

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration's Militarization of U.S. Cities (v.2)
Date: **Updated:** January 20, 2026

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The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a [memo](#) ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- **Understanding the National Guard**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics**, [States United](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)

- Kat Lonsdorf, **Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago.**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments**, [States United](#) (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- Bora Erden, **How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military**, [States United](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 17, 2025)
- Hina Shamsi, **How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists**, [ACLU](#) (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority**, [States United](#) (Sept. 2, 2025)
- Terrance Sullivan, **The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy**, [Amnesty International](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 22, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, **Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”**: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Ryan Goodman, **The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets**, [Just Security](#) (June 16, 2025)
- William Banks & Mark Nevitt, **The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement**, [Just Security](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **“The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (June 10, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)

- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#)**.

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE is planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#)**. On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests**.

Relevant Consent Decree

Castañon Nava v. DHS, 18-cv-03757 (N.D. Ill.)

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Relevant Cases

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Venegas v. Homan*, [25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention without probable cause by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent,** [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days,** [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittny Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records,** [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record,** [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find,** [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations,** [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- **ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation**, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- **Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies**, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- **ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston**, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- **ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0**, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, **ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) **the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.**
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced **the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**.
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, 'Touched the Lives of So Many,'** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)

- Rebecca Schneid, ‘**Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown**, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen, **Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago**, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago**, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- Connor Greene, **Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump**, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates**, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- Charles Thrush, **Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids**, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)
- Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, **Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, **Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities**, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)
- Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)
- Sarah Raza, **Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time**, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Nic Flosi, **Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago**, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- Arelis R. Hernandez et al., **DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record.**, [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)
- Robert Klemko, **The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown**, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Monica Eng, **DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal

agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.),**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump Administration has engaged in illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump Administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents, in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** Operation Metro Surge on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE has **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that DHS has **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants, AP Source Says**, [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)

- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, 0:25-cv-04669 (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction

prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from Defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the Administrative Procedure Act.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless

immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law, [Congressional Research Service](#)** (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act, [Center for New American Security](#)** (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act, [Protect Democracy](#)** (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military, [Lawfare](#)** (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It, [Brennan Center](#)** (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#)**, (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, ICE launched [Operation Midway Blitz](#), prompting large-scale ICE [demonstrations and protests](#).

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#)¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD) for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called [300 members](#)² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued two memos directing [300 members](#) of the Illinois National Guard and [200 members](#) of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a [complaint](#) seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

¹ See page 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump's Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump's Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law [lawsuit](#) challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)

- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756 \(D. Ore.\)](#), [25-6268 \(9th Cir.\)](#)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dragnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth [ordered the extension](#) of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-02678](#) (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed**

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a [complaint](#) challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a [motion for TRO](#), which it ultimately [withdrew](#) after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a [notice of voluntary dismissal](#), which the court granted.

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-03005](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed [a complaint](#) challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

***S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster*, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)**

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a [lawsuit](#) in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed [directly](#) in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **What Trump's D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, The [Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- Dara Lind, **A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump's Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, **One Week of Trump's D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President's Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation's Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)

- Mark Nevitt, **Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- Chris Mirasola, **Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities (v.3)
Date: **Updated:** January 25, 2026

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a [memo](#) ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- **Understanding the National Guard**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics**, [States United](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)

- Kat Lonsdorf, **Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago.**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments**, [States United](#) (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- Bora Erden, **How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military**, [States United](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 17, 2025)
- Hina Shamsi, **How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists**, [ACLU](#) (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority**, [States United](#) (Sept. 2, 2025)
- Terrance Sullivan, **The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy**, [Amnesty International](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 22, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, **Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”**: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Ryan Goodman, **The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets**, [Just Security](#) (June 16, 2025)
- William Banks & Mark Nevitt, **The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement**, [Just Security](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **“The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (June 10, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)

- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#)**.

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE is planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#)**. On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#)**, which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests**.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report [revealed an internal DHS memo](#)** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, **DHS announced that ICE [arrested 7,000 gang members and deported more than 675,000 individuals](#)** during the first year of President Trump’s second term.

On January 22, 2026, **DHS [described](#) the Administration’s “Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE.”**

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS, 18-cv-03757* (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Relevant Cases

***Bangstad v. Noem, 25-cv-00733* (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Venegas v. Homan, 25-cv-00397* (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem, 25-cv-03183* (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley, 25-cv-03183* (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention without probable cause by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here's Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittny Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records**, [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find**, [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- **ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#)** (June 2, 2025)
- **Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#)** (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- **ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#)** (Sept. 9, 2025)
- **ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#)** (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, **ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#)** (Sept. 15, 2025)

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) **the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.**
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced **the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**.
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, ‘Touched the Lives of So Many,’** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)

- Rebecca Schneid, ‘**Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown**, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen, **Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago**, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago**, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- Connor Greene, **Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump**, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates**, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- Charles Thrush, **Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids**, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)
- Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, **Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, **Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities**, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)
- Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)
- Sarah Raza, **Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time**, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Nic Flosi, **Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago**, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- Arelis R. Hernandez et al., **DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record.**, [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)
- Robert Klemko, **The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown**, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Monica Eng, **DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal

agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.),**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump Administration has engaged in illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump Administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents, in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, **“We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, **ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says**, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, **“A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine**, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, **Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine**, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE has **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that DHS has **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz to carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, **Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Ian Russell, **Minneapolis Family Says ICE Threw Flashbangs, Tear Gas Near and Under Car with their Six Kids Inside**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 15, 2026)
- Jack Brook, **A U.S. Citizen Says ICE Forced Open the Door to His Minnesota Home and Removed Him in His Underwear After a Warrantless Search**, [AP](#) (Jan. 20, 2026)
- Frances Vinall, **ICE Targeted Off-Duty Police Officers in Twin Cities, Local Police Say**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- Julia Geggheimer, **Emerging Evidence Provides Basis for Opening Investigation of ICE Agent Who Killed Renee Good**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Andrew Jeong, **ICE Detains Four Children from Minnesota School District, Including 5-Year-Old**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Hallie Golden, **Federal Officers Detain 5-year-old Boy who a Minnesota School Official Says Was Used as “Bait,”** [AP](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **ICE Demands More Access to Minnesota Inmates. But It’s Complicated.**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Monica Alba, Jennifer Jett, and Rebecca Shabad, **White House Shares an Altered Photo of Arrested Minnesota Protestor Nekima Levy Armstrong**, [NBC News](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Brandon Sigüenza, **I Was Legally Observing ICE Agents When They Turned Their Ire on Me**, [Slate](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Rylee Kirk, **What We Know About a Second Fatal Shooting by Federal Agents in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Mitch Smith, **Man Killed by Federal Agents in Minneapolis Was Holding a Phone, Not a Gun**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Charles Homans, **Watching America Unravel in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, [0:25-cv-04669](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from Defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the Administrative Procedure Act.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

***Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00628](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless

immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law, [Congressional Research Service](#)** (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act, [Center for New American Security](#)** (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act, [Protect Democracy](#)** (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military, [Lawfare](#)** (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It, [Brennan Center](#)** (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#)**, (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, ICE launched **[Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)**¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD) for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued two memos directing **[300 members](#)** of the Illinois National Guard and **[200 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#)** that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a **[complaint](#)** seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump's Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump's Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law [lawsuit](#) challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)

- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756 \(D. Ore.\)](#), [25-6268 \(9th Cir.\)](#)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dragnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth [ordered the extension](#) of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-02678](#) (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed**

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a [complaint](#) challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a [motion for TRO](#), which it ultimately [withdrew](#) after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a [notice of voluntary dismissal](#), which the court granted.

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-03005](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed [a complaint](#) challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

***S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster*, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)**

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a [lawsuit](#) in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed [directly](#) in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **What Trump's D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, The [Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- Dara Lind, **A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump's Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, **One Week of Trump's D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President's Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation's Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)

- Mark Nevitt, **Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- Chris Mirasola, **Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities (v.4)
Date: **Updated:** February 4, 2026

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a [memo](#) ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- **Understanding the National Guard**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization,** [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics,** [States United](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf, **Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago.,** [NPR](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments,** [States United](#) (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- Bora Erden, **How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets,** [New York Times](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military,** [States United](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment,** [NPR](#) (Oct. 17, 2025)
- Hina Shamsi, **How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists,** [ACLU](#) (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority,** [States United](#) (Sept. 2, 2025)
- Terrance Sullivan, **The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy,** [Amnesty International](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization,** [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 22, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, **Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*,** [Just Security](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Ryan Goodman, **The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets,** [Just Security](#) (June 16, 2025)
- William Banks & Mark Nevitt, **The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement,** [Just Security](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **“The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military,** [Just Security](#) (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE is planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report [revealed an internal DHS memo](#)** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, DHS announced that ICE **arrested 7,000 gang members** and **deported more than 675,000 individuals** during the first year of President Trump’s second term.

On January 22, 2026, DHS **described** the Administration’s “Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE.”

On January 28, 2026, ICE **issued a memo** purporting to expand the power of federal agents to arrest people without judicial warrants.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS*, [18-cv-03757](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Relevant Cases

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed **a class-action complaint** challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed **a class-action complaint** challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

Ramirez Ovando v. Noem, 25-cv-03183 (D. Colo.)

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

M-J-M-A v. Wamsley, 25-cv-03183 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention without probable cause by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE’s Arsenal to Track Suspects — And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- **Collection: ICE and CBP Operations in Minnesota and Other States**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here’s Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent,** [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days,** [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- A.C. Thompson & J. David McSwane, **Trump’s Immigration Forces Deploy “Less Lethal” Weapons in Dangerous Ways, Skirting Rules and Maiming Protestors,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 25, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittny Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records,** [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record,** [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find,** [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations,** [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **We Found More Than 40 Cases of Immigration Agents Using Banned Chokeholds and Other Moves That Can Cut Off Breathing,** [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- David Nakamura & Olivia George, **Trump Aides Declared 16 DHS Shootings Since July Justified Before Probes Completed,** [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-10472](#) (D. Mass.)**

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) **the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.**
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced **the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**.
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, 'Touched the Lives of So Many,'** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

- **Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, 37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)**
- **Rebecca Schneid, ‘Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)**
- **Sophia Tareen, Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)**
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)**
- **Connor Greene, Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)**
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)**
- **Charles Thrush, Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)**
- **Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)**
- **Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)**
- **Sergio Martinez-Beltran, DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)**
- **Sarah Raza, Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)**
- **Nic Flosi, Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)**
- **Arelis R. Hernandez et al., DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record., [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)**
- **Robert Klemko, The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)**
- **Monica Eng, DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)**
- **Emily Cochrane, Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)**

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-13323](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

***State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.),**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, Ald. **Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, **“We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, **ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says**, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, **“A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine**, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, **ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents**, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, **Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine**, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, **A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor**, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, **ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget**. [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)

Portland, OR

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Dickinson v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-02170 (D. Or.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

***Longworth v. Trump*, 6:25-cv-02268 (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and Defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

***REACH Community Development v. DHS*, 3:25-cv-02257 (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical

munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE has **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that DHS has **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz** to **carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, **Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Ian Russell, **Minneapolis Family Says ICE Threw Flashbangs, Tear Gas Near and Under Car with their Six Kids Inside**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 15, 2026)
- Jack Brook, **A U.S. Citizen Says ICE Forced Open the Door to His Minnesota Home and Removed Him in His Underwear After a Warrantless Search**, [AP](#) (Jan. 20, 2026)
- Frances Vinall, **ICE Targeted Off-Duty Police Officers in Twin Cities, Local Police Say**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- Julia Geggenheimer, **Emerging Evidence Provides Basis for Opening Investigation of ICE Agent Who Killed Renee Good**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Andrew Jeong, **ICE Detains Four Children from Minnesota School District, Including 5-Year-Old**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Hallie Golden, **Federal Officers Detain 5-year-old Boy who a Minnesota School Official Says Was Used as “Bait,”** [AP](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **ICE Demands More Access to Minnesota Inmates. But It’s Complicated.**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Monica Alba, Jennifer Jett, and Rebecca Shabad, **White House Shares an Altered Photo of Arrested Minnesota Protestor Nekima Levy Armstrong**, [NBC News](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Brandon Sigüenza, **I Was Legally Observing ICE Agents When They Turned Their Ire on Me**, [Slate](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Pepper-Sprayed While Pinned Down: A Searing Scene Provokes Outrage**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Rylee Kirk, **What We Know About a Second Fatal Shooting by Federal Agents in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)

- Mitch Smith, **Man Killed by Federal Agents in Minneapolis Was Holding a Phone, Not a Gun**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Charles Homans, **Watching America Unravel in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Gregory Svirnovskiy, **Border Patrol Agents Involved in Minnesota Shooting of Alex Pretti Placed on Administrative Leave**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Ankush Khardori, **The Legal Fallout in Minnesota Has Only Just Begun**, [POLITICO Magazine](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Justice Dept. Charges 16 Minneapolis Protestors with Assault, Interference**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Thomas Gibbons-Neff, **The Height of Close-Combat Weaponry Is on This Woman’s Doorstep**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Rebecca Santana, & Alanna Durkin Richer, **The Justice Department Has Opened a Federal Civil Rights Probe into the Killing of Alex Pretti**, [AP](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Sarah Mervosh, **Two Students From Same School as 5-Year-Old Taken by ICE Are Also in Custody**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sheera Frenkel & Aaron Krolik, **How ICE Already Knows Who Minneapolis Protestors Are**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Jack Brook & Jim Mustian, **Takeaways from AP Report on ICE Claims that Immigrant Shattered his Skull Running into Wall**, [AP](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Cengiz Yar & Peter DiCampo, **What We Saw in Minneapolis**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Lulu Garcia-Navarro, **The Interview: “A Terrifying Line is Being Crossed”: Mayor Jacob Frey on the Turmoil in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)

Resources

- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, [0:25-cv-04669](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from Defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the Administrative Procedure Act.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem, 0:26-cv-00628 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 0:26-cv-00749 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward](#)

On January 28, 2026, the Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration’s unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers’ actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 1:25-cv-02463 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS’ “oversight visit policy,” which required at least seven days’ advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the Administrative Procedure Act because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS’ fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417 \(D.D.C.\)](#)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action](#)

[lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act**, [Center for New American Security](#) (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act**, [Protect Democracy](#) (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It**, [Brennan Center](#) (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause**, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#), (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, ICE launched **[Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)**¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD) for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued two memos directing **[300 members](#)** of the Illinois National Guard and **[200 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#)** that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a **[complaint](#)** seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On **[October 10, 2025](#)**, **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law **[lawsuit](#)** challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756 \(D. Ore.\)](#), [25-6268 \(9th Cir.\)](#)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dragnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-02678 (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a **complaint** challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a **motion for TRO**, which it ultimately **withdrew** after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a **notice of voluntary dismissal**, which the court granted.

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-03005 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed **a complaint** challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a **lawsuit** in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed **directly** in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **What Trump's D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On, The [Marshall Project](#)** (Aug. 23, 2025)
- Dara Lind, **A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump's Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)

- Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, **One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- Mark Nevitt, **Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- Chris Mirasola, **Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: **Updated:** February 11, 2026

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a [memo](#) ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- **Understanding the National Guard**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization,** [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics,** [States United](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf, **Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago.,** [NPR](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments,** [States United](#) (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- Bora Erden, **How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets,** [New York Times](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military,** [States United](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment,** [NPR](#) (Oct. 17, 2025)
- Hina Shamsi, **How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists,** [ACLU](#) (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority,** [States United](#) (Sept. 2, 2025)
- Terrance Sullivan, **The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy,** [Amnesty International](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization,** [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 22, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, **Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”:** What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Ryan Goodman, **The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets,** [Just Security](#) (June 16, 2025)
- William Banks & Mark Nevitt, **The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement,** [Just Security](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **“The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military,** [Just Security](#) (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE is planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On December 19, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) its **year-end accomplishments**, including arrest totals for each of its immigration operations.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report** [revealed](#) an internal **DHS memo** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, DHS announced that ICE [arrested](#) 7,000 gang members and [deported](#) more than 675,000 individuals during the first year of President Trump’s second term.

On January 22, 2026, DHS [described](#) the Administration’s “Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE.”

On January 28, 2026, ICE [issued](#) a [memo](#) purporting to expand the power of federal agents to arrest people without judicial warrants.

On February 4, 2026, DHS [issued](#) a press release and [op-ed](#) defending the legality of DHS’s use of administrative warrants.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS*, [18-cv-03757](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Relevant Cases

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing

warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE’s Arsenal to Track Suspects – And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- **Collection: ICE and CBP Operations in Minnesota and Other States**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here’s Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)

- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They've Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- A.C. Thompson & J. David McSwane, **Trump's Immigration Forces Deploy "Less Lethal" Weapons in Dangerous Ways, Skirting Rules and Maiming Protestors**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 25, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittny Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records**, [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find**, [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **We Found More Than 40 Cases of Immigration Agents Using Banned Chokeholds and Other Moves That Can Cut Off Breathing**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- David Nakamura & Olivia George, **Trump Aides Declared 16 DHS Shootings Since July Justified Before Probes Completed**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Fola Akinnibi, **ICE's Aggressive Urban Tactics Were Forged Along the Southern Border**, [Bloomberg](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **How ICE Defies Judges' Orders to Release Detainees, Step by Step**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 10, 2026)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem, 1:25-cv-10472 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) **the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.**
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced **the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**.
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, 'Touched the Lives of So Many,'** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

- **Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, 37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)**
- **Rebecca Schneid, ‘Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)**
- **Sophia Tareen, Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)**
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)**
- **Connor Greene, Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)**
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)**
- **Charles Thrush, Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)**
- **Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)**
- **Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)**
- **Sergio Martinez-Beltran, DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)**
- **Sarah Raza, Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)**
- **Nic Flosi, Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)**
- **Arelis R. Hernandez et al., DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record., [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)**
- **Robert Klemko, The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)**
- **Monica Eng, DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)**
- **Emily Cochrane, Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)**

- Sergio Martínez-Beltrán, **Court Records: Chicago Immigration Raid Was About Squatters, Not Venezuelan Gangs**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed a [class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-13323](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

***State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.),**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Chris Joseph, **Federal Government Withholds List of 560 Claimed “Catahoula Crunch” Arrestees**, [Fox 8](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, **“We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, **ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says**, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, **“A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine**, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, **ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents**, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, **Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine**, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, **A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor**, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, **ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Callie Ferguson & Sawyer Loftus, **A Quarter of People Arrested in Maine’s ICE Surge are Challenging Their Detentions**, [Maine Monitor](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Portland, OR

DHS Operations

Operation Black Rose

- ICE [launched](#) **Operation Black Rose** in Oregon in October 2025.
- DHS [announced](#) on December 19, 2025 that Operation Black Rose has resulted in the **detention of more than 1,240 individuals**.

