

ICE Accountability Sacramento Community Letter

Dear Mayor and Sacramento City Council,

While millions were casting their ballots, ICE agents were actively shackling innocent refugees, immigrants, and protestors on the steps of the federal courthouse in downtown Sacramento, where they were seeking their citizenship through our justice system. **We condemn what ICE is doing** - they're locking up mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, who are only seeking their California dream.

Furthermore, on Wednesday, November 5th, neighbors who were peaceably assembled in protest outside of the John Moss Federal Courthouse at 650 Capitol Ave were violently attacked and arrested by ICE officers. During this incident, Sacramento police officers were also present, citing protestors for jaywalking or crossing two lanes of traffic in their car. In citing protestors for frivolous infractions during their peaceful protest, Sacramento PD assisted federal agents in penalizing residents for exercising First Amendment rights.

As Sacramentans, we cannot stand by and let this continue.

What's happening at our federal courthouse and across our country threatens the public safety of our communities. Families, exercising their rights lawfully, are being detained, separated, and disappeared every day by masked ICE agents.

We are shocked and appalled by the events of this past week. We believe that Sacramento must strengthen our Sanctuary City policy, [Resolution No. 2017-0158](#) passed in 2017, to take further concrete action to protect the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors, as has been done in cities across the country like [Chicago](#), [New York](#), [Los Angeles](#) and many more. We, the undersigned, demand our city council take the following actions to secure our communities from unlawful federal activity that poses a needless hazard to public safety:

- Ban on Masking of Law Enforcement Officials
 - Echoing [state law in California](#), the City of Sacramento shall prohibit any law enforcement officers whether federal, city, county, state, or any entity acting on their behalf from wearing facial coverings while conducting civil immigration enforcement operations.

- Penalties for violating this provision will be prosecuted as misdemeanors in accordance with state law.
- First Amendment Speech Protection
 - The City will protect the rights of residents to peacefully assemble in protest on City-owned public spaces.
 - We define the right to peaceably assemble as the ability to, picket, chant, distribute literature, and gather in public areas.
 - The City will also enforce the rights of residents to record and otherwise document interactions with immigration and customs enforcement officers.
 - The City will define the immediate area surrounding the John Moss Federal Building as a Free Speech Zone, enshrining and enforcing First Amendment activities, as defined in this section, in this space.
- Prohibition on the Use of City Parking Lots, Vacant Lots, Garages and Sidewalks
 - No City-owned and controlled parking lot, vacant lot, garage, or sidewalk shall be used as a staging area, processing location, or operations base for civil immigration enforcement purposes. For purposes of this order, “staging area” means an area that is used to assemble, mobilize, and deploy vehicles, equipment, or materials, and related personnel for the purpose of carrying out civil immigration enforcement operations.
- Implementation and Enforcement
 - City Departments shall collaborate to identify city-owned and controlled parking lots, vacant lots, garages or sidewalks that either have been used or are likely to be used in the future, as a staging area, processing location, or operations base for the purpose of civil immigration enforcement. City Departments and Agencies shall ensure that all such properties have clear signage stating:

This property is owned and controlled by the City of Sacramento. It may not be used for civil immigration enforcement as a Staging Area, Processing Location, or Operations Base

- City Departments shall further ensure that, wherever appropriate, physical barriers such as locked gates are used to limit access to City-owned and controlled parking lots, vacant lots, garages or sidewalks consistent with this order.
- Within 5 days of the execution of this order, City Departments shall develop the procedures necessary to implement the order. These implementing procedures shall provide that any City employee who becomes aware of the attempted or actual use of City-owned and controlled parking lot, vacant lot, garage or sidewalk as a staging area, processing location, or operations base for civil immigration enforcement shall immediately report to their supervisor, who will communicate with the Office of the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Council offices.
- Private Property Signage
 - The City shall design and print standardized signage that private landowners and leaseholders could display to delineate the non-public areas of property in which the landowner or leaseholder wishes to restrict activities related to civil immigration enforcement.
 - The City will make this signage available free of charge to private landowners and leaseholders, including but not limited to businesses, medical providers, nonprofit organizations, and faith institutions, who voluntarily decide to so designate their property constituent with their authority over the property and who voluntarily request such signage from the City. Landowners and leaseholders that post this signage do so at their own discretion and assume any legal risk associated therewith.
 - City Departments shall make available to the public know your rights materials regarding the rights of employees, tenants, and security staff regarding entry by federal agents.
- Effective Date
 - This policy will take effect upon its execution and filing with the City Clerk.

The undersigned,

SEIU 2015

California Faculty Association at Sacramento State University

Wellstone Democratic Club of Sacramento

Sacramento Stonewall Democrats

Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MECHA) at Sacramento State University

Sacramento Latino Democratic Club

Latinx Young Democrats of Sacramento County

Anti Police-Terror Project (APTP) Sacramento

Decarcerate Sacramento

Public Health Advocates

Sacramento Democratic Socialists of America

Nkauj Iab Yang, Sac Defense, Director

Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA)

Organize Sacramento

NorCal Resist

Hmong Innovating Politics