



HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Chairman Jim Jordan

ILLINOIS: THE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES OF SANCTUARY POLICIES

Interim Staff Report

Committee on the Judiciary
Chairman Jim Jordan

Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement
Chairman Tom McClintock

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Democrats' open-borders policies at the federal level and sanctuary policies at the state and local level allow millions of illegal aliens to pour into the country and ensure that criminal aliens, after encountered by local law enforcement, are released back into American communities. For four years, the Biden-Harris Administration's open borders allowed over eight million illegal aliens to enter the United States, including six million aliens who were released into the country and another two million "gotaways" who avoided apprehension entirely.¹ Once in the country, sanctuary policies in Democrat-run jurisdictions like the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago allow criminal aliens to stay, hurting public safety and endangering law-abiding Americans.

Many Democrat-run state and local jurisdictions prohibit law enforcement from cooperating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to ensure that criminal aliens are transferred to ICE custody and removed from the United States. Led by far-left officials and guided by radical immigration policies, these sanctuary jurisdictions provide a safe haven for criminal aliens. Democrat prosecutors in certain sanctuary jurisdictions provide foreign national criminals preferential prosecutorial treatment—leniency that similarly situated Americans do not receive—so that the criminal aliens may avoid immigration consequences for their criminality and can remain in the United States indefinitely.

The American people elected President Donald Trump and Congressional Republicans with a mandate to secure the border, restore immigration enforcement, and reverse Democrats' radical immigration agenda. President Trump's border enforcement agenda has worked, and illegal alien apprehensions at the southwest border are at historic lows.² Congressional Democrats, however, oppose the President's commonsense solutions to improve border security and immigration enforcement. To thwart this law-and-order approach and to protect criminal and illegal aliens, Democrats at the federal level shut down the federal government for months in 2025 and 2026. Their obstruction ensured that many of the hardworking men and women of the Department of Homeland Security were unpaid and unable to fully carry out their mission to protect the homeland.

¹ Info. provided to the H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Dep't of Homeland Sec., Table 1: Detention Histories of CBP Encounters, January 20, 2021 – March 31, 2024 (Aug. 16, 2024); U.S. Customs and Border Prot., *Custody and Transfer Statistics*, U.S. DEP'T OF HOMELAND SEC. (last accessed July 8, 2025); Camilo Montoya-Galvez, *Biden-Harris Administration has admitted more than 1 million migrants into U.S. under parole policy Congress is considering restricting*, CBS NEWS (Jan. 22, 2024); *Latest UC Data, Total Monthly Discharges to Individual Sponsors Only*, U.S. DEP'T OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVS. (last accessed Aug. 7, 2026); Off. of Refugee Resettlement, *Unaccompanied Children Released to Sponsors by State*, U.S. DEP'T OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVS. (last accessed Aug. 7, 2026); U.S. Customs and Border Prot., *CBP Releases December 2024 Monthly Update*, U.S. DEP'T OF HOMELAND SEC. (Jan. 14, 2025); Immigr. and Customs Enf't, *Daily SWB Placemat*, U.S. DEP'T OF HOMELAND SEC. (May 2024-Jan. 2025) (on file with Comm.); Off. of Homeland Sec. Statistics, *Immigr. Enf't and Legal Processes Monthly Tables – Apr. 2024*, U.S. DEP'T OF HOMELAND SEC. (last accessed Aug. 7, 2026); Casey Harper, *Border crisis creates national security threat for U.S., observers say*, WASH. EXAMINER (Aug. 7, 2023); Bill Melugin (@BillMelugin_), X (June 20, 2024, 10:22 AM).

² See, e.g., Press Release, Trump Administration Delivers 14 Straight Months of Zero Releases at the Border (July 16, 2026), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2026/07/16/trump-administration-delivers-14-straight-months-zero-releases-border>.

Meanwhile, at the state and local level, Democrats' sanctuary policies continued to wreak havoc on American communities. Because sanctuary jurisdictions routinely refuse to cooperate with ICE, officials in these sanctuary jurisdictions release criminal aliens onto the streets instead of transferring them to ICE for removal from the country. According to ICE information, between October 2022 and early 2026, sanctuary jurisdictions declined to honor at least 41,085 detainers from ICE.³ A detainer is the formal request that a state or local law enforcement agency notify ICE before releasing a criminal alien or that the agency maintain custody of a criminal alien for a short period until ICE is able to arrest them in a secure setting.⁴ By refusing to honor ICE detainers, state and local jurisdictions guarantee that dangerous foreign national criminals—even illegal aliens who have been convicted of serious, violent crimes—are released into American communities and free to reoffend.

Sanctuary jurisdictions pose a significant threat to public safety and the enforcement of federal immigration law. The Committee on the Judiciary, with its Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement, has been conducting oversight of these radical sanctuary policies. Since January 2026, the Committee and Subcommittee have requested information relating to jurisdictions that restrict or prohibit cooperation with federal immigration officials, including their policies' devastating effects on public safety. To date, the Committee and Subcommittee have requested relevant material from 40 officials in 13 sanctuary jurisdictions across the country.

This interim staff report focuses on the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago, which have obstructed federal law enforcement with their sanctuary policies for years. Nonpublic documents and data obtained by the Committee and Subcommittee reveal the startling extent to which Chicago and Illinois actively obstruct the enforcement of federal immigration law and shield foreign national criminals from accountability. The Committee and Subcommittee's oversight reveals:

- **Chicago's sanctuary policies have allowed criminal aliens to reoffend and commit violent crimes after being released onto Illinois streets.** Over the past 20 months alone, illegal aliens have gone on to commit murder, domestic violence, and robbery after the Chicago Police Department (CPD) released them back onto Illinois streets in defiance of ICE detainers.⁵
 - In one case from January 2025, instead of honoring an ICE detainer, CPD released an illegal alien from Ecuador who had been arrested for assault and

³ Info. provided to the H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't (Feb. 6, 2026) (on file with Comm.). The number of declined detainers is likely higher, given that ICE may not be aware that a detainer was declined until the agency encounters an alien who had previously been released.

⁴ See Immigr. Detainers, U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't, <https://www.ice.gov/immigration-detainers> (last accessed Aug. 7, 2026).

⁵ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Chicago Police Dep't (June 18, 2026) (on file with Comm.); Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

luring a child.⁶ Two weeks later, after CPD ignored the detainer, the illegal alien robbed and murdered a man in Chicago.⁷

- In February 2025, CPD arrested an illegal alien for domestic violence, and ICE lodged a detainer for him the same day.⁸ Instead of honoring the detainer and ensuring that the domestic abuser could be removed from the United States, CPD released him.⁹ One year later, the illegal alien reoffended: CPD rearrested him for domestic violence and “three counts of resisting a peace officer.”¹⁰
- In other cases, CPD has released criminal aliens so quickly that ICE did not even have time to lodge a detainer. In one instance, CPD released a criminal alien on two separate instances—once after an arrest for illegal possession of ammunition and again after an arrest for trespass—before ICE could lodge a detainer.¹¹ The illegal alien reoffended at least three times afterward, including for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and aggravated battery to a peace officer, with CPD refusing to honor at least two ICE detainers.¹²
- **Democrat-controlled Illinois’s statewide sanctuary policies ensure criminal aliens are free to reoffend.** In 2024 and 2025, the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) released nearly 100 criminal aliens back onto Illinois streets instead of cooperating with ICE.¹³
- **The Cook County Sheriff’s Office released hundreds of criminal aliens in 2025 alone.** The Cook County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO) released 408 criminal aliens from its custody in 2025 instead of honoring active ICE detainers for those same aliens,¹⁴ including for aliens with pending charges for domestic battery with bodily harm, domestic violence, and a firearms offense.¹⁵ In 2025, CCSO did not transfer a single alien to ICE based off an immigration detainer, even though the agency received detainers for

⁶ See *id.*; Noel Brennan, *2 charged with tying up and killing man in Chicago home had met him online for sex, prosecutors say*, CBS NEWS (Feb. 1, 2025, 6:32 PM), <https://www.cbsnews.com/chicago/news/norwood-park-murder-charges-jefferson-ubilla-delgado-geiderwuin-bello-morales/>.

