

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-6906
judiciary.house.gov

May 20, 2026

The Honorable Curtis Johnson
Sheriff
Boulder County Sheriff's Office
5600 Flatiron Parkway
Boulder, CO 80301

Dear Sheriff Johnson:

The Committee on the Judiciary is conducting oversight of state and local jurisdictions that endanger American communities through their refusal to cooperate with federal immigration officials. The Boulder County Sheriff's Office's immigration-related policies prioritize criminal and illegal aliens over American citizens and threaten public safety. We write to request information about Boulder's sanctuary policies, including your lack of cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to ensure that dangerous aliens are not released onto American streets.

To protect communities from criminal aliens in law enforcement custody, ICE uses detainers, which are simple requests that a law enforcement agency "notify [ICE] as early as possible before [the agency] release[s] a removable alien" and "[h]old the alien for up to 48 hours beyond the time [the agency] would ordinarily release them so [the Department of Homeland Security] has time to assume custody in accordance with federal immigration law."¹ Federal law prohibits jurisdictions from restricting ICE's requests for and receipt of individuals' citizenship information.² For years, the Boulder County Sheriff's Office has restricted information sharing with ICE and refused to honor ICE detainers.³ Boulder also prohibits ICE from interacting with criminal aliens in your custody when the alien inevitably declines to speak to immigration officials.⁴

¹ U.S. Immigr. and Customs Enf't, *Immigr. Detainers* (May 13, 2025), <https://www.ice.gov/immigration-detainers>.

² See 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

³ Nicky Andrews & Andrea Grajeda, 'Not our job and not our concern': Law enforcement in Boulder County say they will not call ICE on locals, DAILY CAMERA (Feb. 7, 2025, 3:17 PM), <https://www.dailycamera.com/2025/02/07/not-our-job-and-not-our-concern-law-enforcement-in-boulder-county-say-they-will-not-call-ice-on-locals/>; see Immigr. Rights in the Boulder Cnty. Justice System, Boulder Cnty., Colo., <https://bouldercounty.gov/district-attorney/immigrant-rights-in-the-boulder-county-justice-system/> (last accessed Apr. 22, 2026).

⁴ See Andrews, *supra* note 3.

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Despite your claim that your office “respond[s] to public safety needs within [your] jurisdiction,”⁵ Boulder’s sanctuary policies endanger the communities you serve. Like other sanctuary jurisdictions we have examined, the shielding of criminal aliens from immigration enforcement in Boulder undermines public safety and thwarts the efficient enforcement of federal law. Accordingly, to assist the Committee with its continued oversight of federal immigration policy and to inform potential legislative reforms to address sanctuary policies, we ask that you provide the following information:


1. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office’s interaction with ICE for the period January 1, 2023, to the present;
2. All documents and communications referring or relating to the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office’s policies, practices, and procedures related to non-U.S. citizens for the period January 1, 2023, to the present;
3. The number of ICE detainees that the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office’s has received and has declined to honor for the period January 1, 2023, to the present; and
4. All documents and communications between or among the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office, the Boulder Police Department, and the Boulder County District Attorney’s Office referring or relating to immigration enforcement for the period January 1, 2023, to the present.

Please provide the information requested as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2026. The Committee is authorized to conduct oversight of federal immigration law pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives.⁶ If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Chairman



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

cc: The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member

The Honorable Pramila Jayapal, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Immigration
Integrity, Security, and Enforcement

⁵ See Boulder Cnty. Sheriff’s Off., Facebook (Feb. 7, 2025), <https://www.facebook.com/BoulderCountySheriffsOffice/posts/statement-from-sheriff-curtis-johnsonmany-members-of-the-boulder-county-communit/1015426600619680/>.

⁶ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2025).