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)

Legal Challenges

M-J-M-A v. Wamsley, 25-cv-03183 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

Dickinson v. Trump, 3:25-cv-02170 (D. Or.)

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the

corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

Longworth v. Trump, 6:25-cv-02268 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and Defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

REACH Community Development v. DHS, 3:25-cv-02257 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE has **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that DHS has **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz** to **carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
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- Ankush Khardori, **The Legal Fallout in Minnesota Has Only Just Begun**, [POLITICO Magazine](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
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- Michael Biesecker, Jack Brook & Jim Mustian, **Takeaways from AP Report on ICE Claims that Immigrant Shattered his Skull Running into Wall**, [AP](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Cengiz Yar & Peter DiCampo, **What We Saw in Minneapolis**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Lulu Garcia-Navarro, **The Interview: “A Terrifying Line is Being Crossed”: Mayor Jacob Frey on the Turmoil in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Ali Winston, **The Paramilitary ICE and CBP Units at the Center of Minnesota’s Killings**, [Wired](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Jacob Wendler, **DHS Watchdog Investigating Use of Force by ICE**, [Politico](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Pooja Salhotra & Jazmine Ulloa, **Trump’s Migrant Detention Pipeline Extends from Minnesota to El Paso**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)

- Ernesto Londoño, **Prosecutors Began Investigating Renee Good’s Killing. Washington Told Them to Stop.**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 7, 2026)
- Conor Wight, **Community Members Fear ICE Agents Are Now Disguising Themselves in Minnesota**, [CBS News](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Resources

- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, [0:25-cv-04669](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU's Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security's policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from Defendants' constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency's policies under the Administrative Procedure Act.

U.H.A. v. Bondi, 0:26-cv-00417 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem, 0:26-cv-00628 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 0:26-cv-00749 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On January 28, 2026, the Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers' actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 1:25-cv-02463 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS' "oversight visit policy," which required at least seven days' advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the Administrative Procedure Act because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS' fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were

denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

***Fridley Public School District v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-01023](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 4, 2026, a coalition of Minnesota school districts and educators filed [suit](#) seeking to block the Trump-Vance administration from conducting immigration enforcement activities in or near public schools. The lawsuit challenges DHS’s decision to remove longstanding protections that limited immigration enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” such as schools. Plaintiffs argue recent federal immigration enforcement actions have disrupted education, endangered students, and driven families away from their schools. The plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the Administrative Procedure Act and seek injunctive relief to prevent these operations from continuing.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417 \(D.D.C.\)](#)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action](#)

[lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law, [Congressional Research Service](#)** (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act, [Center for New American Security](#)** (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act, [Protect Democracy](#)** (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military, [Lawfare](#)** (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It, [Brennan Center](#)** (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#)**, (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, ICE launched **[Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)**¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD) for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued two memos directing **[300 members](#)** of the Illinois National Guard and **[200 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#)** that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a **[complaint](#)** seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law **[lawsuit](#)** challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756 \(D. Ore.\)](#), [25-6268 \(9th Cir.\)](#)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dragnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133**, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense**: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025**, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),” appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#)**, instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339**, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),” instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-02678](#) (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed**

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a [complaint](#) challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a [motion for TRO](#), which it ultimately [withdrew](#) after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a [notice of voluntary dismissal](#), which the court granted.

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-03005](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed [a complaint](#) challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

***S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster*, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)**

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a [lawsuit](#) in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed [directly](#) in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Minority Staff Report, **At What Cost? Trump's Indefinite Deployment of the National Guard in D.C. on Track to Cost Taxpayers \$600 Million a Year**, [U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#), (Feb. 2026)

- **What Trump’s D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, The [Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- Dara Lind, **A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump’s Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, **One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- Mark Nevitt, **Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- Chris Mirasola, **Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: **Updated:** February 17, 2026

This resource compiles information on the Trump-Vance administration’s militarized operations in cities across the country, pursued under the guise of immigration enforcement. This memorandum is meant to serve as a quick guide that compiles relevant sources that the administration has relied on (including policies, executive orders, and other documents), press coverage of what is happening on the ground, as well as key litigation challenging these operations and helpful legal explainer materials. It is organized into two major categories of militarized operations: those led by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including operations undertaken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and those led by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) in relation to the deployment of the National Guard. Within each category, the information and resources are organized by city. Given fast-moving events, this resource will be updated regularly.

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a [memo](#) ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- **Understanding the National Guard, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics, [States United](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf, Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago., [NPR](#)** (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments, [States United](#)** (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- **Bora Erden, How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets, [New York Times](#)** (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military, [States United](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment, [NPR](#)** (Oct. 17, 2025)
- **Hina Shamsi, How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists, [ACLU](#)** (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority, [States United](#)** (Sept. 2, 2025)
- **Terrance Sullivan, The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy, [Amnesty International](#)** (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Aug. 22, 2025)
- **Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#)** (June 20, 2025)
- **Ryan Goodman, The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets, [Just Security](#)** (June 16, 2025)
- **William Banks & Mark Nevitt, The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement, [Just Security](#)** (June 11, 2025)
- **Elizabeth Goitein, “The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military, [Just Security](#)** (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE was planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On December 19, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) its **year-end accomplishments**, including arrest totals for each of its immigration operations.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report** [revealed](#) an internal **DHS memo** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, DHS announced that ICE [arrested](#) 7,000 purported gang members and [deported](#) more than 675,000 individuals during the first year of President Trump's second term.

On January 22, 2026, DHS [described](#) the Administration's "Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE."

On January 28, 2026, ICE [issued](#) a [memo](#) purporting to expand the power of immigration agents to arrest noncitizens without an administrative warrant (or a judicial warrant) by reinterpreting what it means to be "likely to escape before [an administrative] warrant can be obtained for his arrest."

On February 4, 2026, DHS [issued](#) a press release and [op-ed](#) defending the legality of DHS's policy authorizing forcible entry into homes to arrest noncitizens without judicial warrants.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS*, [18-cv-03757](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Relevant Cases

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE's policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Caitlin McTiernan, **Immigration Enforcement Could Come to Your Town. Here's What You Can Do to Prepare**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Kaleah Haddock & Diana Roy, **ICE and Deportations: How Trump Is Reshaping Immigration Enforcement**, [Council on Foreign Relations](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE's Arsenal to Track Suspects — And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- **Collection: ICE and CBP Operations in Minnesota and Other States**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here's Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)

- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- A.C. Thompson & J. David McSwane, **Trump’s Immigration Forces Deploy “Less Lethal” Weapons in Dangerous Ways, Skirting Rules and Maiming Protestors**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 25, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittany Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records**, [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find**, [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **We Found More Than 40 Cases of Immigration Agents Using Banned Chokeholds and Other Moves That Can Cut Off Breathing**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- David Nakamura & Olivia George, **Trump Aides Declared 16 DHS Shootings Since July Justified Before Probes Completed**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Fola Akinnibi, **ICE’s Aggressive Urban Tactics Were Forged Along the Southern Border**, [Bloomberg](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **How ICE Defies Judges’ Orders to Release Detainees, Step by Step**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 10, 2026)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem, 1:25-cv-10472 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) **the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.**
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced **the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**.
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, “Touched the Lives of So Many,”** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

- **Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, 37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)**
- **Rebecca Schneid, ‘Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)**
- **Sophia Tareen, Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)**
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)**
- **Connor Greene, Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)**
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)**
- **Charles Thrush, Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)**
- **Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)**
- **Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)**
- **Sergio Martinez-Beltran, DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)**
- **Sarah Raza, Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)**
- **Nic Flosi, Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)**
- **Arelis R. Hernandez et al., DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record., [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)**
- **Robert Klemko, The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)**
- **Monica Eng, DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)**
- **Emily Cochrane, Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)**

- Sergio Martínez-Beltrán, **Court Records: Chicago Immigration Raid Was About Squatters, Not Venezuelan Gangs**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed a [class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-13323](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

***State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

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- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Chris Joseph, **Federal Government Withholds List of 560 Claimed “Catahoula Crunch” Arrestees**, [Fox 8](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, **“We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, **ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says**, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, **“A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine**, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, **ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents**, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, **Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine**, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, **A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor**, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, **ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Callie Ferguson & Sawyer Loftus, **A Quarter of People Arrested in Maine’s ICE Surge are Challenging Their Detentions**, [Maine Monitor](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Portland, OR

DHS Operations

Operation Black Rose

- ICE [launched](#) **Operation Black Rose** in Oregon in October 2025.
- DHS [announced](#) on December 19, 2025 that Operation Black Rose has resulted in the **detention of more than 1,240 individuals.**

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley*, 25-cv-03183 (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

***Dickinson v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-02170 (D. Or.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the

corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

Longworth v. Trump, 6:25-cv-02268 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and Defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

REACH Community Development v. DHS, 3:25-cv-02257 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE had **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that the agency had **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz to carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, **Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Ian Russell, **Minneapolis Family Says ICE Threw Flashbangs, Tear Gas Near and Under Car with their Six Kids Inside**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 15, 2026)
- Jack Brook, **A U.S. Citizen Says ICE Forced Open the Door to His Minnesota Home and Removed Him in His Underwear After a Warrantless Search**, [AP](#) (Jan. 20, 2026)
- Frances Vinall, **ICE Targeted Off-Duty Police Officers in Twin Cities, Local Police Say**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- Julia Geggenheimer, **Emerging Evidence Provides Basis for Opening Investigation of ICE Agent Who Killed Renee Good**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Andrew Jeong, **ICE Detains Four Children from Minnesota School District, Including 5-Year-Old**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Hallie Golden, **Federal Officers Detain 5-year-old Boy who a Minnesota School Official Says Was Used as “Bait,”** [AP](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **ICE Demands More Access to Minnesota Inmates. But It’s Complicated.**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Monica Alba, Jennifer Jett, and Rebecca Shabad, **White House Shares an Altered Photo of Arrested Minnesota Protestor Nekima Levy Armstrong**, [NBC News](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Brandon Sigüenza, **I Was Legally Observing ICE Agents When They Turned Their Ire on Me**, [Slate](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Pepper-Sprayed While Pinned Down: A Searing Scene Provokes Outrage**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Rylee Kirk, **What We Know About a Second Fatal Shooting by Federal Agents in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)

- Mitch Smith, **Man Killed by Federal Agents in Minneapolis Was Holding a Phone, Not a Gun**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Charles Homans, **Watching America Unravel in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Gregory Svirnovskiy, **Border Patrol Agents Involved in Minnesota Shooting of Alex Pretti Placed on Administrative Leave**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Ankush Khardori, **The Legal Fallout in Minnesota Has Only Just Begun**, [POLITICO Magazine](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Justice Dept. Charges 16 Minneapolis Protestors with Assault, Interference**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Thomas Gibbons-Neff, **The Height of Close-Combat Weaponry Is on This Woman’s Doorstep**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Rebecca Santana, & Alanna Durkin Richer, **The Justice Department Has Opened a Federal Civil Rights Probe into the Killing of Alex Pretti**, [AP](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Sarah Mervosh, **Two Students From Same School as 5-Year-Old Taken by ICE Are Also in Custody**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sheera Frenkel & Aaron Krolik, **How ICE Already Knows Who Minneapolis Protestors Are**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Jack Brook & Jim Mustian, **Takeaways from AP Report on ICE Claims that Immigrant Shattered his Skull Running into Wall**, [AP](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Cengiz Yar & Peter DiCampo, **What We Saw in Minneapolis**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Lulu Garcia-Navarro, **The Interview: “A Terrifying Line is Being Crossed”: Mayor Jacob Frey on the Turmoil in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Ali Winston, **The Paramilitary ICE and CBP Units at the Center of Minnesota’s Killings**, [Wired](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Jacob Wendler, **DHS Watchdog Investigating Use of Force by ICE**, [Politico](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Alan Feuer, et al., **Surge in Immigration Cases in Minnesota Pushes Prosecutors and Judges to Brink**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)

- Pooja Salhotra & Jazmine Ulloa, **Trump’s Migrant Detention Pipeline Extends from Minnesota to El Paso**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Prosecutors Began Investigating Renee Good’s Killing. Washington Told Them to Stop.**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 7, 2026)
- Conor Wight, **Community Members Fear ICE Agents Are Now Disguising Themselves in Minnesota**, [CBS News](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Border Czar Tom Homan Says Minnesota Immigration Surge Is Ending**, [Washington Post](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Julie Bosman, **5 Takeaways From Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Jacey Fortin, **Moving On From Minnesota, ICE Leaves a Legal Mess Behind**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 13, 2026)
- Jonah E. Bromwich, **ICE Agents Menaced Minnesota Protestors at Their Homes, Filings Say**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 14, 2026)
- Alina Selyukh, **Trump’s Border Czar Says a “Small” Security Force Will Stay in Minnesota**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 15, 2026)

Resources

- Ryan Goodman, et al., **Minnesota ICE Enforcement: Tracking Alleged Constitutional Violations in Court**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, 0:25-cv-04669 (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary

injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from Defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the Administrative Procedure Act.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

***Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00628](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

***The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [0:26-cv-00749](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On January 28, 2026, the Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration’s unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers’ actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

***Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement*, [1:25-cv-02463](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS’ “oversight visit policy,” which required at least seven days’ advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the Administrative Procedure Act because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS’ fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

***Fridley Public School District v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-01023](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 4, 2026, a coalition of Minnesota school districts and educators filed [suit](#) seeking to block the Trump-Vance administration from conducting immigration enforcement activities in or near public schools. The lawsuit challenges DHS’s decision to remove longstanding protections that limited immigration enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” such as schools. Plaintiffs argue recent federal immigration enforcement actions have disrupted education, endangered students, and driven families away from their schools. The plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the Administrative Procedure Act and seek injunctive relief to prevent these operations from continuing.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417 \(D.D.C.\)](#)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action](#)

[lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act**, [Center for New American Security](#) (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act**, [Protect Democracy](#) (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It**, [Brennan Center](#) (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause**, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#), (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, ICE launched **[Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)**¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD) for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued two memos directing **[300 members](#)** of the Illinois National Guard and **[200 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#)** that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#)** that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a **[complaint](#)** seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.

Legal Challenges

[Newsom v. Trump, 3:25-cv-04870](#) (N.D. Cal.), [25-5553](#) (9th Cir.)

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law **[lawsuit](#)** challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.

Legal Challenges

[Oregon v. Trump, 3:25-cv-01756 \(D. Ore.\), 25-6268 \(9th Cir.\)](#)

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dagnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133**, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense**: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025**, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),” appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#)**, instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339**, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),” instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-02678 (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a **complaint** challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a **motion for TRO**, which it ultimately **withdrew** after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a **notice of voluntary dismissal**, which the court granted.

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-03005 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed **a complaint** challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a **lawsuit** in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed **directly** in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Minority Staff Report, **At What Cost? Trump's Indefinite Deployment of the National Guard in D.C. on Track to Cost Taxpayers \$600 Million a Year**, [U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#), (Feb. 2026)

- **What Trump’s D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, The [Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- Dara Lind, **A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump’s Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, **One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- Mark Nevitt, **Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- Chris Mirasola, **Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: **Updated:** March 4, 2026

This resource compiles information on the Trump-Vance administration’s militarized operations in cities across the country, pursued under the guise of immigration enforcement. This memorandum is meant to serve as a quick guide that compiles relevant sources that the administration has relied on (including policies, executive orders, and other documents), press coverage of what is happening on the ground, as well as key litigation challenging these operations and helpful legal explainer materials. It is organized into two major categories of militarized operations: those led by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including operations undertaken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and those led by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) in relation to the deployment of the National Guard. Within each category, the information and resources are organized by city. Given fast-moving events, this resource will be updated regularly.

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the **Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a memo** ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- **Understanding the National Guard, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics, [States United](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf, Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago., [NPR](#)** (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments, [States United](#)** (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- **Bora Erden, How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets, [New York Times](#)** (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military, [States United](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment, [NPR](#)** (Oct. 17, 2025)
- **Hina Shamsi, How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists, [ACLU](#)** (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority, [States United](#)** (Sept. 2, 2025)
- **Terrance Sullivan, The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy, [Amnesty International](#)** (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Aug. 22, 2025)
- **Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#)** (June 20, 2025)
- **Ryan Goodman, The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets, [Just Security](#)** (June 16, 2025)
- **William Banks & Mark Nevitt, The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement, [Just Security](#)** (June 11, 2025)
- **Elizabeth Goitein, “The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military, [Just Security](#)** (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE was planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On December 19, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) its **year-end accomplishments**, including arrest totals for each of its immigration operations.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report** [revealed](#) an internal **DHS memo** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, DHS announced that ICE [arrested](#) 7,000 purported gang members and [deported](#) more than 675,000 individuals during the first year of President Trump's second term.

On January 22, 2026, DHS [described](#) the Administration's "Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE."

On January 28, 2026, ICE [issued](#) a [memo](#) purporting to expand the power of immigration agents to arrest noncitizens without an administrative warrant (or a judicial warrant) by reinterpreting what it means to be "likely to escape before [an administrative] warrant can be obtained for his arrest."

On February 4, 2026, DHS [issued](#) a press release and [op-ed](#) defending the legality of DHS's policy authorizing forcible entry into homes to arrest noncitizens without judicial warrants.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañón Nava v. DHS*, 1:18-cv-03757 (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **ICE and CBP's Multi-Million Dollar Surge to Amass Weapons and Munitions**, [Office of U.S. Senator Adam Schiff](#) (Feb. 2026)
- **Harrison Stark, Can State Law Remedy Constitutional Violations by Federal Officers?**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 27, 2026)
- **Deputized for Disaster: How President Trump's 287(g) Deportation Force is a Powder Keg for our Communities**, [ACLU](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)

- Roger Parloff, **Lessons from the Minnesota Civil Contempt Case**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 23, 2026)
- Chris Hardee, **ICE Administrative Warrants and the Fourth Amendment: A Response to the DHS General Counsel**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)
- **How ICE Went Rogue**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 11, 2026)
- Caitlin McTiernan, **Immigration Enforcement Could Come to Your Town. Here's What You Can Do to Prepare**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Kaleah Haddock & Diana Roy, **ICE and Deportations: How Trump Is Reshaping Immigration Enforcement**, [Council on Foreign Relations](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE's Arsenal to Track Suspects—And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- **Collection: ICE and CBP Operations in Minnesota and Other States**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here's Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)

- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- A.C. Thompson & J. David McSwane, **Trump’s Immigration Forces Deploy “Less Lethal” Weapons in Dangerous Ways, Skirting Rules and Maiming Protestors**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 25, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittny Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records**, [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find**, [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **We Found More Than 40 Cases of Immigration Agents Using Banned Chokeholds and Other Moves That Can Cut Off Breathing**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- David Nakamura & Olivia George, **Trump Aides Declared 16 DHS Shootings Since July Justified Before Probes Completed**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Fola Akinnibi, **ICE’s Aggressive Urban Tactics Were Forged Along the Southern Border**, [Bloomberg](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **How ICE Defies Judges’ Orders to Release Detainees, Step by Step**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 10, 2026)
- Priscilla Alvarez, **Trump Administration Plans to Take Homan’s Minneapolis Immigration Playbook Nationwide**, [CNN](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem, 1:25-cv-10472 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Aceituno v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [3:26-cv-00146](#) (W.D.N.C.)**

On February 24, 2026, five named plaintiffs who were subjected to a warrantless immigration arrest without probable cause brought [this class action lawsuit](#). They seek to represent a class of individuals who have been or will be subjected to similar warrantless arrests by DHS in North Carolina. In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs challenge DHS's policy of warrantless arrests under the

APA and federal courts' inherent authority, and seek declaratory judgment, vacatur, and injunctive relief.