⁷ See Brennan, *supra* note 6.

⁸ See Arrest History for Yimi Chanquin Grajeda, Chicago Police Dep’t, <https://publicsearch1.chicagopolice.org/Arrests/History/18521675>; see Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Chicago Police Dep’t (June 18, 2026) (on file with Comm.); Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁹ See *id.*

¹⁰ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.); see Arrest History for Yimi Chanquin Grajeda, *supra* note 8.

¹¹ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

¹² See *id.*

¹³ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Ill. Dep’t of Corrections (June 17, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

¹⁴ See Documents provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Cook Cnty. Sheriff’s Off. (June 4, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

¹⁵ See *id.*; Documents provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Cook Cnty. Sheriff’s Off. (Aug. 6, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

aliens charged with crimes ranging from driving under the influence, assault, retail theft, child endangerment, and aggravated assault with a rifle.¹⁶

This interim report provides evidence of the ways in which just two jurisdictions have implemented policies that allow dangerous foreign nationals to reoffend and avoid deportation. But the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago are not outliers. They are indicative of a modern, radical, socialist Democrat Party that seeks to erase national borders and place illegal alien criminals ahead of law-abiding American citizens. The policies supported by these Democrats, including sanctuary policies, will have negative and lasting consequences for Americans. The Committee and Subcommittee will continue to conduct oversight of these sanctuary policies to inform potential legislative reforms to better protect American communities.

¹⁶ *Id.*

SANCTUARY JURISDICTIONS

A “sanctuary city” or “sanctuary jurisdiction” is a city or jurisdiction that refuses to cooperate, or limits cooperation, with federal authorities in the enforcement of federal immigration law.¹⁷ Under the principle that “illegal aliens do not have the right to remain in the U.S. undetected and unapprehended,”¹⁸ Congress has explicitly prohibited any restriction on communication between state or local entities and federal immigration authorities relating to an individual’s immigration status.¹⁹

Despite the statute’s clear prohibition on cities, counties, and states from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities, there are, according to an estimate from the Center for Immigration Studies, upward of 200 such sanctuary jurisdictions in the United States. These jurisdictions:

[H]ave laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions, policies, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)]—either by refusing to or prohibiting agencies from complying with ICE detainers, imposing unreasonable conditions on detainer acceptance, denying ICE access to interview incarcerated aliens, or otherwise impeding communication or information exchanges between their personnel and federal immigration officers.²⁰

Sanctuary jurisdictions range from entire states—such as Colorado, California, New York, and Illinois—to major cities—such as Chicago; New Orleans; New York; Newark, New Jersey; Washington, D.C.; Baltimore; and Seattle—to entire counties like Cook County, Illinois.²¹

Sanctuary jurisdictions’ refusal to cooperate with ICE, including by not honoring ICE detainers, means that dangerous aliens are released back onto American streets. To ensure that criminal aliens are safely apprehended and deported, ICE issues detainers for aliens who have been arrested and who ICE has “probable cause to believe . . . [are] removable” from the United States.²² With a detainer, ICE “sends a formal request to a law enforcement agency or correctional facility that has custody of a potentially dangerous alien” and asks the law enforcement agency to notify ICE “as early as possible before [the agency] release[s] a removable alien” and to “[h]old the alien for up to 48 hours beyond the time they would

¹⁷ See WILLIAM A. KANDEL, CONG. RSCH. SERV., IFI14328, “SANCTUARY” JURISDICTIONS: POLICY OVERVIEW (2020); see also SARAH PECK, CONG. RSCH. SERV., R44795, “SANCTUARY” JURISDICTIONS: FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL POLICIES AND RELATED LITIGATION 3-4 (2019).

¹⁸ H. Rep. No. 104-469, part 1, at 277 (1996).

¹⁹ See 8 U.S.C. § 1373(a).

²⁰ Jessica M. Vaughan, *Map: Sanctuary Cities, Counties, and States*, CENTER FOR IMMIGR. STUDIES (June 29, 2026), <https://cis.org/Map-Sanctuary-Cities-Counties-and-States> (last accessed Aug. 7, 2026). The list of sanctuary jurisdictions compiled by the Center for Immigration Studies is broader than the Justice Department’s list.

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Immigr. Detainers*, U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, <https://www.ice.gov/immigration-detainers> (last accessed Aug. 28, 2026).

ordinarily release them so DHS has time to assume custody in accordance with federal immigration law.”²³ Notably, these aliens are in the custody of a state or local law enforcement agency for a criminal offense—not because they entered the country illegally or otherwise lack lawful status.

Despite the effectiveness of detainers, in the first 12 months of President Trump’s second term, state and local law enforcement agencies declined at least 17,864 ICE detainers, including for aliens charged with crimes ranging from sexual assault to murder, according to ICE data.²⁴ In its 2019 report, ICE again warned that sanctuary jurisdictions were “[o]ne of the biggest impediments to [ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations’] public safety efforts.”²⁵ In addition to harming communities, refusing to honor ICE detainers also endangers law enforcement officers as they must resort to taking custody of the alien in an uncontrolled environment.²⁶

The Biden-Harris Administration worked to weaken the first Trump Administration’s efforts to hold sanctuary jurisdictions accountable for undermining immigration enforcement.²⁷ In addition to dropping federal litigation relating to sanctuary jurisdictions’ policies,²⁸ the Biden-Harris Administration’s Justice Department, beginning in April 2021, no longer required jurisdictions to cooperate with ICE as a condition of receiving federal grant funding.²⁹ The number of ICE detainers fell precipitously as a result, from a monthly average of 13,000 to 14,000 during the first Trump Administration to a mere 2,200 detainers in March 2021—just two months after President Biden took office.³⁰ Although the Biden-Harris Administration gradually increased its use of immigration detainers in response to public pressure against its radical immigration policies, it still issued 31 percent fewer detainers than the first Trump Administration.³¹

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ Info. provided to the H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, (Feb. 6, 2026) (on file with Comm.). The number of declined detainers is likely higher, given that ICE may not be aware that a detainer was declined until the agency encounters an alien who had previously been released.

²⁵ See U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, Fiscal Year 2019 Enf’t and Removal Operations Rep., at 17 (2020), <https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Document/2019/eroReportFY2019.pdf>; see also U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, Fiscal Year 2020 Enf’t and Removal Operations Rep., at 17-18 (2021), <https://www.ice.gov/doclib/news/library/reports/annual-report/eroReportFY2020.pdf> (emphasizing the impact of non-cooperative jurisdictions).

²⁶ See U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, Q&A: U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t Declined Detainer Outcome Rep. (DDOR) (Mar. 20, 2017), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/03/20/qa-us-immigration-and-customers-enforcement-declined-detainer-outcome-report>.

²⁷ See Sarah N. Lynch, *U.S. Justice Department ends Trump-era limits on grants to 'sanctuary cities'*, REUTERS (Apr. 28, 2021, 8:31 AM), <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/exclusive-us-justice-department-ends-trump-era-limits-grants-sanctuary-cities-2021-04-28/>.

