner, author of HR 4437, will hold his 23-member House Judiciary Committee Hearing on August 17th at the Chamizal Auditorium at 10 am in El Paso, Texas. The hearing, which is part of a series being held around the country on topics related to immigration, will focus on topics such as the financial impact of immigration and a border wall.

In response to HR 4437 which passed the House last year, Rev. John Stowe, Vicar General of the Diocese of El Paso, states, “As Americans and people of faith, we are disturbed that a nation founded and built by immigrants could become so cruel as to make it a felony to live in the United States without documents and make it a crime to assist undocumented persons with food, clothing, shelter, work, or medical treatment.”

And yet, the Judiciary Committee will EXCLUDE PUBLIC COMMENT.

EPISO/IAF, the Diocese of El Paso and a coalition of organizations will hold a press conference and panel discussion in order to include the perspectives of El Paso residents. This issue directly affects local families; their views and concerns are essential as a foundation for real immigration reform. Members of Congress need to respect the local knowledge of border families. IT’S OUR BORDER TOO!