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#).
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, “Touched the Lives of So Many,”** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)

- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)
- Rebecca Schneid, **‘Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown**, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen, **Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago**, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago**, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- Connor Greene, **Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump**, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates**, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- Charles Thrush, **Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids**, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)
- Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, **Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, **Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities**, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)
- Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)
- Sarah Raza, **Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time**, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Nic Flosi, **Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago**, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- Arelis R. Hernandez et al., **DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record.**, [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)
- Robert Klemko, **The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown**, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Monica Eng, **DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)

- Emily Cochrane, **Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sergio Martínez-Beltrán, **Court Records: Chicago Immigration Raid Was About Squatters, Not Venezuelan Gangs**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-13323](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

***State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

***Retes v. United States*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On February 18, 2026, George Retes, Jr., an American citizen and security guard, filed a [lawsuit](#) and an administrative [FTCA claim for damages](#), challenging his unlawful and prolonged detention by federal agents. Plaintiff alleges his detention was tortious and unconstitutional, and he seeks damages and declaratory relief.

Other FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Chris Joseph, **Federal Government Withholds List of 560 Claimed “Catahoula Crunch” Arrestees**, [Fox 8](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, “We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, “A Dagnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget. [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Callie Ferguson & Sawyer Loftus, A Quarter of People Arrested in Maine’s ICE Surge are Challenging Their Detentions, [Maine Monitor](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Hilton v. Noem*, 2:26-cv-00092 (D. Me.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On February 23, 2026, two Maine residents filed a [class action lawsuit](#) against DHS agencies and officials challenging the defendants' use of surveillance and intimidation against Americans exercising their First Amendment rights. While they were observing and recording DHS operations, the named plaintiffs were threatened and called "domestic terrorists" by federal agents. Agents also collected the plaintiffs' personal data via facial recognition and license plate readers, and told the plaintiffs that they were added to a federal government database. The plaintiffs bring claims under the First Amendment on behalf of the class of Maine residents who faced similar intimidation and themselves.

Portland, OR

DHS Operations

Operation Black Rose

- ICE [launched](#) **Operation Black Rose** in Oregon in October 2025.
- DHS [announced](#) on December 19, 2025 that Operation Black Rose has resulted in the **detention of more than 1,240 individuals**.

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Troy Brynerson, **Armed ICE Officer in Portland Called 911 During Confrontation: “I’m Going to Have to Shoot this Kid,”** [OPB](#) (Feb. 25, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

***Dickinson v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-02170](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

Longworth v. Trump, 6:25-cv-02268 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

REACH Community Development v. DHS, 3:25-cv-02257 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE had **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that the agency had **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz** to **carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- **Caroline Cummings, DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- **Joey Peters, ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- **Howard Thompson, ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- **Jason Rantala, ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- **Gabe Gutierrez, et al., ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- **Matt Sepic, ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- **Louis Krauss, Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- **Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- **Nicolas Scibelli, As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- **Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, 2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- **Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- **Joshua Barajas, What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- **WCCO Staff, Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- **Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Ian Russell, **Minneapolis Family Says ICE Threw Flashbangs, Tear Gas Near and Under Car with their Six Kids Inside**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 15, 2026)
- Jack Brook, **A U.S. Citizen Says ICE Forced Open the Door to His Minnesota Home and Removed Him in His Underwear After a Warrantless Search**, [AP](#) (Jan. 20, 2026)
- Frances Vinall, **ICE Targeted Off-Duty Police Officers in Twin Cities, Local Police Say**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- Julia Geggenheimer, **Emerging Evidence Provides Basis for Opening Investigation of ICE Agent Who Killed Renee Good**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Andrew Jeong, **ICE Detains Four Children from Minnesota School District, Including 5-Year-Old**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Hallie Golden, **Federal Officers Detain 5-year-old Boy who a Minnesota School Official Says Was Used as “Bait,”** [AP](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **ICE Demands More Access to Minnesota Inmates. But It’s Complicated.**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Monica Alba, Jennifer Jett, and Rebecca Shabad, **White House Shares an Altered Photo of Arrested Minnesota Protestor Nekima Levy Armstrong**, [NBC News](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Brandon Sigüenza, **I Was Legally Observing ICE Agents When They Turned Their Ire on Me**, [Slate](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Pepper-Sprayed While Pinned Down: A Searing Scene Provokes Outrage**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Rylee Kirk, **What We Know About a Second Fatal Shooting by Federal Agents in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)

- Mitch Smith, **Man Killed by Federal Agents in Minneapolis Was Holding a Phone, Not a Gun**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Charles Homans, **Watching America Unravel in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Gregory Svirnovskiy, **Border Patrol Agents Involved in Minnesota Shooting of Alex Pretti Placed on Administrative Leave**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Ankush Khardori, **The Legal Fallout in Minnesota Has Only Just Begun**, [POLITICO Magazine](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Justice Dept. Charges 16 Minneapolis Protestors with Assault, Interference**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Thomas Gibbons-Neff, **The Height of Close-Combat Weaponry Is on This Woman’s Doorstep**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Rebecca Santana, & Alanna Durkin Richer, **The Justice Department Has Opened a Federal Civil Rights Probe into the Killing of Alex Pretti**, [AP](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Sarah Mervosh, **Two Students From Same School as 5-Year-Old Taken by ICE Are Also in Custody**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sheera Frenkel & Aaron Krolik, **How ICE Already Knows Who Minneapolis Protestors Are**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Jack Brook & Jim Mustian, **Takeaways from AP Report on ICE Claims that Immigrant Shattered his Skull Running into Wall**, [AP](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Cengiz Yar & Peter DiCampo, **What We Saw in Minneapolis**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Lulu Garcia-Navarro, **The Interview: “A Terrifying Line is Being Crossed”: Mayor Jacob Frey on the Turmoil in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Ali Winston, **The Paramilitary ICE and CBP Units at the Center of Minnesota’s Killings**, [Wired](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Jacob Wendler, **DHS Watchdog Investigating Use of Force by ICE**, [Politico](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Alan Feuer, et al., **Surge in Immigration Cases in Minnesota Pushes Prosecutors and Judges to Brink**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)

- Pooja Salhotra & Jazmine Ulloa, **Trump’s Migrant Detention Pipeline Extends from Minnesota to El Paso**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Prosecutors Began Investigating Renee Good’s Killing. Washington Told Them to Stop.**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 7, 2026)
- Conor Wight, **Community Members Fear ICE Agents Are Now Disguising Themselves in Minnesota**, [CBS News](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Border Czar Tom Homan Says Minnesota Immigration Surge Is Ending**, [Washington Post](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Julie Bosman, **5 Takeaways From Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Jacey Fortin, **Moving On From Minnesota, ICE Leaves a Legal Mess Behind**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 13, 2026)
- Jonah E. Bromwich, **ICE Agents Menaced Minnesota Protestors at Their Homes, Filings Say**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 14, 2026)
- Alina Selyukh, **Trump’s Border Czar Says a “Small” Security Force Will Stay in Minnesota**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 15, 2026)
- Mattathias Schwartz & Seamus Hughes, **Justice Dept. Lawyer Is Found in Contempt by Federal Judge**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 18, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **“ICE Will Comply”: Top Minnesota Judge Threatens Criminal Contempt for Continued Defiance**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)

Resources

- Ryan Goodman, et al., **Minnesota ICE Enforcement: Tracking Alleged Constitutional Violations in Court**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, 0:25-cv-04669 (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth

Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the Administrative Procedure Act.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

***Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00628](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 0:26-cv-00749 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On January 28, 2026, The Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration’s unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers’ actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 1:25-cv-02463 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS’ “oversight visit policy,” which required at least seven days’ advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the Administrative Procedure Act because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS’ fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

Fridley Public School District v. Noem, 0:26-cv-01023 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 4, 2026, a coalition of Minnesota school districts and educators filed [suit](#) seeking to block the Trump-Vance administration from conducting immigration enforcement activities in or near public schools. The lawsuit challenges DHS’s decision to remove longstanding protections that limited immigration enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” such as schools. Plaintiffs argue recent federal immigration enforcement actions have disrupted education, endangered students, and driven families away from their schools. The plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the Administrative Procedure Act and seek injunctive relief to prevent these operations from continuing.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417 \(D.D.C.\)](#)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action](#)

[lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Additional Cities & Towns

Legal Challenges

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [3:25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE's policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [1:25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law, [Congressional Research Service](#)** (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act, [Center for New American Security](#)** (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act, [Protect Democracy](#)** (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military, [Lawfare](#)** (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It, [Brennan Center](#)** (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#),** (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, **ICE launched [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD)** for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth **issued two memos directing [300 members](#) of the Illinois National Guard and [200 members](#) of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.**

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a [complaint](#) seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were **placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status**.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities**.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and

because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling Memphis](#)**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law **[lawsuit](#)** challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756](#) (D. Ore.), [25-6268](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dagnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-02678](#) (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed**

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a [complaint](#) challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a [motion for TRO](#), which it ultimately [withdrew](#) after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a [notice of voluntary dismissal](#), which the court granted.

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-03005](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed [a complaint](#) challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

***O'Hara v. Beck*, [1:25-cv-03753](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On October 23, 2025, the ACLU of the District of Columbia filed a [lawsuit](#) against multiple police officers and National Guard members on behalf of a plaintiff who alleges that an Ohio National Guard member violated his constitutional rights by calling D.C. police to prevent him from protesting and recording the National Guard's conduct. The plaintiff asserts First and Fourth Amendment claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, as well as several common law tort claims.

***S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster*, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)**

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a [lawsuit](#) in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed [directly](#) in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Minority Staff Report, At What Cost? Trump’s Indefinite Deployment of the National Guard in D.C. on Track to Cost Taxpayers \$600 Million a Year**, [U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#), (Feb. 2026)
- **What Trump’s D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, [The Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- **Dara Lind, A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump’s Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- **Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- **Mark Nevitt, Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- **Chris Mirasola, Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: **Updated:** March 12, 2026

This resource compiles information on the Trump-Vance administration’s militarized operations in cities across the country, pursued under the guise of immigration enforcement. This memorandum is meant to serve as a quick guide that compiles relevant sources that the administration has relied on (including policies, executive orders, and other documents), press coverage of what is happening on the ground, as well as key litigation challenging these operations and helpful legal explainer materials. It is organized into two major categories of militarized operations: those led by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including operations undertaken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and those led by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) in relation to the deployment of the National Guard. Within each category, the information and resources are organized by city. Given fast-moving events, this resource will be updated regularly.

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the **Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a memo** ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- **Understanding the National Guard, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics, [States United](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf, Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago., [NPR](#)** (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments, [States United](#)** (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- **Bora Erden, How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets, [New York Times](#)** (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military, [States United](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment, [NPR](#)** (Oct. 17, 2025)
- **Hina Shamsi, How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists, [ACLU](#)** (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority, [States United](#)** (Sept. 2, 2025)
- **Terrance Sullivan, The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy, [Amnesty International](#)** (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Aug. 22, 2025)
- **Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#)** (June 20, 2025)
- **Ryan Goodman, The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets, [Just Security](#)** (June 16, 2025)
- **William Banks & Mark Nevitt, The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement, [Just Security](#)** (June 11, 2025)
- **Elizabeth Goitein, “The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military, [Just Security](#)** (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
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- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE was planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On December 19, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) its **year-end accomplishments**, including arrest totals for each of its immigration operations.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report** [revealed](#) an internal **DHS memo** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, **DHS announced that ICE** [arrested](#) **7,000 purported gang members** and [deported](#) **more than 675,000 individuals** during the first year of President Trump's second term.

On January 22, 2026, **DHS** [described](#) the Administration's "Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE."

On January 28, 2026, **ICE** [issued](#) a **memo** purporting to expand the power of **immigration agents to arrest noncitizens without an administrative warrant (or a judicial warrant)** by reinterpreting what it means to be "likely to escape before [an administrative] warrant can be obtained for his arrest."

On February 4, 2026, **DHS** [issued](#) a press release and [op-ed](#) defending the legality of **DHS's policy authorizing forcible entry into homes to arrest noncitizens without judicial warrants.**

On February 18, 2026, **DHS issued a new** [memo](#) articulating **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and ICE's Refugee Detention Policy.** In the memo, DHS interprets the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to mean a refugee can be detained for an unspecified amount of time if the refugee does not submit an application for lawful permanent resident status and appear for an interview within one year of entering the United States. DHS' policy now requires DHS agents to locate, arrest, and detain refugees who do not file applications and appear for an interview within that period.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS*, 1:18-cv-03757 (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

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- **Chris Hardee, The Deeper Problem with ICE's Arrest Warrants**, [Just Security](#) (Mar. 4, 2026)

- **ICE and CBP’s Multi-Million Dollar Surge to Amass Weapons and Munitions, [Office of U.S. Senator Adam Schiff](#)** (Feb. 2026)
- Harrison Stark, **Can State Law Remedy Constitutional Violations by Federal Officers?**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 27, 2026)
- **Deputized for Disaster: How President Trump’s 287(g) Deportation Force is a Powder Keg for our Communities**, [ACLU](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)
- Roger Parloff, **Lessons from the Minnesota Civil Contempt Case**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 23, 2026)
- Chris Hardee, **ICE Administrative Warrants and the Fourth Amendment: A Response to the DHS General Counsel**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)
- **How ICE Went Rogue**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 11, 2026)
- Caitlin McTiernan, **Immigration Enforcement Could Come to Your Town. Here’s What You Can Do to Prepare**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Kaleah Haddock & Diana Roy, **ICE and Deportations: How Trump Is Reshaping Immigration Enforcement**, [Council on Foreign Relations](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE’s Arsenal to Track Suspects—And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- **Collection: ICE and CBP Operations in Minnesota and Other States**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here’s Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
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Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent,** [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days,** [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
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- James Quelly & Brittney Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records,** [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record,** [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find,** [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations,** [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
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- David Nakamura & Olivia George, **Trump Aides Declared 16 DHS Shootings Since July Justified Before Probes Completed,** [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
- Fola Akinnibi, **ICE’s Aggressive Urban Tactics Were Forged Along the Southern Border,** [Bloomberg](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **How ICE Defies Judges’ Orders to Release Detainees, Step by Step,** [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 10, 2026)
- Priscilla Alvarez, **Trump Administration Plans to Take Homan’s Minneapolis Immigration Playbook Nationwide,** [CNN](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)

- Campbell Robertson, **With Lots of Rumors and Little Information, Other Cities Prepare for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Mar. 9, 2026)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-10472](#) (D. Mass.)**

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Aceituno v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [3:26-cv-00146](#) (W.D.N.C.)**

On February 24, 2026, five named plaintiffs who were subjected to a warrantless immigration arrest without probable cause brought [this class action lawsuit](#). They seek to represent a class of individuals who have been or will be subjected to similar warrantless arrests by DHS in North Carolina. In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs challenge DHS's policy of warrantless arrests under the

Administrative Procedure Act (APA) and federal courts' inherent authority, and seek declaratory judgment, vacatur, and injunctive relief.

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#).
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, “Touched the Lives of So Many,”** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)

- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)
- Rebecca Schneid, **‘Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown**, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen, **Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago**, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago**, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- Connor Greene, **Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump**, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates**, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- Charles Thrush, **Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids**, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)
- Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, **Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, **Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities**, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)
- Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)
- Sarah Raza, **Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time**, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Nic Flosi, **Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago**, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- Arelis R. Hernandez et al., **DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record.**, [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)
- Robert Klemko, **The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown**, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Monica Eng, **DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)

- Emily Cochrane, **Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sergio Martínez-Beltrán, **Court Records: Chicago Immigration Raid Was About Squatters, Not Venezuelan Gangs**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-13323](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

***State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the APA.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the APA.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

***Retes v. United States*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On February 18, 2026, George Retes, Jr., an American citizen and security guard, filed a [lawsuit](#) and an administrative [FTCA claim for damages](#), challenging his unlawful and prolonged detention by federal agents. Plaintiff alleges his detention was tortious and unconstitutional, and he seeks damages and declaratory relief.

Other FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Chris Joseph, **Federal Government Withholds List of 560 Claimed “Catahoula Crunch” Arrestees**, [Fox 8](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, “We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, “A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget. [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Callie Ferguson & Sawyer Loftus, A Quarter of People Arrested in Maine’s ICE Surge are Challenging Their Detentions, [Maine Monitor](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Hilton v. Noem*, 2:26-cv-00092 (D. Me.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On February 23, 2026, two Maine residents filed a [class action lawsuit](#) against DHS agencies and officials challenging the defendants' use of surveillance and intimidation against Americans exercising their First Amendment rights. While they were observing and recording DHS operations, the named plaintiffs were threatened and called "domestic terrorists" by federal agents. Agents also collected the plaintiffs' personal data via facial recognition and license plate readers, and told the plaintiffs that they were added to a federal government database. The plaintiffs bring claims under the First Amendment on behalf of the class of Maine residents who faced similar intimidation and themselves.

Portland, OR

DHS Operations

Operation Black Rose

- ICE [launched](#) **Operation Black Rose** in Oregon in October 2025.
- DHS [announced](#) on December 19, 2025 that Operation Black Rose has resulted in the **detention of more than 1,240 individuals**.

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Troy Brynelson, **Armed ICE Officer in Portland Called 911 During Confrontation: “I’m Going to Have to Shoot this Kid,”** [OPB](#) (Feb. 25, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

***Dickinson v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-02170](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

Longworth v. Trump, 6:25-cv-02268 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

REACH Community Development v. DHS, 3:25-cv-02257 (D. Or.)