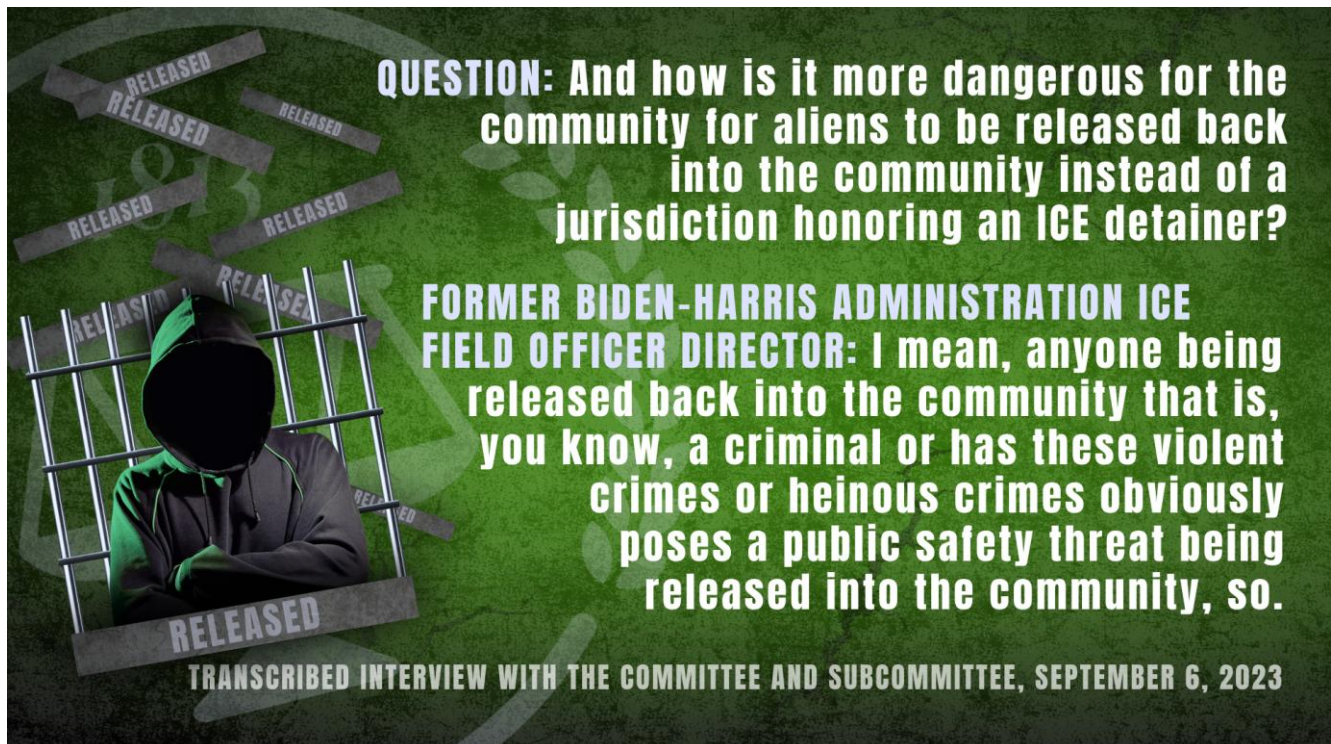
²⁸ Amy Howe, *Court dismisses “sanctuary cities” petitions*, SCOTUS BLOG (Mar. 5, 2021, 10:58 AM), <https://www.scotusblog.com/2021/03/court-dismisses-sanctuary-cities-petitions/>; see City Att’y of San Francisco, *Final victory for San Francisco in sanctuary city case against Trump administration* (Mar. 4, 2021), <https://www.sfcityattorney.org/2021/03/04/final-victory-for-san-francisco-in-sanctuary-city-case-against-trump-administration/>.

²⁹ See Lynch, *supra* note 27.

³⁰ *New Data on ICE Immigration Detainers Show Sharp Drop Since Start of Biden Administration*, TRAC IMMIGR. (June 20, 2023), <https://trac.syr.edu/reports/719/>.

³¹ See U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, Fiscal Year 2024 ICE Enf’t and Removal Operations Rep., at 21 (Dec. 19, 2024), <https://www.ice.gov/doclib/eoy/iceAnnualReportFY2024.pdf>; U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, Fiscal Year

Even Biden-Harris Administration ICE officials criticized sanctuary policies for endangering the public and law enforcement alike. In a transcribed interview with the Committee in 2023, one former high-ranking ICE official testified that sanctuary jurisdictions' refusal to honor ICE detainers endangers ICE officers and undermines ICE's mission.³² Another Biden-Harris Administration ICE official told the Committee how detainer noncompliance for violent criminals "poses a public safety threat being released into the community."³³ One former ICE official even attributed sanctuary policies to potentially undermining national security.³⁴



Since the start of President Trump's second term, the federal government has acted swiftly against sanctuary policies. In an executive order signed on January 20, 2025, President Trump directed the Attorney General and DHS Secretary to "evaluate and undertake any lawful actions to ensure that so-called 'sanctuary' jurisdictions, which seek to interfere with the lawful exercise of Federal law enforcement operations, do not receive access to Federal funds."³⁵ President Trump also instructed the Attorney General and DHS Secretary to "undertake any other lawful actions, criminal or civil, that they deem warranted based on any such jurisdiction's

2018 ICE Enf't and Removal Operations Rep., at 9, <https://www.ice.gov/doclib/about/offices/ero/pdf/eroFY2018Report.pdf>.

³² Transcribed Interview of Former ICE Official 1, U.S. Immigr. & Customs Enf't, at 79-80 (Sept. 22, 2023) (on file with Comm.).

³³ Transcribed Interview of Former ICE Official 2, U.S. Immigr. & Customs Enf't, at 36 (Sept. 6, 2023) (on file with Comm.).

³⁴ Transcribed Interview of Former ICE Official 3, U.S. Immigr. & Customs Enf't, at 23 (June 27, 2023) (on file with Comm.).

³⁵ Exec. Order No. 14159, Protecting the American People Against Invasion, 90 Fed. Reg. 8443 (Jan. 20, 2025), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/protecting-the-american-people-against-invasion/>.

practices that interfere with the enforcement of Federal law.”³⁶ On February 19, 2025, President Trump signed an additional executive order to “ensure[] that Federal funds to states and localities will not be used to support ‘sanctuary’ policies or assist illegal immigration.”³⁷

On April 28, 2025, President Trump signed another executive order that directed the Attorney General to “publish a list of States and local jurisdictions that obstruct the enforcement of Federal immigration laws,” “notify each sanctuary jurisdiction regarding its defiance of Federal immigration law enforcement and any potential violations of Federal criminal law,” and “pursue all necessary legal remedies and enforcement measures to end these violations and bring such jurisdictions into compliance” with federal law.³⁸ The Justice Department produced its initial list of sanctuary jurisdictions in August 2025.³⁹ The most recent list from October 2025 identified 11 states, the District of Columbia, three counties, and 18 cities—meaning that, conservatively, about one-third of the U.S. population lives under dangerous sanctuary policies.⁴⁰ The number of Americans living under sanctuary policies may actually be much higher, however, as the Center for Immigration Studies estimates that the number of sanctuary jurisdictions is closer to 200.⁴¹

SANCTUARY POLICIES IN ILLINOIS

Illinois Law

Illinois has committed itself to obstructing federal immigration enforcement. In August 2017, then-Governor Bruce Rauner signed a law, modeled after a California law known as the Trust Act, that restricted cooperation between local law enforcement agencies and federal immigration officials and undermined federal detainer requests.⁴² On August 2, 2021, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker signed into law legislation that further undermined immigration enforcement by prohibiting local governments from signing contracts with ICE and forbidding “officials from inquiring about the citizenship or immigration status of an individual in custody unless they’re presented with a federal criminal warrant, or otherwise required by federal law.”⁴³ Chicago, meanwhile, has promoted sanctuary policies for four decades, establishing itself as a

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ Fact Sheet, President Donald J. Trump Ends Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders, WHITE HOUSE (Feb. 19, 2025), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/02/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-ends-taxpayer-subsidization-of-open-borders/>.

³⁸ Exec. Order No. 14287, Protecting American Communities from Criminal Aliens, 90 Fed. Reg. 18761 (Apr. 28, 2025), <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/05/02/2025-07789/protecting-american-communities-from-criminal-aliens?>.

³⁹ Press Release, Justice Department Publishes List of Sanctuary Jurisdictions, U.S. DEP’T OF JUSTICE (Aug. 5, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-publishes-list-sanctuary-jurisdictions>.

⁴⁰ U.S. Sanctuary Jurisdiction List Following Executive Order 14287: Protecting American Communities From Criminal Aliens, U.S. Dep’t of Justice, <https://www.justice.gov/ag/us-sanctuary-jurisdiction-list-following-executive-order-14287-protecting-american-communities> (last accessed Jan. 20, 2026).

⁴¹ See Vaughan, *supra* note 20.

⁴² Sophia Tareen, *Governor signs law limiting Illinois police on immigration*, ASSOCIATED PRESS (Aug. 28, 2017, 9:33 PM), <https://apnews.com/general-news-1e160c51677f4bdf84d6cf199dcdda1c>.

