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San Francisco Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agent in Charge Statement on Oakland Police Chief

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Statement by HSI Special Agent in Charge Ryan L. Spradlin:

"Chief Kirkpatrick has been truthful in her statements about the nature of the ongoing Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) investigation and OPD's involvement. The operation in question involved the execution of a search warrant on Aug. 16, in the 700 block of 27th Street, as part of an ongoing criminal investigation – not a civil immigration investigation. Furthermore, as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, HSI does not conduct 'raids.'

"Because safety is HSI's chief concern during operations, our special agents regularly request assistance from local law enforcement personnel to provide support for officer and public safety. Local law enforcement is best suited for this, as they have an established relationship with the community and knowledge regarding local traffic patterns and other logistical considerations. On the day of our operation, two OPD police officers assisted with traffic control and neighborhood safety. We appreciate Chief Kirkpatrick's assistance on that day and to public safety during our operation.

"While we are unable to comment further at this time because this is an open investigation, HSI will provide relevant information to the public as circumstances permit."

James Schwab Public Affairs Officer/Spokesman - San Francisco U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

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