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE had **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that the agency had **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz to carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, **Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Ian Russell, **Minneapolis Family Says ICE Threw Flashbangs, Tear Gas Near and Under Car with their Six Kids Inside**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 15, 2026)
- Jack Brook, **A U.S. Citizen Says ICE Forced Open the Door to His Minnesota Home and Removed Him in His Underwear After a Warrantless Search**, [AP](#) (Jan. 20, 2026)
- Frances Vinall, **ICE Targeted Off-Duty Police Officers in Twin Cities, Local Police Say**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- Julia Geggenheimer, **Emerging Evidence Provides Basis for Opening Investigation of ICE Agent Who Killed Renee Good**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Andrew Jeong, **ICE Detains Four Children from Minnesota School District, Including 5-Year-Old**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Hallie Golden, **Federal Officers Detain 5-year-old Boy who a Minnesota School Official Says Was Used as “Bait,”** [AP](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **ICE Demands More Access to Minnesota Inmates. But It’s Complicated.**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Monica Alba, Jennifer Jett, and Rebecca Shabad, **White House Shares an Altered Photo of Arrested Minnesota Protestor Nekima Levy Armstrong**, [NBC News](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Brandon Sigüenza, **I Was Legally Observing ICE Agents When They Turned Their Ire on Me**, [Slate](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Pepper-Sprayed While Pinned Down: A Searing Scene Provokes Outrage**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Rylee Kirk, **What We Know About a Second Fatal Shooting by Federal Agents in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)

- Mitch Smith, **Man Killed by Federal Agents in Minneapolis Was Holding a Phone, Not a Gun**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Charles Homans, **Watching America Unravel in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Gregory Svirnovskiy, **Border Patrol Agents Involved in Minnesota Shooting of Alex Pretti Placed on Administrative Leave**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Ankush Khardori, **The Legal Fallout in Minnesota Has Only Just Begun**, [POLITICO Magazine](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Justice Dept. Charges 16 Minneapolis Protestors with Assault, Interference**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Thomas Gibbons-Neff, **The Height of Close-Combat Weaponry Is on This Woman’s Doorstep**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Rebecca Santana, & Alanna Durkin Richer, **The Justice Department Has Opened a Federal Civil Rights Probe into the Killing of Alex Pretti**, [AP](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Sarah Mervosh, **Two Students From Same School as 5-Year-Old Taken by ICE Are Also in Custody**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sheera Frenkel & Aaron Krolik, **How ICE Already Knows Who Minneapolis Protestors Are**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Jack Brook & Jim Mustian, **Takeaways from AP Report on ICE Claims that Immigrant Shattered his Skull Running into Wall**, [AP](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Cengiz Yar & Peter DiCampo, **What We Saw in Minneapolis**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Lulu Garcia-Navarro, **The Interview: “A Terrifying Line is Being Crossed”: Mayor Jacob Frey on the Turmoil in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Ali Winston, **The Paramilitary ICE and CBP Units at the Center of Minnesota’s Killings**, [Wired](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Jacob Wendler, **DHS Watchdog Investigating Use of Force by ICE**, [Politico](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Alan Feuer, et al., **Surge in Immigration Cases in Minnesota Pushes Prosecutors and Judges to Brink**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)

- Pooja Salhotra & Jazmine Ulloa, **Trump’s Migrant Detention Pipeline Extends from Minnesota to El Paso**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Prosecutors Began Investigating Renee Good’s Killing. Washington Told Them to Stop.**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 7, 2026)
- Conor Wight, **Community Members Fear ICE Agents Are Now Disguising Themselves in Minnesota**, [CBS News](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Border Czar Tom Homan Says Minnesota Immigration Surge Is Ending**, [Washington Post](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Julie Bosman, **5 Takeaways From Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Jacey Fortin, **Moving On From Minnesota, ICE Leaves a Legal Mess Behind**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 13, 2026)
- Jonah E. Bromwich, **ICE Agents Menaced Minnesota Protestors at Their Homes, Filings Say**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 14, 2026)
- Alina Selyukh, **Trump’s Border Czar Says a “Small” Security Force Will Stay in Minnesota**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 15, 2026)
- Mattathias Schwartz & Seamus Hughes, **Justice Dept. Lawyer Is Found in Contempt by Federal Judge**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 18, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **“ICE Will Comply”: Top Minnesota Judge Threatens Criminal Contempt for Continued Defiance**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)

Resources

- Ryan Goodman, et al., **Minnesota ICE Enforcement: Tracking Alleged Constitutional Violations in Court**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, 0:25-cv-04669 (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth

Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the APA.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

***Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00628](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 0:26-cv-00749 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On January 28, 2026, The Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration’s unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers’ actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 1:25-cv-02463 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS’ “oversight visit policy,” which required at least seven days’ advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the APA because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS’ fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

Fridley Public School District v. Noem, 0:26-cv-01023 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 4, 2026, a coalition of Minnesota school districts and educators filed [suit](#) seeking to block the Trump-Vance administration from conducting immigration enforcement activities in or near public schools. The lawsuit challenges DHS’s decision to remove longstanding protections that limited immigration enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” such as schools. Plaintiffs argue recent federal immigration enforcement actions have disrupted education, endangered students, and driven families away from their schools. The plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the APA and seek injunctive relief to prevent these operations from continuing.

Jean A. v. Noem, 3:26-cv-30031 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 27, 2026, a coalition seeking to represent a class of refugees brought [suit](#) to challenge DHS's "[Refugee Detention Policy](#)." The policy directs the warrantless arrest and mandatory detention (that is potentially indefinite) of lawfully admitted refugees who have lived in the United States for at least one year and have not yet adjusted their resident status. Plaintiffs argue that this policy violates the APA because it violates the INA, was issued without required notice-and-comment rulemaking, is arbitrary and capricious, and violates the Fourth and the Fifth Amendments.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417 \(D.D.C.\)](#)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action](#)

[lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Additional Cities & Towns

Press Coverage

- Robert Klemko, **How a DHS Shooting of a Third U.S. Citizen Went Unnoticed for Months**, [Washington Post](#) (Mar. 5, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [3:25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [1:25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act**, [Center for New American Security](#) (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act**, [Protect Democracy](#) (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It**, [Brennan Center](#) (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause**, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#), (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, **ICE launched [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD)** for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth **issued two memos directing [300 members](#) of the Illinois National Guard and [200 members](#) of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.**

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a [complaint](#) seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the APA, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were **placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status**.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities**.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and

because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the APA.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law [lawsuit](#) challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756](#) (D. Ore.), [25-6268](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dagnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-02678 (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a **complaint** challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the APA, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a **motion for TRO**, which it ultimately **withdrew** after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a **notice of voluntary dismissal**, which the court granted.

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-03005 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed **a complaint** challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the APA, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

O'Hara v. Beck, 1:25-cv-03753 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On October 23, 2025, the ACLU of the District of Columbia filed a **lawsuit** against multiple police officers and National Guard members on behalf of a plaintiff who alleges that an Ohio National Guard member violated his constitutional rights by calling D.C. police to prevent him from protesting and recording the National Guard's conduct. The plaintiff asserts First and Fourth Amendment claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, as well as several common law tort claims.

S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a **lawsuit** in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed **directly** in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Minority Staff Report, At What Cost? Trump’s Indefinite Deployment of the National Guard in D.C. on Track to Cost Taxpayers \$600 Million a Year**, [U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#), (Feb. 2026)
- **What Trump’s D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, [The Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- **Dara Lind, A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump’s Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- **Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- **Mark Nevitt, Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- **Chris Mirasola, Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: **Updated:** April 9, 2026

This resource compiles information on the Trump-Vance administration’s militarized operations in cities across the country, pursued under the guise of immigration enforcement. This memorandum is meant to serve as a quick guide that compiles relevant sources that the administration has relied on (including policies, executive orders, and other documents), press coverage of what is happening on the ground, as well as key litigation challenging these operations and helpful legal explainer materials. It is organized into two major categories of militarized operations: those led by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including operations undertaken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and those led by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) in relation to the deployment of the National Guard. Within each category, the information and resources are organized by city. Given fast-moving events, this resource will be updated regularly.

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the **Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a memo** ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- **Understanding the National Guard, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics, [States United](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf, Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago., [NPR](#)** (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments, [States United](#)** (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- **Bora Erden, How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets, [New York Times](#)** (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military, [States United](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment, [NPR](#)** (Oct. 17, 2025)
- **Hina Shamsi, How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists, [ACLU](#)** (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority, [States United](#)** (Sept. 2, 2025)
- **Terrance Sullivan, The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy, [Amnesty International](#)** (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Aug. 22, 2025)
- **Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#)** (June 20, 2025)
- **Ryan Goodman, The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets, [Just Security](#)** (June 16, 2025)
- **William Banks & Mark Nevitt, The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement, [Just Security](#)** (June 11, 2025)
- **Elizabeth Goitein, “The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military, [Just Security](#)** (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE was planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On December 19, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) its **year-end accomplishments**, including arrest totals for each of its immigration operations.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report** [revealed](#) an internal **DHS memo** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, **DHS announced that ICE** [arrested](#) **7,000 purported gang members** and [deported](#) **more than 675,000 individuals** during the first year of President Trump's second term.

On January 22, 2026, **DHS** [described](#) the Administration's "Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE."

On January 28, 2026, **ICE** [issued](#) a **memo** purporting to expand the power of **immigration agents to arrest noncitizens without an administrative warrant (or a judicial warrant)** by reinterpreting what it means to be "likely to escape before [an administrative] warrant can be obtained for his arrest."

On February 4, 2026, **DHS** [issued](#) a press release and [op-ed](#) defending the legality of **DHS's policy authorizing forcible entry into homes to arrest noncitizens without judicial warrants.**

On February 18, 2026, **DHS** issued a new [memo](#) articulating **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and ICE's Refugee Detention Policy.** In the memo, DHS interprets the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to mean a refugee can be detained for an unspecified amount of time if the refugee does not submit an application for lawful permanent resident status and appear for an interview within one year of entering the United States. DHS' policy now requires DHS agents to locate, arrest, and detain refugees who do not file applications and appear for an interview within that period.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS*, 1:18-cv-03757 (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

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- George Fishman, **Can President Trump Use the Military to Protect ICE Personnel from Attack**, [Center for Immigration Studies](#) (Mar. 30, 2026)
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- **ICE and CBP’s Multi-Million Dollar Surge to Amass Weapons and Munitions**, [Office of U.S. Senator Adam Schiff](#) (Feb. 2026)
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- **Deputized for Disaster: How President Trump’s 287(g) Deportation Force is a Powder Keg for our Communities**, [ACLU](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)
- Roger Parloff, **Lessons from the Minnesota Civil Contempt Case**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 23, 2026)
- Chris Hardee, **ICE Administrative Warrants and the Fourth Amendment: A Response to the DHS General Counsel**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)
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- Kaleah Haddock & Diana Roy, **ICE and Deportations: How Trump Is Reshaping Immigration Enforcement**, [Council on Foreign Relations](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE’s Arsenal to Track Suspects—And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- **Collection: ICE and CBP Operations in Minnesota and Other States**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)
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- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities**, [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)

- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)
- A.C. Thompson & J. David McSwane, **Trump’s Immigration Forces Deploy “Less Lethal” Weapons in Dangerous Ways, Skirting Rules and Maiming Protestors**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 25, 2025)
- James Quelly & Brittny Mejia, **Attacks on ICE Up 1,000? Trump Administration Claim Not Backed Up By Court Records**, [Los Angeles Times](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Albert Sun, **Most Immigrants Arrested in City Crackdowns Have No Criminal Record**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **Immigration Agents Have Often Grabbed and Mistreated Citizens, Congressional Investigators Find**, [ProPublica](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- John Ismay, **\$2 Billion in Pentagon Funds Said to Go to Anti-Immigrant Operations**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **We Found More Than 40 Cases of Immigration Agents Using Banned Chokeholds and Other Moves That Can Cut Off Breathing**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Radley Balko, **How ICE Became Trump’s Very Own Paramilitary Force**, [Mother Jones](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- David Nakamura & Olivia George, **Trump Aides Declared 16 DHS Shootings Since July Justified Before Probes Completed**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 27, 2026)

- Fola Akinnibi, **ICE’s Aggressive Urban Tactics Were Forged Along the Southern Border**, [Bloomberg](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **How ICE Defies Judges’ Orders to Release Detainees, Step by Step**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 10, 2026)
- Priscilla Alvarez, **Trump Administration Plans to Take Homan’s Minneapolis Immigration Playbook Nationwide**, [CNN](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)
- Greg Sargent, **Trump’s ICE is Quietly Stockpiling Weaponry—and It Should Alarm Us All**, [The New Republic](#) (Feb. 25, 2026)
- Campbell Robertson, **With Lots of Rumors and Little Information, Other Cities Prepare for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Mar. 9, 2026)
- Caleb Brennan, **Trump Has Brought American Paramilitary Violence Home**, [The New Republic](#) (Mar. 15, 2026)

Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

Operation Patriot 2.0

- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem, 1:25-cv-10472 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

- Ahmed Jallow, **Immigrant Advocates in NC Create Statewide Map of ICE Activity**, [NC Newsline](#) (Nov. 14, 2025)
- Alexandria Sands, **Sheriff and Border Patrol Send Contradictory Messages About Charlotte Operation Ending**, [Axios](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Connor Lomis & Cassidy Johncox, **425+ Arrested in "Operation Charlotte's Web," Federal Officials Say**, [WBTV](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Mary Helen Moore, **Deliberately Aggressive Immigration Tactics in North Carolina Sow Fear, Confusion**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Aceituno v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [3:26-cv-00146](#) (W.D.N.C.)**

On February 24, 2026, five named plaintiffs who were subjected to a warrantless immigration arrest without probable cause brought [this class action lawsuit](#). They seek to represent a class of individuals who have been or will be subjected to similar warrantless arrests by DHS in North Carolina. In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs challenge DHS's policy of warrantless arrests under the

Administrative Procedure Act (APA) and federal courts' inherent authority, and seek declaratory judgment, vacatur, and injunctive relief.

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#).
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, “Touched the Lives of So Many,”** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)

- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)
- Rebecca Schneid, **‘Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown**, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen, **Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago**, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago**, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- Connor Greene, **Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump**, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates**, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- Charles Thrush, **Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids**, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)
- Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, **Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen & Christine Fernando, **Immigration Crackdown Inspires Uniquely Chicago Pushback That’s Now a Model for Other Cities**, [AP](#) (Nov. 16, 2025)
- Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **DOJ Records Show Hundreds of Immigrants Arrested in Chicago Had No Criminal Records**, [NPR](#) (Nov. 17, 2025)
- Sarah Raza, **Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time**, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Nic Flosi, **Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago**, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
- Arelis R. Hernandez et al., **DHS Swept Chicago to Get “the Worst” Criminals. Many Have No Record.**, [Washington Post](#) (Nov. 30, 2025)
- Robert Klemko, **The U.S. Citizens Getting Caught in Trump’s Immigration Crackdown**, [Washington Post](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Monica Eng, **DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)

- Emily Cochrane, **Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Melissa Sanchez & Jodi S. Cohen, **The Real Story Behind the Midnight Immigration Raid on a Chicago Apartment Building**, [ProPublica](#) (Feb. 4, 2026)
- Sergio Martínez-Beltrán, **Court Records: Chicago Immigration Raid Was About Squatters, Not Venezuelan Gangs**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)

Legal Challenges

Chicago Headline Club v. Noem, 1:25-cv-12173 (N.D. Ill.)

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem, 1:25-cv-13323 (N.D. Ill.)

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security, 1:26-cv-00321 (N.D. Ill.)

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the APA.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the APA.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

***Retes v. United States*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On February 18, 2026, George Retes, Jr., an American citizen and security guard, filed a [lawsuit](#) and an administrative [FTCA claim for damages](#), challenging his unlawful and prolonged detention by federal agents. Plaintiff alleges his detention was tortious and unconstitutional, and he seeks damages and declaratory relief.

Other FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Catahoula Crunch.
- On December 3, 2025, the FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy [announced](#) a “joint enforcement effort to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Chris Joseph, **Federal Government Withholds List of 560 Claimed “Catahoula Crunch” Arrestees**, [Fox 8](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, “We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, “A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget. [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Callie Ferguson & Sawyer Loftus, A Quarter of People Arrested in Maine’s ICE Surge are Challenging Their Detentions, [Maine Monitor](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Hilton v. Noem*, 2:26-cv-00092 (D. Me.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On February 23, 2026, two Maine residents filed a [class action lawsuit](#) against DHS agencies and officials challenging the defendants' use of surveillance and intimidation against Americans exercising their First Amendment rights. While they were observing and recording DHS operations, the named plaintiffs were threatened and called "domestic terrorists" by federal agents. Agents also collected the plaintiffs' personal data via facial recognition and license plate readers, and told the plaintiffs that they were added to a federal government database. The plaintiffs bring claims under the First Amendment on behalf of the class of Maine residents who faced similar intimidation and themselves.

Portland, OR

DHS Operations

Operation Black Rose

- ICE [launched](#) **Operation Black Rose** in Oregon in October 2025.
- DHS [announced](#) on December 19, 2025 that Operation Black Rose has resulted in the **detention of more than 1,240 individuals.**

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Troy Brynelson, **Armed ICE Officer in Portland Called 911 During Confrontation: “I’m Going to Have to Shoot this Kid,”** [OPB](#) (Feb. 25, 2026)
- Sam Levin, **ICE Agents Reveal Daily Arrest Quotas and Surveillance App in Rare Court Testimony**, [The Guardian](#) (Mar. 13, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley*, 25-cv-03183 (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

***Dickinson v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-02170](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

***Longworth v. Trump*, [6:25-cv-02268](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

***REACH Community Development v. DHS*, [3:25-cv-02257](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE had **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that the agency had **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz** to **carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, **Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
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- Julie Bosman, **5 Takeaways From Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
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- Jonah E. Bromwich, **ICE Agents Menaced Minnesota Protestors at Their Homes, Filings Say**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 14, 2026)
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- Jon Collins, **Drone Sightings Drove Surveillance Fears as ICE Surged in Minnesota**, [MPR News](#) (Mar. 13, 2026)

Resources

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- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, [0:25-cv-04669](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from defendants’ constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency’s policies under the APA.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem, 0:26-cv-00628 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 0:26-cv-00749 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On January 28, 2026, The Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration’s unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers’ actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 1:25-cv-02463 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS’ “oversight visit policy,” which required at least seven days’ advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the APA because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS’ fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

Fridley Public School District v. Noem, 0:26-cv-01023 (D. Minn.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 4, 2026, a coalition of Minnesota school districts and educators filed [suit](#) seeking to block the Trump-Vance administration from conducting immigration enforcement activities in or near public schools. The lawsuit challenges DHS’s decision to remove longstanding protections that limited immigration enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” such as

schools. Plaintiffs argue recent federal immigration enforcement actions have disrupted education, endangered students, and driven families away from their schools. The plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the APA and seek injunctive relief to prevent these operations from continuing.