⁴³ See Press Release, State of Illinois, Gov. Pritzker Signs Legislation Further Establishing Illinois as the Most Welcoming State in the Nation (Aug. 2, 2021), <https://www.illinois.gov/news/press-release.23653.html> (explaining Ill. H.B. 121, S.B. 667, S.B. 1596, and S.B. 2665).

magnet for illegal aliens.⁴⁴ In roughly a two-year period from 2022 to 2024, more than 50,000 illegal migrants moved to Chicago,⁴⁵ with the city “pa[ying] out \$638.7 million in vendor contracts” for illegal aliens during that time.⁴⁶ Illinois’s refusal to cooperate with federal immigration officials harms public safety, incentivizes crime, and undermines the rule of law. Statewide, the “failure to honor ICE detainees . . . resulted in the release of 1,768 criminal illegal aliens” in the first 11 months of 2025, with released aliens’ crimes ranging from weapons offenses to burglaries to homicides.⁴⁷

Sanctuary Policies in Chicago

Chicago’s Welcoming City Ordinance, first passed in 2012 and updated in 2021, provides more restrictions on the city’s interaction with federal immigration officials.⁴⁸ Specifically, the ordinance:

prohibits city agencies, including the Chicago Police Department, from: [d]etaining, arresting, or continuing to hold anyone solely based on their immigration status or civil immigration warrants[;] [t]ransferring individuals to ICE custody for civil immigration enforcement[;] [a]ssisting federal immigration authorities in any civil enforcement operations, such as providing traffic perimeters, on-site support, or sharing detention information[;] [i]ncluding immigration-related questions in city agency forms or maintaining records of a person’s status; it also removes “citizen” terminology in official code, replacing it with inclusive language such as “person” or “resident[.]”⁴⁹

Less than two weeks before President Trump was inaugurated in January 2025, Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson reaffirmed the city’s “commitment to the welcoming city ordinance” and crafted “Recommended Guidelines for Visits by Federal Representatives.”⁵⁰ The guidelines direct local agencies to contact a “designated attorney or general counsel” if ICE visits a city

⁴⁴ See Kori Rumore, *Chicago’s more than 40-year history as a sanctuary city*, CHICAGO TRIBUNE (Mar. 5, 2025, 2:16 PM), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/03/05/timeline-chicagos-more-than-40-year-history-as-a-sanctuary-city/>.

⁴⁵ Ira Mehlman, *Chicagoans Revolt Over City Spending on Illegal Migrants*, FAIR (Dec. 23, 2024), <https://www.fairus.org/news/state-and-local/chicagoans-revolt-over-city-spending-illegal-migrants>.

⁴⁶ Barb Markoff et al., *Chicago Mayor Johnson defends spending on migrant crisis during Capitol Hill hearings*, ABC 7 (Mar. 5, 2025), <https://abc7chicago.com/post/chicago-mayor-brandon-johnson-defends-spending-migrant-crisis-during-sanctuary-city-hearings-washington-dc/15981771/>.

⁴⁷ Press Release, Governor Pritzker’s Sanctuary Illinois Released More than 1,700 Criminal Illegal Aliens Including Murderers, Pedophiles, and Kidnappers, U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec. (Dec. 8, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/12/08/governor-pritzkers-sanctuary-illinois-released-more-1700-criminal-illegal-alien>.

⁴⁸ Immigrant, Migrant, and Refugee Communities, Chicago Police Dep’t, <https://www.chicagopolice.org/imr/> (last accessed Aug. 18, 2026).

⁴⁹ *Id.*

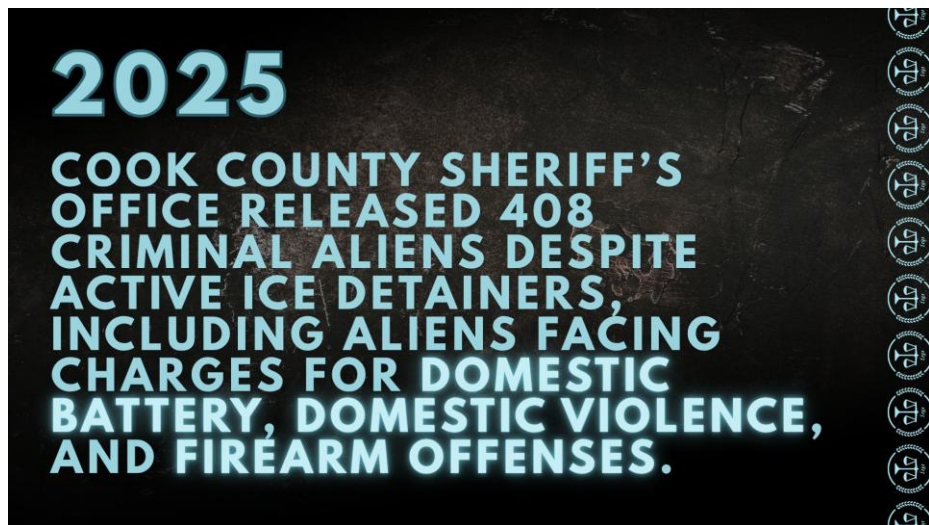
⁵⁰ Press Release, Mayor Brandon Johnson Reaffirms Welcoming City Ordinance, Off. of the Mayor (Jan. 10, 2025), https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/mayor/press_room/press_releases/2025/january/Reaffirming-Welcoming-City-Ordinance.html.

property, contact the agency’s “highest ranking official or designated supervisor,” and document the interaction.⁵¹

The Consequences of Chicago’s & Illinois’s Sanctuary Policies

Chicago’s and Illinois’s sanctuary policies prevent local law enforcement from ensuring that criminal aliens are removed from the United States. The Cook County Department of Corrections (CCDOC), which is operated by the Cook County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO), forbids its officers from “detain[ing] or continu[ing] to detain any individual solely on the basis of any immigration detainer or civil immigration warrant or otherwise comply with any Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainer or civil immigration warrant.”⁵² CCSO’s custody manual makes clear that law enforcement officers should not continue detaining a foreign national criminal “for the purpose of notification and/or based solely on the existence of an ICE detainer or civil immigration warrant.”⁵³ The policies even forbid officers from “responding to ICE inquiries or communicating with ICE regarding individuals’ incarceration status or release dates,” except in rare cases involving a subpoena or criminal warrant.⁵⁴

These radical policies protect criminals at the expense of the American people. According to documents obtained by the Committee and Subcommittee, CCSO alone released 408 criminal aliens from its custody in 2025 instead of honoring active ICE detainers for those same aliens.⁵⁵ CCSO even released criminal aliens with pending charges for domestic battery with bodily harm, domestic violence, and a firearms offense.⁵⁶ In fact, according to CCSO documents, in 2025, CCSO did not transfer a single alien to ICE as a result of an immigration detainer, even though CCSO received detainers for aliens charged with crimes ranging from driving under the influence, assault, retail theft, child endangerment, and aggravated assault with a rifle.⁵⁷



The same year, the Cook County Jail, which CCSO administers,⁵⁸ ignored an ICE detainer and

⁵¹ *Id.*

⁵² Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Cook Cnty. Sheriff’s Off. (June 4, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁵³ *Id.*

⁵⁴ *Id.*

⁵⁵ *Id.*

⁵⁶ *See id.*; Documents provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Cook Cnty. Sheriff’s Off. (Aug. 6, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁵⁷ *Id.*

⁵⁸ Sheriff Mission, Cook Cnty., Ill., <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/agency/sheriff> (last accessed Sept. 10, 2026).

released an illegal alien whose criminal history included convictions for theft and “child abduction/lure child/victim for a child less than 17 years of age.”⁵⁹ In another case, the Cook County Jail refused to honor an ICE detainer for an illegal alien who was released and then was “subsequently arrested . . . for criminal sexual assault and abuse of a minor.”⁶⁰

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) also releases criminal aliens back onto Illinois streets instead of to ICE. From July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026, CPD received roughly 1,136 ICE detainers, administrative warrants, or requests for advance notice of release.⁶¹ During that timeframe, CPD transferred zero criminal aliens to ICE.⁶²

Criminal aliens released by CPD commit additional crimes in communities in Illinois and beyond. Documents obtained by the Committee and Subcommittee reveal that ICE requests to CPD are generally handled by the agency’s Crime Prevention and Information Center (CPIC). Instead of preventing crime, however, CPIC’s defiance of ICE detainers promotes crime by enabling criminal aliens to reoffend. Even worse, CPIC seems to have no interest in working with federal immigration authorities to keep dangerous criminals off of Chicago streets. In fact, in one email from October 2024, CPIC demanded that ICE “cease any further immigration-related requests moving forward.”⁶³

⁵⁹ Press Release, Governor Pritzker’s Sanctuary Illinois Released More than 1,700 Criminal Illegal Aliens Including Murderers, Pedophiles, and Kidnappers, U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec. (Dec. 8, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/12/08/governor-pritzkers-sanctuary-illinois-released-more-1700-criminal-illegal-aliens>.

