



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Homeland Security Beefs Up New Mexico – Mexico Border Following Governor Richardson’s Declaration of Emergency Deming Station Assigned 85 New Border Agents

SANTA FE -- Governor Richardson announced that following his declaration of emergency on the New Mexico – Mexico border and his discussions with Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff, that an additional 105 border patrol officers are being detailed to New Mexico as part of special operation to reduce illegal border activity.

“New Mexicans have endured a rise in border crimes against person and property, witnessed drug and human trafficking, seen their livestock endangered, been the targets of shootings and attempted kidnapping of innocent young women. This action is long overdue. I said that border security is a federal responsibility. By assigning an additional 105 agents to New Mexico, I hope this is a sign that they are finally attempting to secure the border,” Governor Richardson said.

The special operation, which will include 85 additional personnel in Deming and 20 in Lordsburg as well as additional aircraft, will run along the New Mexico - Mexico border. This is a new federal initiative that will work in conjunction with the joint State and local law enforcement operation put into place in southern New Mexico following Governor Richardson’s border emergency declaration.

“This should mark a new era of cooperation among the Border Patrol, state police and local law enforcement.” said Tim Manning, Director of Homeland Security for New Mexico.

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