Jean A. v. Noem, 3:26-cv-30031 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 27, 2026, a coalition seeking to represent a class of refugees brought [suit](#) to challenge DHS's "[Refugee Detention Policy](#)." The policy directs the warrantless arrest and mandatory detention (that is potentially indefinite) of lawfully admitted refugees who have lived in the United States for at least one year and have not yet adjusted their resident status. Plaintiffs argue that this policy violates the APA because it violates the INA, was issued without required notice-and-comment rulemaking, is arbitrary and capricious, and violates the Fourth and the Fifth Amendments.

Minnesota v. Department of Justice, 1:26-cv-01007 (D. Minn.)

On March 24, 2026, the State of Minnesota, Hennepin County, and the Minnesota Bureau of brought [suit](#) to challenge the actions taken by the federal government to stonewall Minnesota's investigation into the killings of Alex Pretti and Renee Good. Plaintiffs seek access to investigation materials. They bring claims under the APA and the Tenth Amendment.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417 \(D.D.C.\)](#)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action](#)

[lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Additional Cities & Towns

Press Coverage

- David Waldstein, **ICE Car Chase Leads to Crash Involving Children, Newark Mayor Says**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)
- Robert Klemko, **How a DHS Shooting of a Third U.S. Citizen Went Unnoticed for Months**, [Washington Post](#) (Mar. 5, 2026)
- Liam Elder-Connors, **The South Burlington ICE Raid Explained**, [Vermont Public](#) (Mar. 12, 2026)
- Mark Sommer, **A Refugee Died After Border Agents Left Him at a Cafe. Fear Followed**, [New York Times](#) (Mar. 15, 2026)
- Liam Elders-Connors, **What We Know 2 Weeks After the ICE Raid in South Burlington**, [Vermont Public](#) (Mar. 25, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [3:25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [1:25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act**, [Center for New American Security](#) (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act**, [Protect Democracy](#) (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It**, [Brennan Center](#) (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause**, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#), (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, **ICE launched [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD)** for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth **issued two memos directing [300 members](#) of the Illinois National Guard and [200 members](#) of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.**

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a [complaint](#) seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the APA, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were **placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status**.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities**.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and

because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the APA.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling Memphis](#)**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law [lawsuit](#) challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756](#) (D. Ore.), [25-6268](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dagnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-02678 (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a **complaint** challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the APA, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a **motion for TRO**, which it ultimately **withdrew** after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a **notice of voluntary dismissal**, which the court granted.

District of Columbia v. Trump, 1:25-cv-03005 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed **a complaint** challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the APA, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

O'Hara v. Beck, 1:25-cv-03753 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On October 23, 2025, the ACLU of the District of Columbia filed a **lawsuit** against multiple police officers and National Guard members on behalf of a plaintiff who alleges that an Ohio National Guard member violated his constitutional rights by calling D.C. police to prevent him from protesting and recording the National Guard's conduct. The plaintiff asserts First and Fourth Amendment claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, as well as several common law tort claims.

S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a **lawsuit** in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed **directly** in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Minority Staff Report, At What Cost? Trump’s Indefinite Deployment of the National Guard in D.C. on Track to Cost Taxpayers \$600 Million a Year**, [U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#), (Feb. 2026)
- **What Trump’s D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, [The Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- **Dara Lind, A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump’s Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- **Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- **Mark Nevitt, Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- **Chris Mirasola, Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- **What's Breaking Through About Deploying Federal Agents to Polling Places, [States United](#)** (Mar. 18, 2026)
- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places, [Brennan Center](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries, [Just Security](#)** (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know, [National Immigration Law Center](#)** (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers, [American Immigration Council](#)** (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools, [National Education Association](#)** (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: **Updated:** April 20, 2026

This resource compiles information on the Trump-Vance administration’s militarized operations in cities across the country, pursued under the guise of immigration enforcement. This memorandum is meant to serve as a quick guide that compiles relevant sources that the administration has relied on (including policies, executive orders, and other documents), press coverage of what is happening on the ground, as well as key litigation challenging these operations and helpful legal explainer materials. It is organized into two major categories of militarized operations: those led by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including operations undertaken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and those led by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) in relation to the deployment of the National Guard. Within each category, the information and resources are organized by city. Given fast-moving events, this resource will be updated regularly.

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),”** which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, **President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).”** The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).”** The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

On [October 8, 2025](#), the **Pentagon’s National Guard Bureau of Operations issued a memo** ordering the formation of “Quick Reaction Forces” trained in “civil disturbance operations.” A leaked unclassified [version of the memo](#) obtained by *The Guardian* sets thresholds for the size of the forces to be trained in each state. Most states are directed to train 500 National Guard members, amounting to 23,500 troops nationwide.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Why Federal Officers Don’t Have Absolute Immunity**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 14, 2026)
- **The Universal Constitutional Remedies Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Lauren Voss, **Tracking Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- **Understanding the National Guard, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 26, 2025)
- **Why the U.S. Military Is Not a Law Enforcement Organization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Nov. 21, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About Federal Law Enforcement Tactics, [States United](#)** (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf, Trump’s National Guard Deployments Aren’t Random. They Were Planned Years Ago., [NPR](#)** (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **What’s Breaking Through About National Guard Deployments, [States United](#)** (Aug. 21, 2025; Updated Jan. 13, 2026)
- **Bora Erden, How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets, [New York Times](#)** (Oct. 24, 2025)
- **How Federalized Deployments into U.S. Cities Undermine the Military, [States United](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment, [NPR](#)** (Oct. 17, 2025)
- **Hina Shamsi, How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists, [ACLU](#)** (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **Sharing the Facts About Domestic Military Deployment and State Authority, [States United](#)** (Sept. 2, 2025)
- **Terrance Sullivan, The Racist Subtext of Trump’s Militarized Policing Strategy, [Amnesty International](#)** (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Aug. 22, 2025)
- **Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#)** (June 20, 2025)
- **Ryan Goodman, The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets, [Just Security](#)** (June 16, 2025)
- **William Banks & Mark Nevitt, The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement, [Just Security](#)** (June 11, 2025)
- **Elizabeth Goitein, “The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military, [Just Security](#)** (June 10, 2025)

- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE was planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

On December 12, 2025, NewsNation [reported](#) that **DHS would be ceasing to conduct at-large raids and would instead focus on targeted arrests.**

On December 19, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) its **year-end accomplishments**, including arrest totals for each of its immigration operations.

On January 7, 2026, a **whistleblower report** [revealed](#) an internal **DHS memo** purporting to authorize ICE agents to forcibly enter homes and make arrests with only an administrative warrant.

On January 20, 2026, **DHS announced that ICE** [arrested](#) **7,000 purported gang members** and [deported](#) **more than 675,000 individuals** during the first year of President Trump's second term.

On January 22, 2026, **DHS** [described](#) the Administration's "Enhanced Federal Law Enforcement Training for ICE."

On January 28, 2026, **ICE** [issued](#) a **memo** purporting to expand the power of **immigration agents to arrest noncitizens without an administrative warrant (or a judicial warrant)** by reinterpreting what it means to be "likely to escape before [an administrative] warrant can be obtained for his arrest."

On February 4, 2026, **DHS** [issued](#) a press release and [op-ed](#) defending the legality of **DHS's policy authorizing forcible entry into homes to arrest noncitizens without judicial warrants.**

On February 18, 2026, **DHS issued a new** [memo](#) articulating **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and ICE's Refugee Detention Policy.** In the memo, DHS interprets the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to mean a refugee can be detained for an unspecified amount of time if the refugee does not submit an application for lawful permanent resident status and appear for an interview within one year of entering the United States. DHS' policy now requires DHS agents to locate, arrest, and detain refugees who do not file applications and appear for an interview within that period.

Relevant Consent Decree

***Castañon Nava v. DHS*, [1:18-cv-03757](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies**, [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

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- Ruth Talbot, et al., **Tracking Habeas Cases**, [ProPublica](#) (Mar. 30, 2026)
- George Fishman, **Can President Trump Use the Military to Protect ICE Personnel from Attack**, [Center for Immigration Studies](#) (Mar. 30, 2026)
- Chris Hardee, **The Deeper Problem with ICE’s Arrest Warrants**, [Just Security](#) (Mar. 4, 2026)
- **ICE and CBP’s Multi-Million Dollar Surge to Amass Weapons and Munitions**, [Office of U.S. Senator Adam Schiff](#) (Feb. 2026)
- Harrison Stark, **Can State Law Remedy Constitutional Violations by Federal Officers?**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 27, 2026)
- **Deputized for Disaster: How President Trump’s 287(g) Deportation Force is a Powder Keg for our Communities**, [ACLU](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)
- Roger Parloff, **Lessons from the Minnesota Civil Contempt Case**, [Lawfare](#) (Feb. 23, 2026)
- Chris Hardee, **ICE Administrative Warrants and the Fourth Amendment: A Response to the DHS General Counsel**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 20, 2026)
- **How ICE Went Rogue**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 11, 2026)
- Caitlin McTiernan, **Immigration Enforcement Could Come to Your Town. Here’s What You Can Do to Prepare**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Kaleah Haddock & Diana Roy, **ICE and Deportations: How Trump Is Reshaping Immigration Enforcement**, [Council on Foreign Relations](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Eva Dou, Artur Galocha, & Kevin Schaul, **The Powerful Tools in ICE’s Arsenal to Track Suspects—And Protestors**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
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- Odette Yousef, **A Deadly Standoff in 1992 Changed Federal Use-of-Force Rules. Here’s Why It Matters.**, [NPR](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Orrin Kerr, **Can ICE Enter a Home to Make an Arrest With Only an Administrative Warrant?**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ryan Goodman, **DHS, DOJ and Customs & Border Patrol Policies: Use of Deadly Force and Moving Vehicles**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)

- **US: ICE Abuses in Los Angeles Set Stage for Other Cities,** [Human Rights Watch](#) (Nov. 4, 2025)
- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces,** [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)
- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent,** [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know,** [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

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- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent,** [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
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- Fola Akinnibi, **ICE’s Aggressive Urban Tactics Were Forged Along the Southern Border**, [Bloomberg](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Kyle Cheney, **How ICE Defies Judges’ Orders to Release Detainees, Step by Step**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 10, 2026)
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- Greg Sargent, **Trump’s ICE is Quietly Stockpiling Weaponry—and It Should Alarm Us All**, [The New Republic](#) (Feb. 25, 2026)
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Boston, MA

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)
- Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)

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- ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Greater Boston Latino Network v. Noem, 1:25-cv-10472 (D. Mass.)

Read more: [Lawyers for Civil Rights](#)

On January 30, 2026, a coalition of civil rights and immigrant organizations [filed a federal lawsuit](#) challenging ICE's policy of authorizing officers to forcibly enter homes without a judicial warrant. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the May 2025 memorandum issued by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, which claims that ICE may now rely on Form I-205 to enter private residences.

Charlotte, NC

DHS Operations

Operation Charlotte's Web

- On November 14, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of Operation Charlotte's Web.
- On November 17, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that Operation Charlotte's Web resulted in the arrest of over 130 individuals in two days.
- On November 19, 2025, DHS [announced](#) that it had arrested over 250 individuals.

Press Coverage

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- Aaron Sánchez-Guerra & Jason deBruyn, **ICE Arrests in NC Doubled in 2025. Fewer Convicted Criminals, More Without Criminal Record or Convictions**, [WUNC](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Aceituno v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [3:26-cv-00146](#) (W.D.N.C.)**

On February 24, 2026, five named plaintiffs who were subjected to a warrantless immigration arrest without probable cause brought [this class action lawsuit](#). They seek to represent a class of individuals who have been or will be subjected to similar warrantless arrests by DHS in North Carolina. In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs challenge DHS's policy of warrantless arrests under the

Administrative Procedure Act (APA) and federal courts' inherent authority, and seek declaratory judgment, vacatur, and injunctive relief.

Chicago, IL

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#).
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

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- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)

- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)
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- Sarah Raza, **Chicago’s Immigration Crackdown is Being Documented, One Jarring Phone Video at a Time**, [AP](#) (Nov. 20, 2025)
- Nic Flosi, **Judge’s 200-page Report Reveals New Details on Federal Immigration Crackdown in Chicago**, [Fox 32 Chicago](#) (Nov. 21, 2025)
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- Monica Eng, **DHS Statements Unravel as Evidence, Courts Contradict Claims**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)

- Emily Cochrane, **Chicago Orders Police to Document Potentially Illegal Federal Immigration Tactics**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Melissa Sanchez & Jodi S. Cohen, **The Real Story Behind the Midnight Immigration Raid on a Chicago Apartment Building**, [ProPublica](#) (Feb. 4, 2026)
- Sergio Martínez-Beltrán, **Court Records: Chicago Immigration Raid Was About Squatters, Not Venezuelan Gangs**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 6, 2026)
- Dave Byrnes, **Months After Midway Blitz, ICE Activity Has Quietly Persisted**, [South Side Weekly](#) (Mar. 31, 2026)
- Tina Sfondeles, **ICE Says 81% Arrested in Operation Midway Blitz Had No Convictions, Falsely Asserts No Citizens Arrested**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Apr. 17, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-12173](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs alleged that federal agents' activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments. Plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed this case.

***Moreno Gonzalez v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-13323](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Illinois](#)

On October 30, 2025, the ACLU of Illinois filed a [class action lawsuit](#) on behalf of immigrants detained at ICE's Broadview facility to ensure that these individuals have access to constitutionally adequate conditions and access to legal counsel.

***State of Illinois v. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:26-cv-00321](#) (N.D. Ill.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a lawsuit challenging the unlawful tactics used by CBP and ICE agents in Illinois. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration has deployed illegal enforcement policies, including arresting people without warrants or probable cause and indiscriminately deploying tear gas among protesters. Plaintiffs assert that the Trump-Vance administration has undermined Illinois' ability to carry out its core sovereign functions and has harmed Illinois residents in violation of the Tenth Amendment and the APA.

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, Ald. **Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)
- **More Than 10,000 Illegal Aliens Arrested in Sanctuary Los Angeles Since DHS Launched Operations in June**, [DHS](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

***Los Angeles Press Club v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05563](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-5975](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On June 18, 2025, a coalition of news organizations, journalists, protestors, and legal observers filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the use of force by federal agents at demonstrations and protests. Plaintiffs allege that DHS deployed chemical agents such as tear gas, rubber bullets, impact munitions, pepper balls, pepper spray, exploding grenades, batons, fists, and other weapons against protestors, legal observers, and reporters. Plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, and the APA.

***Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)**

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

***Retes v. United States*, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On February 18, 2026, George Retes, Jr., an American citizen and security guard, filed a [lawsuit](#) and an administrative [FTCA claim for damages](#), challenging his unlawful and prolonged detention by federal agents. Plaintiff alleges his detention was tortious and unconstitutional, and he seeks damages and declaratory relief.

Other FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

New Orleans, LA

DHS Operations

Operation Catahoula Crunch

- On December 3, 2025, DHS [announced](#) the launch of **Operation Catahoula Crunch**.
- On December 3, 2025, the **FBI New Orleans Field Office and Louisiana State Policy** [announced](#) a “**joint enforcement effort** to deter assaults on federal officers and attempts to obstruct law enforcement actions.”

Press Coverage

- Jack Brook & Sara Cline, **DHS Plans to Deploy 250 Border Agents to Louisiana in Major Immigration Sweep, AP Sources Say**, [AP](#) (Nov. 18, 2025)
- Carlie Kollath Wells & Chelsea Brasted, **Border Patrol Begins “Swamp Sweep” in New Orleans**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 1, 2025)
- Luke Barr & Bill Hutchinson, **“Operation Catahoula Crunch” Immigration Sweeps Begin in New Orleans: DHS**, [ABC News](#) (Dec. 3, 2025)
- Jack Brook & John Sweewer, **Immigration Crackdown in New Orleans Has a Target of 5,000 Arrests. Is that Possible?**, [AP](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jim Mustian & Jack Brook, **Records Reviewed by AP Detail Online Monitoring, Arrests in New Orleans Immigration Crackdown**, [AP](#) (Dec. 7, 2025)
- Chelsea Brasted, **New Orleans Immigration Crackdown Following City-by-City Playbook**, [Axios](#) (Dec. 8, 2025)
- Bobbi-Jean Misick, Verite, **“Many People Are Terrified to Come Out”: Catahoula Crunch Closes Out Its First Week**, [Louisiana Illuminator](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Chris Joseph, **Federal Government Withholds List of 560 Claimed “Catahoula Crunch” Arrestees**, [Fox 8](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Immigration Services & Legal Advocacy v. Murrill*, [2:25-cv-02421](#) (E.D. La.)**

On December 3, 2025, Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy (ISLA) represented by the ACLU of Louisiana, filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging Louisiana’s newly-enacted Act 399—which broadly prohibits interference with immigration enforcement, as well as Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill’s threats to prosecute those who oppose or challenge ICE actions. On December 5, 2025, plaintiffs [voluntarily dismissed](#) the case, based on Louisiana's representation that Act 399 applies only to physical obstruction of justice and would not be used to prosecute speech.

Portland & Lewiston, ME

DHS Operations

Operation Catch of the Day

- On January 21, 2026, ICE launched [Operation Catch of the Day](#).

Press Coverage

- Joshua Barajas, “We’re Being Terrorized.” What Mainers Are Seeing as ICE Launches Operation in the State, [PBS](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Shrai Popat, ICE Arrests 100 People Three Days into Maine Immigration Crackdown, DHS Says, [The Guardian](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Emma Davis, “A Dragnet Approach,” Lawful Residents Detained in Initial Days of ICE Operation in Maine, [Maine Morning Star](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Salomé Cloteaux & Dana Richie, ICE Watchers in Maine Say They Were Threatened by Federal Agents, [Press Herald](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Patrick Whittle, Holly Ramer, & Leah Willingham, Court Records Raise Doubts that ICE is Detaining the “Worst of the Worst” in Maine, [AP](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)
- Kristian Moravec, A Pastor Searched for a Missing Congregant. He Found a Car With the Keys on the Floor, [Portland Press Herald](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Jessica Piper, ICE Halted Its Surge in Maine. The State Might Not Be Quick to Forget. [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Callie Ferguson & Sawyer Loftus, A Quarter of People Arrested in Maine’s ICE Surge are Challenging Their Detentions, [Maine Monitor](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Hilton v. Noem*, 2:26-cv-00092 (D. Me.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On February 23, 2026, two Maine residents filed a [class action lawsuit](#) against DHS agencies and officials challenging the defendants' use of surveillance and intimidation against Americans exercising their First Amendment rights. While they were observing and recording DHS operations, the named plaintiffs were threatened and called "domestic terrorists" by federal agents. Agents also collected the plaintiffs' personal data via facial recognition and license plate readers, and told the plaintiffs that they were added to a federal government database. The plaintiffs bring claims under the First Amendment on behalf of the class of Maine residents who faced similar intimidation and themselves.