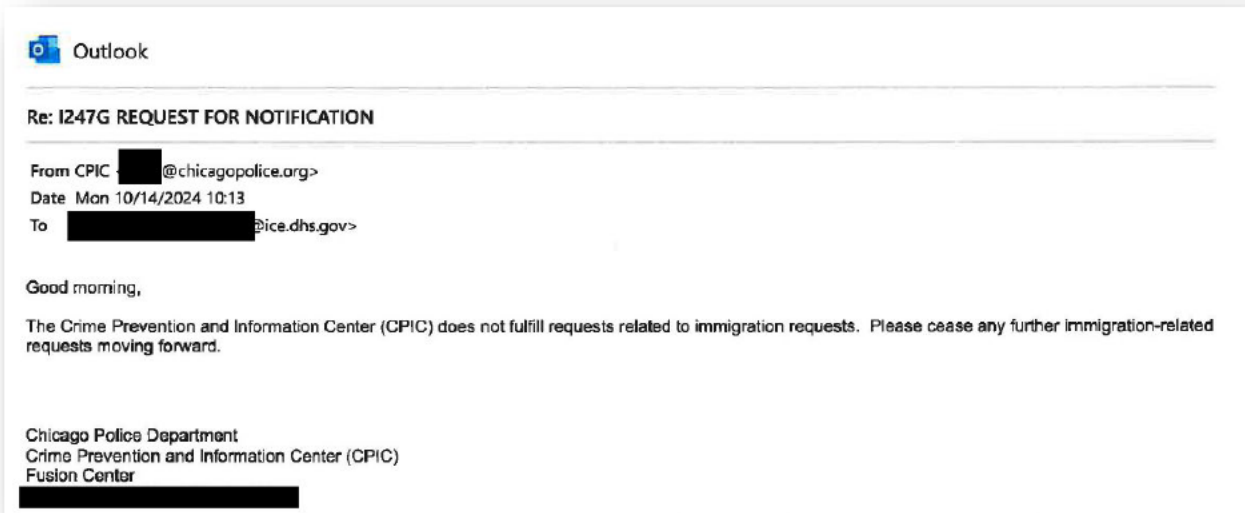
⁶⁰ Mark Rivera & Barb Markoff, *Decision imminent in lawsuit over immigration enforcement in Chicago, across Illinois*, ABC 7 NEWS (May 15, 2025), <https://abc7chicago.com/post/decision-imminent-landmark-us-department-justice-lawsuit-immigration-enforcement-chicago-illinois/16429667/>.

⁶¹ See Welcoming City Ordinance Reporting, July 1, 2024 – Sept. 30, 2024, Chicago Police Dep’t (Oct. 1, 2024), https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/22217-WelcomingCity_Q3_2024.pdf; Welcoming City Ordinance Reporting, Oct. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2024, Chicago Police Dep’t (Jan. 9, 2025), https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/22652-Q4_Welcoming_City_2024.pdf; Welcoming City Ordinance Reporting, Jan. 1, 2025 – Mar. 31, 2025, Chicago Police Dep’t (Apr. 1, 2025), <https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/23155-Welcoming-City-Report-Q1-2025.pdf>; Welcoming City Ordinance Reporting, Apr. 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025, Chicago Police Dep’t (July 9, 2025), <https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/23811-Welcoming-City-Report-Q2-2025.pdf>; Welcoming City Ordinance Reporting, July 1, 2025 – Sept. 30, 2025, Chicago Police Dep’t (Oct. 7, 2025), https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/24370-WelcomingCity_2025_Q3-2025.pdf; Welcoming City Ordinance Q4 Reporting, Oct. 1, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2025, Chicago Police Dep’t (Jan. 5, 2026), https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/24789-Welcoming-City-Report_Q4-2025.pdf; Welcoming City Ordinance Q1 Reporting, Jan. 1, 2026 – Mar. 31, 2026, Chicago Police Dep’t (Apr. 9, 2026), https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/25435-Welcoming-City-Report_Q1-2026.pdf; Welcoming City Ordinance Q2 Reporting, Apr. 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026, Chicago Police Dep’t (July 9, 2026), https://igchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/26003-Welcoming-City-Report_Q2-2026.pdf.

⁶² See *id.*

⁶³ See Documents provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Chicago Police Dep’t (June 18, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

Below: In an email dated October 14, 2024, the Chicago Police Department tells ICE to “cease any further immigration-related requests moving forward.”



Since that demand that ICE stop sending immigration detainees, CPD has repeatedly denied ICE requests for basic information about criminal aliens in CPD custody, leading to dire consequences. Over the past 20 months alone, illegal aliens have gone on to commit murder, domestic violence, and robbery after CPD released them back onto Illinois streets in defiance of ICE detainees.⁶⁴ For example:

- In January 2025, instead of honoring an ICE detainer, CPD released an illegal alien from Ecuador who had been arrested for assault and luring a child.⁶⁵ Two weeks later, after CPD ignored the detainer, the illegal alien robbed and murdered a man in Chicago.⁶⁶
- In February 2025, CPD arrested an illegal alien for domestic violence, and ICE lodged a detainer for him the same day.⁶⁷ Instead of honoring the detainer and ensuring that the domestic abuser could be removed from the United States, CPD released him.⁶⁸ One year later, the illegal alien reoffended: CPD rearrested him for domestic violence and “three counts of resisting a peace officer.”⁶⁹

⁶⁴ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Chicago Police Dep’t (June 18, 2026) (on file with Comm.); Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁶⁵ See *id.*; Brennan, *supra* note 6.

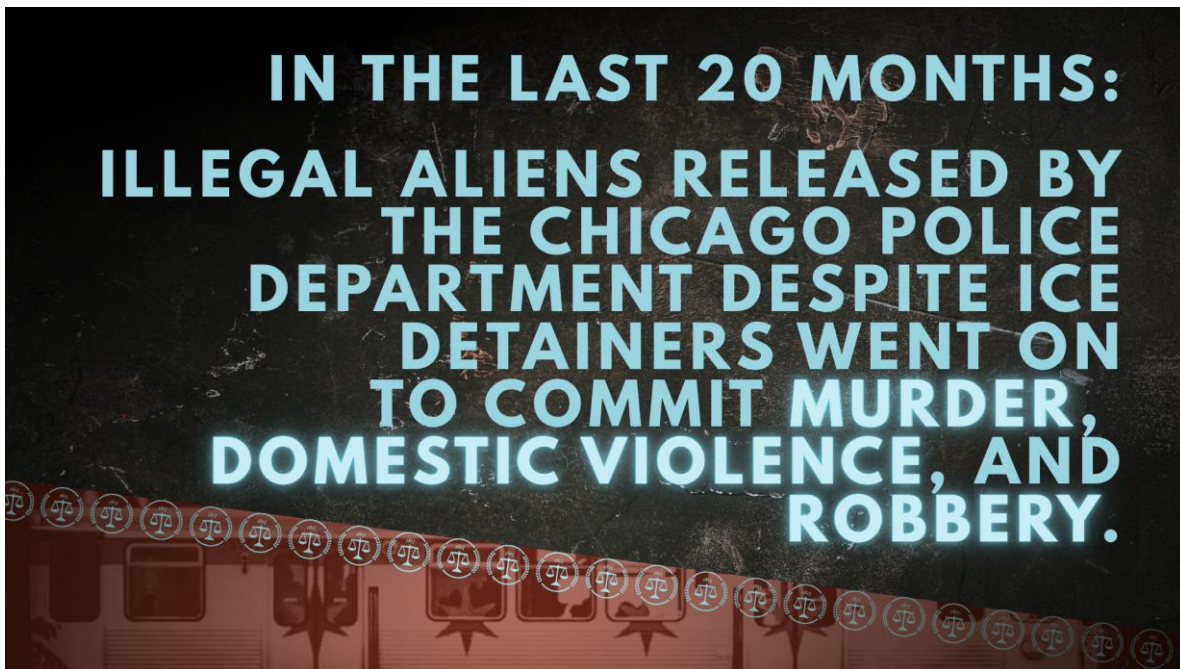
⁶⁶ See Brennan, *supra* note 6.

