

Idaho and New Mexico AG's Participate in International Conference on Criminal Justice

On Monday, January 25, 2010, Idaho Attorney General, Lawrence Wasden, and New Mexico Attorney General, Gary King, along with staff of the Conference of Western Attorneys General (CWAG) and the Council of State Governments – *WEST* (CSG-*WEST*), participated in the International Conference on Criminal Justice that convened in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico. The Conference, which was organized by the Baja California Attorney General, Rommel Moreno Manjarrez, provided Attorneys General Wasden and King an opportunity to provide their perspectives and experiences regarding the adversarial system of justice in the United States.

The Conference was convened in anticipation of Baja California's impending implementation of phased judicial reforms this spring in several of the state's major cities. These reforms include the transition from a written, inquisitorial system of justice to an adversarial process that will incorporate, among other things, oral trials to a three-judge panel and alternative means of conflict resolution in criminal proceedings.

As part of the U.S. – Mexico State Alliance Partnership, which is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, CWAG and CSG facilitate binational exchanges among state attorneys general from both countries to discuss issues of common interest such as combating organized crime, human trafficking, and drug and weapons trafficking. Moreover, the Alliance Partnership provides capacity and technical training to prosecutors and investigators of the Mexican state attorney general's offices.

For more information about the U.S. – Mexico State Alliance Partnership, or the International Conference on Criminal Justice, please visit our website at www.cwagweb.org/ap, or contact Karen White, Executive Director of CWAG, at (916) 323-1992 or Edgar Ruiz, Deputy Director of CSG-*WEST*, at (916) 553-4423.



Left to Right: Idaho AG Lawrence Wasden and New Mexico AG Gary King



From Left to Right: Idaho AG Lawrence Wasden; New Mexico AG Gary King; Susan Lustig of CWAG; Edgar Ruiz of CSG-WEST; and Baja California AG Rommel Moreno Manjarrez