***Carvajal-Muñoz v. Ravencamp*, [2:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Me.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On April 14, 2026, the ACLU of Maine [brought suit](#) on behalf of Juan Sebastián Carvajal-Muñoz, who was racially profiled, arrested, and detained during Operation Catch of the Day. Plaintiff brings claims under the Fourth Amendment, the Maine Civil Rights Act, and the Fifth Amendment.

Portland, OR

DHS Operations

Operation Black Rose

- ICE [launched](#) **Operation Black Rose** in Oregon in October 2025.
- DHS [announced](#) on December 19, 2025 that Operation Black Rose has resulted in the **detention of more than 1,240 individuals**.

Press Coverage

- Mia Maldonado, **Oregon saw at least 1,100 immigration arrests in 2025**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Dec. 29, 2025)
- Mia Maldonado, **ICE Agents Pose as Utility Workers to Detain Immigrants, Oregon Lawmaker Warns**, [Oregon Capital Chronicle](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- AP, **Mayor of Portland, Oregon, Demands ICE Leave the City After Federal Agents Gas Protestors**, [POLITICO](#) (Feb. 1, 2026)
- Ariel Salk & Danny Peterson, **Federal Agents Use Tear Gas on Oregon “ICE Out” Protestors, Including Children**, [KOIN](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Troy Brynerson, **Armed ICE Officer in Portland Called 911 During Confrontation: “I’m Going to Have to Shoot this Kid,”** [OPB](#) (Feb. 25, 2026)
- Sam Levin, **ICE Agents Reveal Daily Arrest Quotas and Surveillance App in Rare Court Testimony**, [The Guardian](#) (Mar. 13, 2026)
- Conrad Wilson, **Portland Immigration Operation Spanned Months, Included 100 ICE Agents**, [OPB](#) (Apr. 15, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***M-J-M-A v. Wamsley*, [25-cv-03183](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Innovation Law Lab](#)

On October 30, 2025, M-J-M-A filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, challenging her warrantless arrest and detention by ICE during its immigration enforcement efforts in Woodburn, Oregon.

***Dickinson v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-02170](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Oregon](#)

On November 21, 2025, journalists and peaceful protestors represented by the ACLU of Oregon filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the administration’s pattern and practice of violating their First Amendment rights while attending peaceful protests outside of the Portland ICE Building on the corner of South Bancroft Street and South Macadam Avenue. Plaintiffs allege that federal officers have targeted protestors and journalists with brutal force, including through the use of near-lethal weapons like exploding tear gas canisters, pepper-ball rifles, flash bang grenades, and other tools.

***Longworth v. Trump*, [6:25-cv-02268](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Civil Liberties Defense Center](#)

On December 5, 2025, human rights activists Chloe Longworth and Anna Lardner filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the implementation of DHS regulations regarding “[Rioter Violence at Federal Buildings](#)” and defendants’ pattern and practice of violating protestors’ First Amendment rights outside of the Eugene ICE building.

***REACH Community Development v. DHS*, [3:25-cv-02257](#) (D. Or.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On December 5, 2025, REACH Community Development and a group of individual residents filed a [lawsuit](#) against DHS and federal agencies to challenge the indiscriminate use of chemical munitions at the Portland ICE facility that infiltrates the homes of the adjacent affordable housing complex.

Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul), MN

DHS Operations

Operation Metro Surge

- DHS **launched** **Operation Metro Surge** on December 1, 2025.
- On December 12, 2025, DHS announced that ICE had **arrested more than 400 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 8, 2026, DHS announced that the agency had **arrested more than 1,500 individuals** since Operation Metro Surge began.
- On January 19, 2026, **DHS released a statement calling on Governor Walz to carry out** ICE Arrest Detainers for more than 1,360 individuals in Minnesota state custody. That same day, ICE **announced** that it had arrested 3,000 individuals during Operation Metro Surge.
- On January 24, 2026, **Secretary Noem sent a letter to Governor Walz** arguing that anti-law enforcement rhetoric and certain state policies have contributed to violence and disorder, and urging the state to “restore the rule of law” by repealing sanctuary policies, increasing cooperation with ICE in detention settings, and sharing certain public-assistance program records and voter roll data with the federal government.

Operation PARRIS

- DHS **announced the launch of Operation PARRIS** on January 9, 2026, in which USCIS is purporting to investigate cases of fraud and other crimes among refugee communities and refer crimes to ICE. This operation mimics USCIS’s similar effort in **Operation Twin Shield** in September 2025.
- Treasury Secretary Bessent announced new initiatives by the **Treasury Department** and the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network** to combat claims of fraud in Minnesota.

Press Coverage

- Hamed Aleaziz et al., **New ICE Operation is Said to Target Somali Migrants in Twin Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)
- Mike Balsamo & Steve Karnowski, **Federal Authorities Plan Operation in Minnesota Focusing on Somali Immigrants**, [AP Source Says](#), [AP](#) (Dec. 2, 2025)

- Caroline Cummings, **DHS Sec. Kristi Noem Claimed 50% of Visas in Minnesota Are “Fraudulent.” But Is that Claim Accurate?**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 4, 2025)
- Joey Peters, **ICE Arrests Citizen Observer in Minneapolis, Holder Her for Five Hours**, [Sahan Journal](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Howard Thompson, **ICE Agents Pepper Spray Crowd After Allegedly Detaining U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis**, [Fox 9](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Jason Rantala, **ICE Agents Wrongfully Detained U.S. Citizen in Minneapolis For Looking Somali, City Leaders Say**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 10, 2025)
- Gabe Gutierrez, et al., **ICE Operation Shows the Difficulty of Immigration Arrests Amid Pushback in Frigid Minnesota**, [NBC News](#) (Dec. 11, 2025)
- Matt Sepic, **ICE Agents Tackle, Arrest American Citizen in Minneapolis**, [MPR News](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Louis Krauss, **Federal Helicopters Assist ICE Operation in Minneapolis as Protests Continue**, [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (Dec. 12, 2025)
- Conor Wright & Stephen Swanson, **Brooklyn Park Coffee Shop Owner Says ICE Lied to Employee Before Detaining Him**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Nicolas Scibelli, **As ICE Agents Flood the Twin Cities, Immigrants and Citizens Alike Are Caught in the Crossfire**, [MN Daily](#) (Dec. 13, 2025)
- Rebecca Santana & Michael Balsamo, **2,000 Federal Agents Sent to Minneapolis Area to Carry Out “Largest Immigration Operation Ever,” ICE Says**, [AP](#) (Jan. 6, 2026)
- Nick Halter & Kyle Stokes, **ICE Shoots, Kills Person in Minneapolis in Vehicle that Drove Past Agents**, [Axios Twin Cities](#) (Jan. 7, 2026)
- Joshua Barajas, **What We Know So Far About the ICE Shooting in Minneapolis**, [PBS](#) (Jan. 8, 2026)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Mitch Smith, & Jacey Fortin, **More Agents Head to Minnesota as U.S. Takes Over Shooting Investigation**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- WCCO Staff, **Live Updates Related to the Aftermath of the Fatal Minneapolis ICE Shooting**, [CBS Minnesota](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)
- Lydia Morrell & David Griswold, **Witnesses Say Agents Arrest Minneapolis School Staff, Tear Gas Students; DHS Claims No Tear Gas Was Used**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)

- Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, & Dan Simmons, **Officials Dispute Federal Account of Fatal ICE Encounter in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 10, 2026)
- Michael Gold, **After Minnesota Shooting, ICE Again Limits Congressional Visits**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 11, 2026)
- Hamed Aleaziz & Madeleine Ngo, **Trump Officials Are Sending 1,000 More Immigration Officers to Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- Brian Arola, **ICE Takes Operation Metro Surge Into Greater Minnesota**, [MinnPost](#) (Jan. 12, 2026)
- **Protestors and Federal Agents Repeatedly Square Off in Minnesota**, [AP](#) (Jan. 13, 2026)
- Ian Russell, **Minneapolis Family Says ICE Threw Flashbangs, Tear Gas Near and Under Car with their Six Kids Inside**, [Kare 11](#) (Jan. 15, 2026)
- Jack Brook, **A U.S. Citizen Says ICE Forced Open the Door to His Minnesota Home and Removed Him in His Underwear After a Warrantless Search**, [AP](#) (Jan. 20, 2026)
- Frances Vinall, **ICE Targeted Off-Duty Police Officers in Twin Cities, Local Police Say**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 21, 2026)
- Julia Geggenheimer, **Emerging Evidence Provides Basis for Opening Investigation of ICE Agent Who Killed Renee Good**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Andrew Jeong, **ICE Detains Four Children from Minnesota School District, Including 5-Year-Old**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Hallie Golden, **Federal Officers Detain 5-year-old Boy who a Minnesota School Official Says Was Used as “Bait,”** [AP](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **ICE Demands More Access to Minnesota Inmates. But It’s Complicated.**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 22, 2026)
- Monica Alba, Jennifer Jett, and Rebecca Shabad, **White House Shares an Altered Photo of Arrested Minnesota Protestor Nekima Levy Armstrong**, [NBC News](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Brandon Sigüenza, **I Was Legally Observing ICE Agents When They Turned Their Ire on Me**, [Slate](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Pepper-Sprayed While Pinned Down: A Searing Scene Provokes Outrage**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 23, 2026)
- Rylee Kirk, **What We Know About a Second Fatal Shooting by Federal Agents in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)

- Mitch Smith, **Man Killed by Federal Agents in Minneapolis Was Holding a Phone, Not a Gun**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Charles Homans, **Watching America Unravel in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 25, 2026)
- Gregory Svirnovskiy, **Border Patrol Agents Involved in Minnesota Shooting of Alex Pretti Placed on Administrative Leave**, [POLITICO](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Ankush Khardori, **The Legal Fallout in Minnesota Has Only Just Begun**, [POLITICO Magazine](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Justice Dept. Charges 16 Minneapolis Protestors with Assault, Interference**, [Washington Post](#) (Jan. 28, 2026)
- Thomas Gibbons-Neff, **The Height of Close-Combat Weaponry Is on This Woman’s Doorstep**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 29, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Rebecca Santana, & Alanna Durkin Richer, **The Justice Department Has Opened a Federal Civil Rights Probe into the Killing of Alex Pretti**, [AP](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)
- Sarah Mervosh, **Two Students From Same School as 5-Year-Old Taken by ICE Are Also in Custody**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Sheera Frenkel & Aaron Krolik, **How ICE Already Knows Who Minneapolis Protestors Are**, [New York Times](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Michael Biesecker, Jack Brook & Jim Mustian, **Takeaways from AP Report on ICE Claims that Immigrant Shattered his Skull Running into Wall**, [AP](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Cengiz Yar & Peter DiCampo, **What We Saw in Minneapolis**, [ProPublica](#) (Jan. 31, 2026)
- Lulu Garcia-Navarro, **The Interview: “A Terrifying Line is Being Crossed”: Mayor Jacob Frey on the Turmoil in Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 2, 2026)
- Ali Winston, **The Paramilitary ICE and CBP Units at the Center of Minnesota’s Killings**, [Wired](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Jacob Wendler, **DHS Watchdog Investigating Use of Force by ICE**, [Politico](#) (Feb. 3, 2026)
- Alan Feuer, et al., **Surge in Immigration Cases in Minnesota Pushes Prosecutors and Judges to Brink**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)

- Pooja Salhotra & Jazmine Ulloa, **Trump’s Migrant Detention Pipeline Extends from Minnesota to El Paso**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 5, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño, **Prosecutors Began Investigating Renee Good’s Killing. Washington Told Them to Stop.**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 7, 2026)
- Conor Wight, **Community Members Fear ICE Agents Are Now Disguising Themselves in Minnesota**, [CBS News](#) (Feb. 9, 2026)
- Maria Sacchetti, et al., **Border Czar Tom Homan Says Minnesota Immigration Surge Is Ending**, [Washington Post](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Julie Bosman, **5 Takeaways From Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Minnesota**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 12, 2026)
- Jacey Fortin, **Moving On From Minnesota, ICE Leaves a Legal Mess Behind**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 13, 2026)
- Jonah E. Bromwich, **ICE Agents Menaced Minnesota Protestors at Their Homes, Filings Say**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 14, 2026)
- Alina Selyukh, **Trump’s Border Czar Says a “Small” Security Force Will Stay in Minnesota**, [NPR](#) (Feb. 15, 2026)
- Mattathias Schwartz & Seamus Hughes, **Justice Dept. Lawyer Is Found in Contempt by Federal Judge**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 18, 2026)
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- Nicholas Nehamas, et al., **How D.H.S. Retreated on Immigration Tactics After Minneapolis**, [New York Times](#) (Mar. 7, 2026)
- Chris Geidner, **Former Military Lawyers Say Use of JAG Lawyers in Minnesota Violates the Posse Comitatus Act**, [LawDork](#) (Mar. 10, 2026)
- Jon Collins, **Drone Sightings Drove Surveillance Fears as ICE Surged in Minnesota**, [MPR News](#) (Mar. 13, 2026)
- Ernesto Londoño et al., **Newly Obtained Video of Minneapolis Shooting Undermines ICE Account**, [New York Times](#) (Apr. 6, 2026)
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Resources

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- **Communications Guide: Walz Mobilizes the Minnesota National Guard**, [The Chamberlain Network](#) (Jan. 24, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Tincher v. Noem*, [0:25-cv-04669](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU of Minnesota](#)

On December 17, 2025, the ACLU of Minnesota and three Minneapolis firms filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s systemic violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights in the course of their immigration enforcement operations in the Twin Cities. Plaintiffs allege that the Trump-Vance administration is unduly interfering with First Amendment rights to protest and assemble, claiming that the defendants have pepper sprayed, violently subdued, and aimed assault rifles at protesters and observers, and have even followed observers home to intimidate them. On January 16, 2026, the court entered a preliminary injunction prohibiting federal agents participating in Operation Metro Surge from retaliating against peaceful protesters, including through detention or arrest, use of pepper spray, and other intimidation tactics.

***Minnesota v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00190](#) (D. Minn.)**

On January 12, 2026, the State of Minnesota and the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the unlawful tactics used by DHS agents during Operation Metro Surge—including the use of force against individuals peacefully protesting; the arrest and threatened use of force against innocent bystanders; the pointing firearms at and use of chokeholds and other restraints against individuals who do not pose a threat to DHS agents; and carrying out enforcement actions at sensitive locations. Plaintiffs allege that the unlawful surge of law enforcement officials to Minnesota violates the Tenth Amendment by infringing on the plaintiffs’ police power, equal sovereignty under the Constitution, city laws and ordinances, and is contrary to numerous federal statutes. Plaintiffs also assert claims under the First Amendment, alleging unconstitutional retaliation and viewpoint discrimination.

See also: Ilya Somin, **Minnesota’s Compelling 10th Amendment Case Against Trump’s ICE Surge**, [Lawfare](#) (Jan. 30, 2026)

***Hussen v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00324](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On January 15, 2026, the ACLU of Minnesota, the ACLU’s Immigrant Rights Project, Covington & Burling LLP, and two Minneapolis law firms filed a class-action [lawsuit](#) challenging the Department of Homeland Security’s policy of racially profiling Somali and Latino residents and

unlawfully seizing and arresting people without warrants or probable cause. Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief from defendants' constitutional violations and vacatur of the agency's policies under the APA.

***U.H.A. v. Bondi*, [0:26-cv-00417](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [IRAP](#)

On January 24, 2026, the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), Berger Montague, and the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law filed a federal class action [lawsuit](#) to challenge the arrests and imprisonments of resettled refugees in Minnesota.

***Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-00628](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Hennepin County Attorney](#)

On January 24, 2026, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension filed a [lawsuit](#) asking the court to prevent federal authorities from destroying evidence related to the shooting of Alex Pretti.

***The Advocates for Human Rights v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [0:26-cv-00749](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On January 28, 2026, The Advocates for Human Rights and a detained individual filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's unlawful detention practices at detention facilities in Minnesota. Specifically, the lawsuit challenges DHS, ICE, and federal security officers' actions to deliberately block access to counsel for detained immigrants. The lawsuit also challenges the conditions of confinement at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building in Minneapolis.

***Neguse v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement*, [1:25-cv-02463](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

Twelve members of the U.S. House of Representatives brought suit to challenge DHS' "oversight visit policy," which required at least seven days' advance notice for congressional oversight visits to DHS and ICE detention facilities and restricted access to certain facilities, including ICE field offices. Plaintiffs allege this policy is unlawful under the APA because, among other things, it is contrary to Section 527 of DHS' fiscal year 2024 appropriations law (as carried forward into FY 2025) and is arbitrary and capricious.

The court [preliminarily stayed](#) the DHS policy in December. After the fatal shooting of a U.S. citizen by a federal agent in Minneapolis, DHS Secretary Kristi Noem reinstated the requirement through a new memorandum that came to light only after multiple members of Congress were denied entry to an ICE facility in Minneapolis. After plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), adding an additional member plaintiff from Minnesota, and a [motion for temporary restraining order](#) to challenge the updated memo, the court granted a [temporary restraining order](#), requiring defendants to temporarily restore access to the facility for unannounced oversight visits for plaintiffs.

***Fridley Public School District v. Noem*, [0:26-cv-01023](#) (D. Minn.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 4, 2026, a coalition of Minnesota school districts and educators filed [suit](#) seeking to block the Trump-Vance administration from conducting immigration enforcement activities in or near public schools. The lawsuit challenges DHS’s decision to remove longstanding protections that limited immigration enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” such as schools. Plaintiffs argue recent federal immigration enforcement actions have disrupted education, endangered students, and driven families away from their schools. The plaintiffs allege that these actions violate the APA and seek injunctive relief to prevent these operations from continuing.

***Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [0:26-cv-01576](#) (D. Minn.)**

On February 23, 2026, a coalition of congregations and clergy across Minnesota filed suit to challenge DHS and ICE’s policy and practice of prohibiting plaintiffs from entering an immigration detention facility and providing pastoral care to hundreds of individuals detained at the Bishop Henry Whipple Building (“Whipple”). Plaintiffs allege the prohibition violates the First Amendment and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

***Jean A. v. Noem*, [3:26-cv-30031](#) (D. Mass.)**

Read more: [Democracy Forward Foundation](#)

On February 27, 2026, a coalition seeking to represent a class of refugees brought [suit](#) to challenge DHS’s “[Refugee Detention Policy](#).” The policy directs the warrantless arrest and mandatory detention (that is potentially indefinite) of lawfully-admitted refugees who have lived in the United States for at least one year and have not yet adjusted their resident status. Plaintiffs argue that this policy violates the APA because it violates the INA, was issued without required notice-and-comment rulemaking, is arbitrary and capricious, and violates the Fourth and the Fifth Amendments.