⁶⁷ See Arrest History for Yimi Chanquin Grajeda, *supra* note 8; see also Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Chicago Police Dep’t (June 18, 2026) (on file with Comm.); Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁶⁸ See *id.*

⁶⁹ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.); Arrest History for Yimi Chanquin Grajeda, *supra* note 8.

- In another case, CPD refused to honor an ICE detainer for an illegal alien arrested in August 2025 for domestic battery with bodily harm.⁷⁰ Because of a lack of cooperation with ICE, the criminal alien was released to reoffend, which he did less than one year later. In June 2026, that same criminal alien was arrested in New Mexico for aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, leaving the scene of an accident, reckless driving, and criminal damage to property.⁷¹ In August 2026, New Mexico officials also charged the criminal alien with driving while under the influence of liquor.⁷²



⁷⁰ See Arrest Details for Jose Dionicio Campos-Vera, Chicago Police Dep't, Case No. 30495469, <https://publicsearch1.chicagopolice.org/Arrests/Details/18444898>.

⁷¹ See State of New Mexico v. Dionicio Jose Campos Vera, Case No. M-56-FR-202600084, available at <https://caselookup.nmcourts.gov/>.

⁷² See State of New Mexico v. Dionicio Jose Campos Vera, Case No. M-45-DR-202600330, available at <https://caselookup.nmcourts.gov/>.

- In other cases, CPD has released criminal aliens so quickly that ICE did not even have time to lodge a detainer. In one instance, CPD released a criminal alien two separate times—once after an arrest for illegal possession of ammunition and again after an arrest for trespass—before ICE could lodge a detainer.⁷³ The illegal alien reoffended at least three times afterward, including for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and aggravated battery to a peace officer, with CPD refusing to honor at least two ICE detainers.⁷⁴

From: CPIC [REDACTED]@chicagopolice.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 5:18 AM
To: [REDACTED]@ice.dhs.gov>
Subject: CUSTODY VERIFICATION

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Please use the Cofense Report Phishing button to report. If the button is not present, click [here](#) and follow instructions.

Unfortunately, per our Command, we are not able to fulfill your request. Please contact your local U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Chicago for further assistance.

Chicago Police Department

From: CPIC [REDACTED]@chicagopolice.org>
Date: Fri 7/19/2024 06:58
To: [REDACTED]@ice.dhs.gov>

Unfortunately, we are unable to assist with immigration investigations. Have a great day!

Chicago Police Department
 Crime Prevention and Information Center (CPIC)
 Fusion Center
 [REDACTED]

*Screenshots from internal
 Chicago Police
 Department emails: The
 Chicago Police
 Department repeatedly
 refuses to cooperate with
 ICE, including for an
 illegal alien who CPD had
 arrested five times.*

From: CPIC [REDACTED]@chicagopolice.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 6:02 AM
To: [REDACTED]@hsi.dhs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Custody Status

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Please use the Cofense Report Phishing button to report. If the button is not present, click [here](#) and follow instructions.

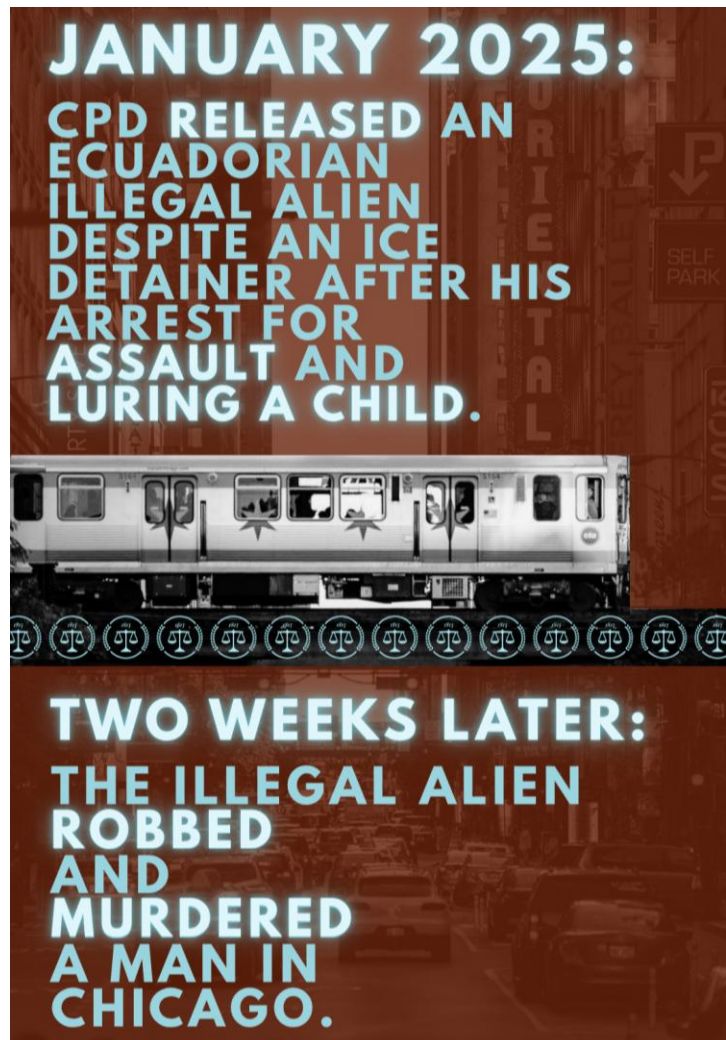
[REDACTED]
 We cannot do this if it is for deportation. Need a case number and what the investigation is. Please let this person know our policies.

⁷³ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't (July 21, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁷⁴ See *id.*

Like the city of Chicago, the state of Illinois maintains sanctuary policies that harm public safety. The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) routinely ensures criminal aliens are released into Illinois communities instead of transferred to ICE. In 2024 and 2025, IDOC released nearly 100 criminal aliens back onto Illinois streets.⁷⁵ These releases include a Mexican national sentenced to 30 years in IDOC custody for attempted murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault with bodily harm, and aggravated kidnapping; a Mexican national convicted of attempted murder with intent to kill; and a Mexican national sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment for assault on a child.⁷⁶ IDOC also previously released a Jamaican national who had served 28 years in prison for murder.⁷⁷

Those are just the latest examples of the dangerous consequences of sanctuary policies that have plagued Illinois for years. In 2019, for example, CPD refused to honor an ICE detainer for a Mexican national who had been arrested for theft.⁷⁸ After his release from custody, the illegal alien allegedly lured a 3-year-old girl into a McDonald's bathroom and sexually assaulted her.⁷⁹ Had Chicago authorities cooperated with federal officials, the man, a convicted aggravated felon who previously had been deported, could have been in ICE custody and removed to Mexico.⁸⁰ CPD defended its lack of cooperation with ICE by claiming that it was working to "protect[]" the



⁷⁵ Info. provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by Ill. Dep't of Corrections (June 17, 2026) (on file with Comm.).

⁷⁶ Press Release, Governor Pritzker's Sanctuary Illinois Released More than 1,700 Criminal Illegal Aliens Including Murderers, Pedophiles, and Kidnappers, U.S. Dep't of Homeland Sec. (Dec. 8, 2025), <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/12/08/governor-pritzkers-sanctuary-illinois-released-more-1700-criminal-illegal-alien>.

