



**FROM THE OFFICES OF DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:
ROGER GARCIA, CHRIS RODGER, JIM CAVANAUGH, AND BRIAN FAHEY**

October 10, 2025

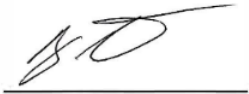
RE: Sheriff's Press Release on ICE Contract Proposal


In light of the Sheriff's October 9, 2025, press release proposing collaboration with ICE to detain individuals at the Douglas County Department of Corrections, we, the undersigned Douglas County Commissioners, share the following rationale for why this proposal will not be accepted:


1. The true humanitarian choice is not to detain mothers, fathers, and workers who have no criminal record; people who are essential to our local economy and part of the fabric that makes Nebraska strong.
2. Data tells the story: 72% of ICE detainees nationwide, and the majority detained in the June 10th raid in Omaha, have no criminal history. Detaining hardworking and law-abiding residents who have built lives and families here does not make us safer; it only deepens fear, trauma, and economic loss across our communities.
3. The total cost of housing an inmate in our jail is approximately \$220 per day, which exceeds the \$175 per diem contract that ICE is currently paying nearby counties.
4. Real solutions require real reform. If we wish to come together to help the situation, we must push for comprehensive immigration reform that allows taxpaying, law-abiding residents, those who work in our schools, hospitals, restaurants, farms, and even our military, to adjust their status and live without fear. This effort requires coalition-building and advocacy at the federal level, not contracts that perpetuate harm.
5. We fully support holding criminals accountable. Those involved in violence, trafficking, or drug crimes must face justice. However, we must also recognize and protect the neighbors who contribute to our shared prosperity and reflect the values we hold dear, such as faith, hard work, and hope for a better future for their children.

For these reasons, we will not support any expansion of immigration detention at the Douglas County Jail. Instead, let us all work toward encouraging our federal delegation to address the need for comprehensive immigration reform that brings forth a balanced approach of public safety, border security, and updated laws that will allow for our immigrant neighbors within our community to continue contributing to the vibrancy and economic success of our state and nation.

Signed,


Roger Garcia
Chair of the Board


Chris Rodgers
County Commissioner


Jim Cavanaugh
County Commissioner


Brian Fahey
County Commissioner