***Minnesota v. Department of Justice*, [1:26-cv-01007](#) (D. Minn.)**

On March 24, 2026, the State of Minnesota, Hennepin County, and the Minnesota Bureau of brought [suit](#) to challenge the actions taken by the federal government to stonewall Minnesota’s investigation into the killings of Alex Pretti and Renee Good. Plaintiffs seek access to investigation materials. They bring claims under the APA and the Tenth Amendment.

***Brown v. Mullin*, [1:26-cv-01131](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On April 2, 2026, six Minnesotans brought [suit](#) to challenge ICE’s policy of forcibly entering homes without a judicial warrant, as laid out in a May 2025 memorandum issued by Todd Lyons. Plaintiffs bring several APA claims, alleging that the memorandum is contrary to the Fourth Amendment, is contrary to law and in excess of statutory authority of 8 U.S.C. § 1357, was issued without proper notice-and-comment rulemaking, and is arbitrary and capricious.

Plaintiffs also bring claims under the Fourth Amendment, and they allege the memo violates the Federal Vacancies Reform Act and the Appointments Clause.

Washington, DC

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Joe Heim & Emmanuel Martinez, **ICE Arrests in D.C. Region Reach Nearly 20,000 During Trump's Second Term**, [Washington Post](#) (Apr. 6, 2026)
- Beatric Peterson, **ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- Ted Oberg, **ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, **2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, **Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration**, AP Analysis Finds, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, **How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

***Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, [1:25-cv-03417](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Additional Cities & Towns

Press Coverage

- David Waldstein, **ICE Car Chase Leads to Crash Involving Children, Newark Mayor Says**, [New York Times](#) (Feb. 26, 2026)
- Robert Klemko, **How a DHS Shooting of a Third U.S. Citizen Went Unnoticed for Months**, [Washington Post](#) (Mar. 5, 2026)
- Liam Elder-Connors, **The South Burlington ICE Raid Explained**, [Vermont Public](#) (Mar. 12, 2026)
- Mark Sommer, **A Refugee Died After Border Agents Left Him at a Cafe. Fear Followed**, [New York Times](#) (Mar. 15, 2026)
- Liam Elders-Connors, **What We Know 2 Weeks After the ICE Raid in South Burlington**, [Vermont Public](#) (Mar. 25, 2026)
- Ana Ley, **Medical Examiner Rules That a Rohingya Refugee’s Death Was a Homicide**, [New York Times](#) (Apr. 1, 2026)
- Soumya Karlamangla & Hamed Aleaziz, **ICE Agents Shoot Into a Car, Injuring a Suspect in Northern California**, [New York Times](#) (Apr. 7, 2026)
- Ted Sherman, **What ICE Doesn’t Want You to Know About Its N.J. Operations**, [NJ.com](#) (Apr. 17, 2026)

Legal Challenges

***Bangstad v. Noem*, [3:25-cv-00733](#) (W.D. Wis.)**

On August 31, 2025, Kirk C. Bangstad, a Wisconsin resident, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging ICE’s policy of conducting civil immigration enforcement operations with masked and unidentified officers. Plaintiff seeks declaratory and injunctive relief barring ICE from conducting enforcement operations while masked or without visible identification.

***Garcia Venegas v. Homan*, [1:25-cv-00397](#) (S.D. Ala.)**

Read more: [Institute for Justice](#)

On September 30, 2025, Leonardo Garcia Venegas, an American citizen and construction worker, filed [a class-action complaint](#) challenging three DHS policies authorizing warrantless raids and arrests at private construction sites. Plaintiff alleges that these policies allow officers to enter non-public areas without consent or a warrant, detain workers without

reasonable suspicion, and continue to detain them even after proof of lawful status—all in violation of the Fourth Amendment and federal immigration statutes and regulations.

***Ramirez Ovando v. Noem*, [1:25-cv-03183](#) (D. Colo.)**

Read more: [ACLU Colorado](#)

On October 9, 2025, the ACLU of Colorado filed [a class action complaint](#) seeking to enjoin ICE from conducting warrantless arrests in Colorado.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act**, [Center for New American Security](#) (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act**, [Protect Democracy](#) (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military**, [Lawfare](#) (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 12, 2025)
- **The Insurrection Act, Explained**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Nov. 26, 2025)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It**, [Brennan Center](#) (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 9, 2025)

The Domestic Violence Clause

- Jay S. Bybee, **Insuring Domestic Tranquility: Lopez, Federalization of Crime, and the Forgotten Role of the Domestic Violence Clause**, [Geo. Wash. L. Rev.](#), (1997)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation**, [States United](#) (Oct. 21, 2025; Updated Dec. 4, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands**, [Democracy Docket](#) (Oct. 11, 2025)
- DOJ’s [supplemental letter brief](#) to the Supreme Court in *Trump v. Illinois* on the meaning of “regular forces” in 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3) (Nov. 10, 2025)
- Tyler Pager, **Trump Abandons Effort to Deploy the National Guard to 3 Major Cities**, [New York Times](#) (Dec. 31, 2025)
- U.S. Northern Command, [Federal Protection Mission](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump v. Illinois: A Narrow Supreme Court Decision with Broad Implications**, [Just Security](#) (Jan. 9, 2026)

Chicago, IL

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, **ICE launched [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD)** for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth **issued two memos directing [300 members](#) of the Illinois National Guard and [200 members](#) of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.**

As of January 6, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, **[U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Illinois v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-12174](#) (N.D. Ill.), [25-2798](#) (7th Cir.), [25A443](#) (SCOTUS)**

¹ See pages 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a [complaint](#) seeking to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and that it violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the APA, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

On December 23, 2025, the Supreme Court [ruled](#) 6-3 to deny the government’s application to stay a temporary restraining order entered by the District Court, which barred the federalization and deployment of the National Guard. The Court held that “the term ‘regular forces’ in §12406(3) likely refers to the regular forces of the United States military. This interpretation means that to call the Guard into active federal service under §12406(3), the President must be ‘unable’ *with the regular military* ‘to execute the laws of the United States,” and further concluded that the government had failed, at this preliminary stage, to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Spencer Reynolds & Matthew Ruppert, **Defending “Sanctuary” Principles During the Chicago Crackdown**, [Just Security](#) (Nov. 6, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Los Angeles, CA

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#) calling forth **2,000 members of the California National Guard** into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo](#) calling forth an **additional 2,000 members** of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were **placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status**.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities**.

Legal Challenges

***Newsom v. Trump*, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and

because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the APA.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump’s Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis, TN

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

***Harris v. Lee*, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)**

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law **[lawsuit](#)** challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law. The Court ruled that the deployment was unlawful in violation of Tennessee law. The Tennessee government has appealed. Updates on the case can be found [here](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)
- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force,** [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland, OR

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

As of January 6, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops (that is, federalized National Guard) in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago are conducting demobilizing activities** and will return to their home units once demobilization is complete.

As of January 21, 2026, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that **all Title 10 troops in Portland, Los Angeles, and Chicago have completed demobilizing activities.**

Legal Challenges

***Oregon v. Trump*, [3:25-cv-01756](#) (D. Ore.), [25-6268](#) (9th Cir.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland**, [KGW8](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 5, 2025)
- Maxine Bernstein, **ICE Officers Reveal Arrest Quotas, Facial Recognition Use in Oregon Dagnet**, [Oregon Live](#) (Dec. 9, 2025)
- **Portland, Or., Portland and Federal Troops**, [The City of Portland Government Website](#) (last visited Jan. 19, 2026)

Washington, DC

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133**, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense**: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025**, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),” appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized 800 troops to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded Order No. 6370-2025, and issued Order No. 6372-2025**, instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of 1,900 guardsmen** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339**, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),” instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

October 30, 2025, Secretary Hegseth **ordered the extension** of the National Guard deployment in D.C. until at least February 2026.

Legal Challenges

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-02678](#) (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed**

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a [complaint](#) challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump-Vance administration violated the APA, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a [motion for TRO](#), which it ultimately [withdrew](#) after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a [notice of voluntary dismissal](#), which the court granted.

***District of Columbia v. Trump*, [1:25-cv-03005](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [States United](#)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed [a complaint](#) challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the APA, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

***O'Hara v. Beck*, [1:25-cv-03753](#) (D.D.C.)**

Read more: [ACLU](#)

On October 23, 2025, the ACLU of the District of Columbia filed a [lawsuit](#) against multiple police officers and National Guard members on behalf of a plaintiff who alleges that an Ohio National Guard member violated his constitutional rights by calling D.C. police to prevent him from protesting and recording the National Guard's conduct. The plaintiff asserts First and Fourth Amendment claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, as well as several common law tort claims.

***S. Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. McMaster*, (S.C. Sup. Ct.)**

On January 7, 2026, the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and a South Carolina resident filed a [lawsuit](#) in state court challenging Gov. McMaster's deployment of state National Guard troops to Washington, D.C. at the request of President Trump. Plaintiffs argue that South Carolina law does not allow the governor to "support federal law enforcement activities" outside of the state under Title 32 of the U.S. Code, and the lawsuit seeks to block the ongoing deployment. This case was filed [directly](#) in the South Carolina Supreme Court, which has original jurisdiction over the matter.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Minority Staff Report, At What Cost? Trump’s Indefinite Deployment of the National Guard in D.C. on Track to Cost Taxpayers \$600 Million a Year**, [U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs](#), (Feb. 2026)
- **What Trump’s D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On**, [The Marshall Project](#) (Aug. 23, 2025)
- **Dara Lind, A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump’s Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- **Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, One Week of Trump’s D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President’s Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation’s Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- **Mark Nevitt, Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- **Chris Mirasola, Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Jasleen Singh & Kendall Verhovek, **Sending ICE to Polling Places Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Mar. 31, 2026)
- **What's Breaking Through About Deploying Federal Agents to Polling Places**, [States United](#) (Mar. 18, 2026)
- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)
- **Know Your Rights: Immigration & Schools**, [National Education Association](#) (April 2023)

The resource is for informational and educational purposes only. It is not intended to be legal advice or a substitute for legal advice for a specific organization or about a particular set of facts and should not be relied upon as such.

DEMOCRACY2025

To: Democracy 2025 Partners
From: Democracy Forward
Re: Compilation of Sources and Resources Regarding the Trump-Vance Administration’s Militarization of U.S. Cities
Date: November 12, 2025

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The Militarization of Cities

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, “[The Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#),” which authorized the federalization and deployment of National Guard forces and active-duty armed forces to protect Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents and federal property. The Memorandum invoked “violent protests” and “disorder” by opponents of ICE’s enforcement operations as the justification.

On September 25, 2025, President Trump issued National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7) “[Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence](#).” The memo directs the National Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTFs) and its local offices to “coordinate and supervise a comprehensive national strategy to investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals engaged in acts of political violence and intimidation.”

On September 29, 2025, Attorney General Bondi issued a memorandum to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys: “[Ending Political Violence Against ICE](#).” The memo instructs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct officers and agents to defend ICE facilities, specifically in Portland and Chicago, add local law enforcement entities to a temporary ICE Protection Task Force, and provide grant funding, training, and technical assistance to support ICE law enforcement.

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- Bora Erden, **How to Make Sense of the Federal Forces on the Streets**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Kat Lonsdorf & Sergio Martinez-Beltran, **Trump Ties Crime With Immigration, Blurring the Lines with Guard Deployment**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 17, 2025)
- Hina Shamsi, **How NSPM-7 Seeks to Use “Domestic Terrorism” to Target Nonprofits and Activists**, [ACLU](#) (Oct. 15, 2025)
- **How to Stop Trump’s National Guard Weaponization**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 22, 2025)
- Steve Vladeck & Ryan Goodman, **Posse Comitatus Act Meets the President’s “Protective Powers”**: What’s Next in *Newsom v. Trump*, [Just Security](#) (June 20, 2025)

- Ryan Goodman, **The “Unwilling or Unable” Test for Sending U.S. Military to American Streets**, [Just Security](#) (June 16, 2025)
- William Banks & Mark Nevitt, **The Mounting Crisis of Militarizing Immigration Enforcement**, [Just Security](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **“The Insurrection Act” by Any Other Name: Unpacking Trump’s Memorandum Authorizing Domestic Deployment of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (June 10, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Deployment of the U.S. Military for Immigration Enforcement: A Primer**, [Just Security](#) (Dec. 3, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The President’s Power to Call Out the National Guard Is Not a Blank Check**, [Brennan Center](#) (Nov. 18, 2024)
- William Banks, **Expert Backgrounder: Federalizing the National Guard and Domestic Use of the Military**, [Just Security](#) (Feb. 21, 2024)
- **Protecting Against Militarization of Law Enforcement**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Apr. 26, 2021)

Militarized Immigration Enforcement in Specific Cities

Executive Actions

The week of May 19, 2025, **Stephen Miller and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Noem directed ICE to [arrest 3,000 people per day](#).**

On June 4, 2025, **NBC News reported that ICE is planning to launch “[Operation At Large](#),”** a nationwide plan to ramp up arrests of undocumented immigrants. According to NBC News: “The plan calls for using 3,000 ICE agents, including 1,800 from Homeland Security Investigations, which generally investigates transnational crimes and is not typically involved in arresting noncriminal immigrants; 2,000 Justice Department employees from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration; and 500 employees from Customs and Border Protection. It also includes 250 IRS agents, some of whom may be used to provide information on the whereabouts of immigrants using tax information, while others would have the authority to make arrests, according to the operation plan.”

On June 16, 2025, **President [Trump ordered ICE to increase deportation efforts in cities with Democratic leadership](#).** On TruthSocial, President Trump [told](#) ICE officers to “do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History.”

On September 9, 2025, **NBC News reported that [ICE has stopped requiring that officers complete certain paperwork before conducting an immigration arrest](#),** which seemingly facilitates a nationwide policy authorizing warrantless arrests in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2).

Relevant Consent Decree

[Castañón Nava v. DHS, 18-cv-03757](#) (N.D. Ill.)

Read more: [National Immigrant Justice Center](#)

- **Federal Judge Extends Consent Decree Prohibiting ICE from Arresting People Without Warrants or Probable Cause,** [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- **Final Settlement Regarding ICE Warrantless Arrests and Vehicle Stops: Overview of Settlement Requirements and Remedies,** [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (Oct. 8, 2025)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **Understanding ICE Raids at American Workplaces,** [American Immigration Council](#) (Oct. 9, 2025)

- David J. Bier, **Anti-Profilng Court Order Cuts L.A. ICE Arrests by 66 Percent**, [Cato](#) (Aug. 14, 2025)
- **The ICE Raids – What You Need to Know**, [HIAS](#) (June 27, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Nicole Foy & McKenzie Funk, **“We’ll Smash the Fucking Window and Drag Him Out,”** [ProPublica](#) (July. 31, 2025)
- Meg Anderson, **Tackles, Projectiles and Gunfire: Many Fear ICE Tactics Are Growing More Violent**, [NPR](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Nicole Foy, **We Found That More Than 170 U.S. Citizens Have Been Held by Immigration Agents. They’ve Been Kicked, Dragged and Detained for Days**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)
- J. David McSwane & Hannah Allam, **Unfettered and Unaccountable: How Trump is Building a Violent, Shadowy Federal Police Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Oct. 18, 2025)

Boston

DHS Operations

Operation Patriot

- **ICE, Federal Partners Arrest Nearly 1,500 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Immigration Enforcement Operation, [ICE](#) (June 2, 2025)**
- **Operation Patriot Results in Numerous Arrests of Criminal Illegal Aliens with Detainers that Were Ignored Due to Sanctuary Policies, [DHS](#) (June 6, 2025)**

Operation Patriot 2.0

- **ICE Arrests Worst of the Worst Including Rapists, Child Abusers, Drug Traffickers, and Other Violent Thugs During Operation Patriot 2.0 in Sanctuary Boston, [DHS](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)**
- **ICE, Federal Partners Arrest More Than 1,400 Illegal Aliens in Massachusetts During Patriot 2.0, [ICE](#) (Oct. 16, 2025)**

Press Coverage

- **Brenna T. Smith, Jack Gillum, & Michelle Hackman, ICE's Tough Tactics Were Forged on the Streets of Boston, [Wall Street Journal](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)**

Chicago

DHS Operations

Operation Midway Blitz

- On September 8, 2025, DHS announced **the launch of [Operation Midway Blitz](#)**.
- On September 19, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz had led to almost [550 arrests](#)**.
- On October 2, 2025, DHS announced **Operation Midway Blitz surpassed [900 arrests](#)**.

Operation At Large

- On September 16, 2025, Customs and Border Protection announced their **arrival in Chicago and the start of [Operation At Large](#)**, led by Gregory Bovino.

Press Coverage

- Mariana Alfaro, et al., **ICE Launches “Operation Midway Blitz” Targeting Immigrants in Chicago**, [Washington Post](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- Steven Held, et al., **What Happened to Silverio Villegas González**, [Reader](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Emmanuel Camarillo, **Silverio Villegas González, Who Was Killed by ICE Agents, 'Touched the Lives of So Many,'** [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Sept. 15, 2025)
- Angie Leventis Lourgos, **Elgin Man Who is a US Citizen Was Briefly Detained in Latest Chicago-Area Immigration Enforcement Blitz**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Chris Tye, **Feds Launch Second Immigration Enforcement Operation in Illinois, Led by Border Official Who Oversaw L.A. Raids**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Sept. 16, 2025)
- Julie Bosman, Hamed Aleaziz & Robert Chiarito, **Drones, Helicopters, Hundreds of Arrests: Trump’s Immigration Crackdown in Chicago So Far**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)
- Rebekah Riess & Bill Kirkos, **37 People Arrested and American Kids Separated From Parents After ICE Raid at Chicago Apartments**, [CNN](#) (Oct. 3, 2025)

- Rebecca Schneid, ‘**Military-Style’ ICE Raid On Chicago Apartment Building Shows Escalation in Trump’s Crackdown**, [Time](#) (Oct. 4, 2025)
- Sophia Tareen, **Using Helicopters and Chemical Agents, Immigration Agents Become Increasingly Aggressive in Chicago**, [AP](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- **Helicopters, Tear Gas, Blown Doors: A Look at Recent Scenes in Chicago**, [NBC Chicago](#) (Oct. 6, 2025)
- Connor Greene, **Inside Chicago’s Battle with Trump**, [Time](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- **ICE in Chicago Amid Ongoing “Operation Midway Blitz” Activity: Live Updates**, [CBS Chicago Team](#) (Oct. 23, 2025)
- Charles Thrush, **Feds Tear Gas Northwest Side Street, Disrupting Halloween Parade For Kids**, [Block Club Chicago](#) (Oct. 26, 2025)
- Gregory Royal Pratt & Laura Rodriguez Presa, **Border Patrol’s strong-arm tactics are the new norm in Chicago as Trump moves to sideline ICE leadership**, [Chicago Tribune](#) (Nov. 2, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Chicago Headline Club v. Noem, 1:25-cv-12173 (N.D. Ill.)