⁷⁷ ERO Chicago (@EROChicago), X (Apr. 5, 2021, 4:00 PM), <https://x.com/EROChicago/status/1379161955211051008>.

⁷⁸ Press Release, U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't, Man arrested for sexually assaulting toddler at fast food restaurant should have been turned over to ICE in 2019 (Feb. 27, 2020), <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/man-arrested-sexually-assaulting-toddler-fast-food-restaurant-should-have-been-turned>.

⁷⁹ *Id.*; see Lee Brown, *Man released under 'sanctuary city' rules sexually assaults 3-year-old: ICE*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 2, 2020, 2:55 PM), <https://nypost.com/2020/03/02/man-released-under-sanctuary-city-rules-sexually-assaults-3-year-old-ice/>.

⁸⁰ *Id.*

rights of this child abuser: “The Chicago Police Department remains committed to protecting all Chicago residents regardless of their immigration status.”⁸¹ According to ICE, Cook County, Illinois law enforcement “released 1,070 criminal aliens and immigration violators in Fiscal Year 2019, despite requests by [ICE] to notify the agency before their release from local custody.”⁸²



Sheridan Gorman

Early on March 19, 2026, Sheridan Gorman, an 18-year-old freshman at Loyola University, and her friends were in a Chicago park looking for the Northern Lights when Jose Medina-Medina shot and killed Gorman.⁸³ Medina-Medina, an illegal alien from Venezuela, had initially been apprehended by Border Patrol at the southwest border near El Paso, Texas, on May 9, 2023.⁸⁴ Despite Medina-Medina telling immigration officials that he did “not fear harm or persecution” in Venezuela and despite being deemed “likely to abscond” in the United States, the Biden-Harris Administration released the illegal alien into the country,⁸⁵ even after he apparently “asked to be deported to Colombia.”⁸⁶ His release came after Border Patrol noted that Medina-Medina “was unable to provide a valid U.S. address and/or verifiable Point of Contact” and had no identification documents.⁸⁷ Mere months after the Biden-Harris Administration released him

⁸¹ *Id.*

⁸² See Press Release, U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf’t, Cook County declines more than 1,000 ICE detainees in FY19 (Jan. 10, 2020), <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/cook-county-declined-more-1000-ice-detainers-fy19>.

⁸³ Nicholas McEntyre, *Illegal migrant, accused of executing Loyola student Sheridan Gorman, caught with weapon in jail*, N.Y. POST (May 30, 2026, 1:42 AM), <https://nypost.com/2026/05/30/us-news/illegal-immigrant-jose-medina-accused-of-killing-loyola-student-sheridan-gorman-caught-with-weapon-in-his-pants-inside-jail/>.

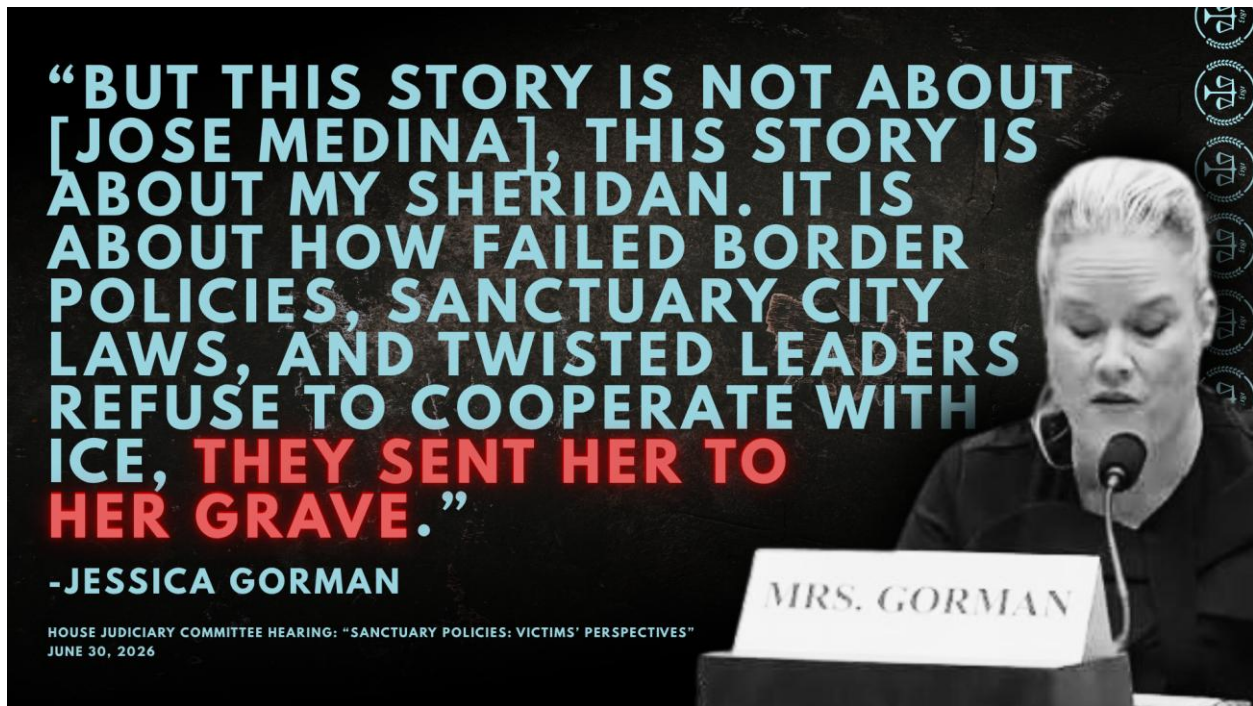
⁸⁴ Alien File of Jose Medina-Medina, provided to H. Comm. on the Judiciary by U.S. Dep’t of Homeland Sec. (on file with Comm.).

⁸⁵ See *id.*

⁸⁶ See Maher Kawash, Tre Ward, & Lissette Nunez, *Man charged with killing 18-year-old Loyola student at Rogers Park beach ordered detained*, ABC 7 CHICAGO (Mar. 27, 2026), <https://abc7chicago.com/post/jose-medina-suspect-accused-death-sheridan-gorman-loyola-student-killed-rogers-park-chicago-shooting-is-due-court/18787149/>.

⁸⁷ See Alien File of Jose Medina-Medina, *supra* note 84.

at the border, Medina-Medina was arrested in Chicago for shoplifting.⁸⁸ He was then released, “never showed up to court for that retail theft charge,” and murdered Gorman less than three years later.⁸⁹ Following his arrest for murder, Medina-Medina could not appear at his initial hearing because “he was at the hospital for tuberculosis, which he contracted in a migrant shelter.”⁹⁰



Gorman’s parents, Tom and Jessica Gorman, have called for change following Sheridan’s death. Her mom, Jessica, has pleaded, “I don’t care what side of the aisle politically people are on, or if you’re right in the middle like us. This can’t happen. We’ve got to make changes.”⁹¹ Sheridan’s father has criticized open-borders policies and sanctuary jurisdictions: “No family should have to become experts in immigration failures, release policies, warrants, sanctuary laws, and enforcement breakdowns because their daughter was killed by someone who should not have been here and should not be free.”⁹² In testimony before the Immigration Subcommittee in June 2026, Jessica questioned why Democrat lawmakers prioritize criminal aliens over U.S. citizens:

The man accused of murdering my daughter is Jose Medina, an illegal immigrant from Venezuela, who should not have even been in this country. And even after committing a crime and having an outstanding warrant, he was left on the streets of Chicago to murder

⁸⁸ See Kawash, *supra* note 86.

⁸⁹ See *id.*

⁹⁰ *Id.*

⁹¹ See McEntyre, *supra* note 83.

⁹² See Louis Casiano, *Sheridan Gorman’s parents say protecting children from failed immigration policies isn’t a one-party fight*, FOX NEWS (May 22, 2026, 6:26 PM), <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/sheridan-gormans-parents-say-protecting-children-failed-immigration-policies-isnt-one-party-fight>.

my innocent, American child. But this story is not about him, this story is about my Sheridan. It is about how failed border policies, sanctuary city laws, and twisted leaders refuse to cooperate with ICE, they sent her to her grave. It is about a government and politicians that forgot their first priority, and the question before this Committee is painfully simple. When did protecting our American citizens stop being your first priority? And even more important, why did protecting our American citizens stop being your first priority? I want an explanation, I need one, and I deserve one, but first I want you to know who my Sheridan was. I want you to understand what we all lost because of your mismatched priorities.⁹³

Katie Abraham

In January 2025, Julio Cucul Bol, an illegal alien from Guatemala, killed Katie Abraham after he drove drunk and crashed into the back of their stopped car in Urbana, Illinois.⁹⁴ Katie, a 20-year-old Ohio University student, was visiting friends at the University of Illinois.⁹⁵ After the accident, Cucul Bol fled the scene on foot and was arrested “on a bus in Texas headed for the Mexican border just days after the crash.”⁹⁶ Prior to the drunk driving crash, Cucul Bol visited three bars, “where he had multiple mixed drinks and buckets of beers.”⁹⁷ Katie’s father, Joe, has criticized Illinois’s sanctuary policies that provide a safe haven to Cucul Bol and other illegal aliens.⁹⁸ He also has accused Illinois Governor JB Pritzker of “giv[ing] Katie nothing but disrespect, silence[,] and indifference.”⁹⁹ In testimony before the Subcommittee in June 2026, Abraham called on Congress to end sanctuary jurisdictions:

Katie was not a statistic, she was my daughter. She should still be alive today. Congress can’t undo what happened to Katie, but it can examine what failed, demand transparency from government agencies and public officials, insist that policies be judged not by their intentions, by their outcomes. Katie lost her future January 19, 2025, my family lost ours with her. I ask this Committee to demand

⁹³ *Sanctuary Policies: Victims’ Perspectives: Hearing Before the Subcomm. on Immigr. Integrity, Security, and Enf’t, of the H. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 119th Cong. (June 30, 2026) (statement of Jessica Gorman).

⁹⁴ Gabriella Morando, ‘So many emotions’; Family of fatal Urbana hit-and-run victim faces suspect in court, WCIA NEWS (Feb. 20, 2025, 9:50 AM), <https://www.wcia.com/news/champaign-county/so-many-emotions-family-of-fatal-urbana-hit-and-run-victim-faces-suspect-in-court/>; Dane Placko, *Glenview family seeks justice after migrant suspect kills daughter, friend in Urbana hit-and-run*, FOX 32 CHICAGO (Jan. 26, 2025, 9:34 PM), <https://www.fox32chicago.com/news/glenview-family-seeks-justice-after-migrant-suspect-kills-daughter-friend-urbana>.

⁹⁵ See Placko, *supra* note 94.

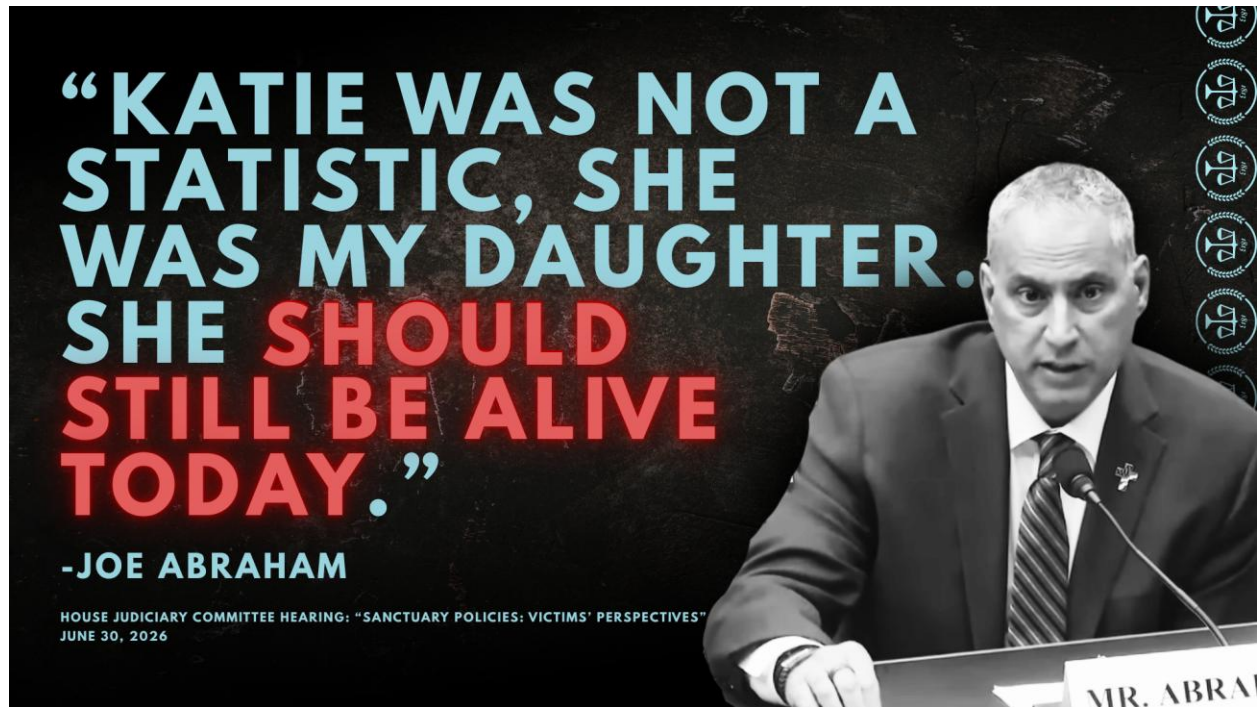
⁹⁶ *Id.*

⁹⁷ See Morando, *supra* note 94.

⁹⁸ Brianna Moreland, *Father of Urbana hit-and-run victim urges changes to sanctuary policies*, FOX ILLINOIS (Feb. 3, 2026), https://www.foxillinois.com/news/local/father-of-urbana-hit-and-run-victim-urges-changes-to-sanctuary-policies/article_a3e9d9b9-63c7-4400-9a85-59fa9a8df229.html.

⁹⁹ Brian Flood & Alba Cuebas-Fantauzzi, *Illinois father says Pritzker shows 'indifference' to his daughter being killed by illegal immigrant*, FOX NEWS (Jan. 15, 2026, 7:00 AM), <https://www.foxnews.com/media/illinois-father-says-pritzker-shows-indifference-his-daughter-being-killed-illegal-immigrant>.

full transparency, identify the failures that allowed a previously deported individual to illegally return, remain in this country, obtain a driver's license, and ultimately kill two young women. Hold government accountable, strengthen coordination between federal, state, and local authorities, and judge every policy by one simple question. Would this better protect the next American stopped at a red light?¹⁰⁰



CONCLUSION

Democrats' open-borders policies and sanctuary jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for U.S. citizens. Even after the American people resoundingly rejected Democrats' pro-illegal alien policies in November 2024, Democrats across the country reinforced sanctuary policies to ensure that the millions of illegal aliens who entered the U.S. are never removed from the country. Chicago and Illinois are just two examples of Democrats' efforts to erase national borders and undermine immigration enforcement. Meanwhile, President Trump and House and Senate Republicans continue to work on commonsense solutions to secure the border, enforce federal immigration law, and protect American communities.

On March 5, 2026, the Committee favorably reported H.R. 7640, the Shut Down Sanctuary Policies Act. The Shut Down Sanctuary Policies Act protects American communities by prohibiting state and local laws and policies that restrict cooperation with federal immigration officials. The bill also would defend cooperative jurisdictions from frivolous lawsuits from far-left sanctuary officials, allow jurisdictions to receive federal funding if they do not thwart federal

¹⁰⁰ *Sanctuary Policies: Victims' Perspectives: Hearing Before the Subcomm. on Immigr. Integrity, Security, and Enf't, of the H. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 119th Cong. (June 30, 2026) (statement of Joe Abraham).

law, and give much-needed relief to victims of sanctuary policies. The Committee will continue its oversight into sanctuary jurisdictions that prioritize the comfort of illegal alien criminals over the safety of U.S. citizens.