Read more: [Protect Democracy](#)

On October 6, 2025, a coalition of Chicago media organizations and protesters filed [a class action complaint](#) (and later, an [amended complaint](#)) challenging the conduct of federal agents at and around the Broadview, Illinois ICE facility. Plaintiffs allege that federal agents’ activity suppressed peaceful protest by firing tear gas, grenades, rubber bullets, and pepper balls at protesters, in violation of the First and Fourth Amendments.

- Case updates are available [here](#) (Protect Democracy)

Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Claims

- Sara Tenenbaum, **Ald. Jessie Fuentes Files Claim for \$100K in Damages After ICE Arrest at Humboldt Health Hospital**, [CBS Chicago](#) (Oct. 21, 2025)

Los Angeles

DHS Operations

- **ICE Los Angeles Announces 239 Illegal Aliens Were Arrested During Recent Operation**, [ICE](#) (May 14, 2025)
- **Homeland Security Secretary Noem Announces DHS Arrest of 5,000th Illegal Alien in Los Angeles Since Operations Began in the Sanctuary City in June**, [DHS](#) (Aug. 26, 2025)

Press Coverage

- Al Jazeera Staff, **ICE Launches “Military-Style” Raids in Los Angeles: What We Know**, [Aljazeera](#) (June 7, 2025)
- Elizabeth Findell, et al., **The White House Marching Orders That Sparked the L.A. Migrant Crackdown**, [Wall Street Journal](#) (June 9, 2025)
- Orlando Mayorquín & Jesus Jiménez, **Agents Use Military-Style Force Against Protesters at L.A. Immigration Raid**, [New York Times](#) (June 11, 2025)
- Miriam Jordan, et al., **How L.A. Raids Ignited a New Fight Over Immigration**, [New York Times](#) (June 16, 2025)
- Michelle Krupa, Elizabeth Wolfe, & Norma Galeana, **Tensions Are Rising in Southern California Over Immigration Raids. Here’s What We Know**, [CNN](#) (July 13, 2025)
- Niguel Duara, **What It’s Like to Live Through L.A.’s Long Deportation Summer**, [Cal Matters](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- [L.A. Taco’s News](#) coverage - for daily updates on immigration enforcement in Southern California

Legal Challenges

Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem, [2:25-cv-05605](#) (C.D. Cal.), [25-4312](#) (9th Cir.), [25A169](#) (Supreme Court)

Read more: [ACLU of Southern California](#)

On July 2, 2025, five individuals who were stopped or arrested, along with a coalition of immigrant rights advocates, filed a [class action lawsuit](#) challenging a practice of warrantless

stops and arrests grounded in racial profiling of Latino residents of the Central District of California.

The temporary restraining order ([TRO](#)) enjoining the government from conducting warrantless immigration arrests based on no more than a person's race or ethnicity, the language they speak, their presence in a particular location, or their occupation was [affirmed](#) by the Ninth Circuit, but [stayed](#) by the Supreme Court.

FTCA Claims

- On July 2, 2025, a [U.S. citizen detained by ICE after recording an immigration raid at Home Depot](#) filed a [claim](#) against ICE and DHS seeking \$1 million.

Washington, D.C.

ICE Operations

- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest More Than 200 Alien Offenders During Enhanced Gang Operation in Northern Virginia**, [ICE](#) (Mar. 13, 2025)
- **ICE, Law Enforcement Partners Arrest Almost 200 Alien Offenders During 4-Day Immigration Enforcement Operation in Washington, D.C.**, [ICE](#) (May 13, 2025)

Press Coverage

- **Beatric Peterson, ICE Targets Businesses and Restaurants Across D.C.**, [ABC News](#) (May 7, 2025)
- **Ted Oberg, ICE Data Shows Surge in D.C.-Area Arrests of People Without Criminal Convictions**, [NBC Washington](#) (Aug. 28, 2025)
- **Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, Jeff Adelson, Campbell Robertson & Bernard Mokam, 2 Weeks, 1,000 Arrests: How a Surge of Feds Changed D.C. Policing**, [New York Times](#) (Aug. 29, 2025)
- **Trump's Takeover of D.C.: Traffic Stops Turn into Immigration Arrests for Delivery Riders and Workers**, [Bellingcat](#) (Sept. 8, 2025)
- **Alanna Durkin Richer & Rebecca Santana, Over 40% of Arrests in Trump's D.C. Law Enforcement Surge Relate to Immigration, AP Analysis Finds**, [Associated Press](#) (Sept. 10, 2025)
- **Hameed Aleaziz, Brent McDonald & Amogh Vaz, How Washington Became a Testing Ground for ICE**, [New York Times](#) (Oct. 1, 2025)

Legal Challenges

Escobar Molina v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 1:25-cv-03417 (D.D.C.)

Read more: [ACLU of D.C.](#)

On September 25, 2025, four residents of D.C. who were arrested during President Trump's immigration crackdown and a coalition of immigrant rights groups filed a [class action lawsuit](#) to challenge the Trump-Vance administration's policy of making warrantless

immigration arrests. Plaintiffs allege that warrantless arrests without individualized assessment of immigration status and without individualized assessment of flight risk violates the law.

Deployment of the National Guard in Specific Cities

Relevant Statutes

The Posse Comitatus Act, [18 U.S.C. § 1385](#)

- **The Posse Comitatus Act and Related Matters: The Use of the Military to Execute Civilian Law, [Congressional Research Service](#)** (Nov. 6, 2018)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Preventing the Use of the National Guard to Evade the Posse Comitatus Act, [Center for New American Security](#)** (May, 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Posse Comitatus Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (Sept. 29, 2025)

The Insurrection Act, [10 U.S.C. Ch. 13: Insurrection](#)

- **Legal Challenges to an Improper Invocation of the Insurrection Act, [Protect Democracy](#)** (July 2020)
- **The Insurrection Act and National Guard Authorities, Explained, [Protect Democracy](#)** (Sept. 10, 2024)
- Laura A. Dickinson, **How the Insurrection Act (Properly Understood) Limits Domestic Deployments of the U.S. Military, [Lawfare](#)** (Sept. 12, 2024)
- Joseph Nunn, **The Insurrection Act Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (June 10, 2022)

Martial Law

- Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law in the United States: Its Meaning, Its History, and Why the President Can't Declare It, [Brennan Center](#)** (Aug. 20, 2020)
- Tim Lau & Joseph Nunn, **Martial Law Explained, [Brennan Center](#)** (June 9, 2025)

Backgrounders, Analysis & Resources

- **FAQs: Military Deployments and Federal “Occupations” of American Cities, [National Immigration Law Center](#)** (Oct. 22, 2025)
- **Backgrounder: National Guard Deployment Litigation, [States United](#)** (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Jacob Knutson, **Where the Legal Fight Over Trump’s Military Deployments Stands, [Democracy Docket](#)** (Oct. 11, 2025)

Chicago

Executive Actions

On August 13, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi sent a demand letter to [Mayor Johnson](#) and [Governor Pritzker](#)** notifying them that their jurisdiction had been identified as one that engages in sanctuary policies and demanding that they submit a response to the letter by August 19, 2025.

On September 8, 2025, ICE launched **[Operation Midway Blitz](#)**, prompting large-scale ICE **[demonstrations and protests](#)**.

On September 26, 2025, **[DHS sent a memo](#)**¹ requesting assistance from the Department of Defense (DOD) for federal facility protection support in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, President Trump issued a **Presidential Memorandum: “[Department of War Security for the Protection of Federal Personnel and Property in Illinois](#),”** in which he called **[300 members](#)**² of the Illinois National Guard into federal service in response to the supposed “coordinated assault by violent groups” at ICE and Federal Protective Services (FPS) facilities in Illinois.

On October 4, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued two memos directing **[300 members](#)** of the Illinois National Guard and **[200 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to Chicago.

Legal Challenges

[Illinois v. Trump, 1:25-cv-12174 \(N.D. Ill.\), 25-2798 \(7th Cir.\), 25A443 \(SCOTUS\)](#)

On October 6, 2025, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago filed a **[complaint](#)** to stop President Trump’s federalization of the Illinois National Guard and deployment of the Texas National Guard to Chicago. Plaintiffs argued that the administration acted in excess of its authority to federalize Guard troops under 10 U.S.C. § 12406, and violated the Posse Comitatus Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Tenth Amendment, and provisions of the Constitution protecting equal sovereignty among states.

Backgrounders & Resources

¹ See page 15-16

² See page 21 for the Memorandum for the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard from the Chief of the National Guard Bureau communicating the decision.

- Steve Vladeck, **“Regular Forces” and the Insurrection Act**, [One First](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)
- **The Supreme Court: the Last Defense Against Trump’s Military Police State**, [Just Security](#) (Oct. 24, 2025)
- Araceli Gómez-Aldana, **What to Know About Immigration Operations and National Guard Deployments to Chicago**, [Chicago Sun Times](#) (Oct. 13, 2025)
- Amanda Carpenter, **The “Chipocalypse” is Now**, [If You Can Keep It](#) (Oct. 7, 2025)
- Michael Waldman, **Chicago Braces for Troops**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 9, 2025)
- Justin Kaufmann, **Trump Sending National Guard to Chicago Will Be Trickier than D.C. Deployment**, [Axios Chicago](#) (Aug. 25, 2025)

Los Angeles

Executive Actions

On June 7, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo calling forth 2,000 members of the California National Guard](#) into federal service for a period of 60 days on the basis of the **Presidential Memorandum, “[Department of Defense Security for the Protection of Department of Homeland Security Functions](#)”** that President Trump had issued the same day.

On June 9, 2025, Defense Secretary Hegseth issued [another memo calling forth an additional 2,000 members](#) of the California National Guard into federal service and [700 Marines](#).

On June 11, 2025, [U.S. Northern Command announced](#) that, at the direction of Defense Secretary Hegseth, approximately 4,000 California Army National Guard soldiers and 700 Marines were placed under federal command and control in a Title 10 status.

On July 16, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops** in Los Angeles.

On July 21, 2025, the [Pentagon announced](#) it would **end the deployment of 700 Marines**.

Legal Challenges

Newsom v. Trump, 3:25-cv-04870 (N.D. Cal.), 25-5553 (9th Cir.)

On June 9, 2025, California Governor Gavin Newsom filed suit against President Trump, Defense Secretary Hegseth, and DOD in the Northern District of California, challenging the administration’s decision to federalize 4,000 members of the California National Guard. In the [complaint](#), Newsom argued that federalization of the California National Guard in these circumstances violates 10 U.S.C. § 12406 because the order did not go through the Governor and because the factual prerequisites for federalization had not been met, along with the Tenth Amendment and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Backgrounders & Resources

- Elizabeth Goitein, **What to Know About the Los Angeles Military Deployment**, [Brennan Center](#) (June 20, 2025)
- Elizabeth Goitein, **Trump’s Use of Federal Troops in Drug Raid Outside of Los Angeles: An Alarming Escalation**, [Just Security](#) (June 25, 2025)

- Joseph Nunn, **Court Finds Trump's Use of Soldiers in Los Angeles Is Illegal**, [Brennan Center](#) (Sept. 5, 2025)

Memphis

Executive Actions

On September 15, 2025, **President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum: “[Restoring Law and Order in Memphis](#),”** establishing a task force to “end street and violent crime in Memphis to the greatest extent possible through the promotion and facilitation of hypervigilant policing, aggressive prosecution, complex investigations, financial enforcement, and large-scale saturation of besieged neighborhoods with law enforcement personnel.” The Memorandum also directed Defense Secretary Hegseth to request that the Governor of Tennessee mobilize the state’s Guard.

Also on September 15, 2025, **[Tennessee Governor Bill Lee met with President Trump](#)** in the Oval Office “to request that President Trump grant activation of the Tennessee National Guard under Title 32 orders.”

On September 26, 2025, **Governor Lee [announced](#) that personnel from 13 U.S. agencies**, including the FBI, the DEA, and AFT, as well as 300 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, would begin patrolling Memphis on September 29, 2025. He also referred to deploying the state National Guard in support roles, without authority to make arrests.

On [October 10, 2025](#), **the National Guard began [patrolling](#) Memphis**. The Governor never specified roles or duties for the National Guard within the Task Force (e.g., the ability to make arrests) nor the duration of the deployment. And despite promising that National Guard personnel would remain unarmed, citizens reported sighting armed National Guard members as early as October 11, 2025.

Legal Challenges

Harris v. Lee, [25-1461-I](#) (Chancery Ct., TN)

Read more: [National Immigration Law Center](#)

On October 17, 2025, seven Tennessee elected officials at the city, county, and state levels filed a state-law [lawsuit](#) challenging Governor Lee’s deployment of the Tennessee National Guard to the city of Memphis at the request of President Trump as a violation of the Tennessee Constitution and state law.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Safe & Clean, “Federal & State Public Safety Support in Memphis,”** [The City of Memphis Government Website](#)

- Wendi C. Thomas & Katherine Burgess, **“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Black Memphis Residents Report Harassment by Trump’s Police Task Force**, [ProPublica](#) (Nov. 3, 2025)

Portland

Executive Actions

On September 26, 2025, [DHS sent a memo](#) requesting assistance from the DOD for federal facility protection support in Oregon.

On September 27, 2025, **President Trump posted on [Truth Social](#)**: “At the request of Secretary of Homeland Security, Kristi Noem, I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists. I am also authorizing Full Force, if necessary. Thank you for your attention to this matter!”

On September 27, 2025, the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard transmitted a [memo to the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard](#), requesting that 200 members of the Oregon National Guard mobilize in Title 32 status in the next 12 hours.

On September 28, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth issued a [memo](#)** deploying 200 members of the Oregon National Guard into federal service in Title 10 status for a period of 60 days.

On or about October 4, 2025, **Defense Secretary Hegseth called [400 members](#)** of the Texas National Guard to perform missions in Portland and Chicago and attempted to deploy [200 members of the California National Guard](#) to Portland, after an Oregon judge had blocked the deployment of the Oregon National Guard in the state.

Legal Challenges

Oregon v. Trump, [3:25-cv-01756](#) (D. Ore.), [25-6268](#) (9th Cir.)

On September 28, 2025, Oregon and the City of Portland filed a [complaint](#) challenging the federalization and deployment of the Oregon National Guard. On October 5, 2025, the plaintiffs filed an [amended complaint](#), in which they added the State of California as a party and moved for [a second TRO](#).

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Timeline of Events Leading Up to the National Guard Deployment of Portland, [KGW8](#)** (Oct. 21, 2025)
- Rob Davis & Steve Suo, **What Really Happened in Portland Before Trump Deployed the National Guard, [ProPublica](#)** (Nov. 5, 2025)

- **Portland and Federal Troops, [The City of Portland Government Website](#)**

Washington, D.C.

Executive Actions

On August 11, 2025, **President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 14133, “[Declaring a Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#)”**, in which he commandeered the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for “Federal purposes, including maintaining law and order in the Nation’s seat of Government; protecting Federal buildings national monuments, and other Federal property; and ensuring conditions necessary for the orderly functioning of the Federal Government.”

That same day, **President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum to the Secretary of Defense: “[Restoring Law and Order in the District of Columbia](#).”**

On August 14, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi issued Order No. 6370-2025, “[Restoring Safety and Security to the District of Columbia](#),”** appointing the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration to serve as MPD’s Emergency Police Commissioner for the duration of the emergency pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-207.40.

That same day, **DOD announced that the National Guard mobilized [800 troops](#) to D.C.**

On August 15, 2025, **Attorney General Bondi rescinded [Order No. 6370-2025](#), and issued [Order No. 6372-2025](#),** instructing the D.C. Mayor to provide for “assistance with the enforcement of federal immigration law” notwithstanding existing MPD policies.

On August 23, 2025, **the D.C. National Guard announced the deployment of [1,900 guardsmen](#)** from the D.C., West Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee National Guards. The D.C. National Guard was also [authorized to carry weapons](#) in support of law enforcement. Defense Secretary Hegseth signed an order [authorizing the carrying of weapons](#), which was approved by the U.S. Marshals Service.

On August 28, 2025, **President Trump issued EO 14339, “[Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia](#),”** instructing the National Park Service and the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the District of Columbia to increase law enforcement and prosecutors to support public safety in Washington, D.C. It also directed the Secretary of Defense to create a specialized D.C. National Guard unit; asked the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate any non-compliance with crime prevention and safety requirements in HUD’s agreements with D.C. Housing Authority; and tasked the Secretary of Transportation with conducting safety inspections in federally funded transit services.

On September 3, 2025, Army Secretary Dan Driscoll signed off on a plan to [extend orders](#) for the D.C. National Guard to remain on active duty through November 30, 2025.

Legal Challenges

District of Columbia v. Trump, [1:25-cv-02678](#) (D.D.C.) - voluntarily dismissed

On August 15, 2025, D.C. filed a [complaint](#) challenging EO 14333, which invoked authorities under the Home Rule Act and D.C. Code § 1-207.40 to declare an emergency in D.C. and commandeer the D.C. Police, as well as Attorney General Order No. 6370-2025. D.C. alleged the Trump administration violated the Administrative Procedure Act, the Home Rule Act, and the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause).

The District filed a [motion for TRO](#), which it ultimately [withdrew](#) after the Attorney General subsequently rescinded Order No. 6370-2025. On September 10, 2025, President Trump's invocation of D.C. Code § 1-207.40 expired. On September 25, 2025, D.C. filed a [notice of voluntary dismissal](#), which the court granted.

District of Columbia v. Trump, [1:25-cv-03005](#) (D.D.C.)

On September 4, 2025, D.C. filed [a complaint](#) challenging the deployment of National Guard troops without the District's consent, arguing the deployment violates the Administrative Procedures Act, the Constitution (separation of powers, Take Care Clause, District Clause, Militia Clauses), the Home Rule Act, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the Posse Comitatus Act, and 10 U.S.C. § 275.

Backgrounders & Resources

- **What Trump's D.C. Takeover Looks Like on the Ground, Two Weeks On, The [Marshall Project](#)** (Aug. 23, 2025)
- Dara Lind, **A Backdoor for Immigration Enforcement: Why Trump's Federal Takeover of D.C. Matters**, [American Immigration Council](#) (Aug. 20, 2025)
- Joseph Nunn & Spencer Reynolds, **One Week of Trump's D.C. Takeover Attempt: An Analysis of the President's Use of Military, Policy, and Security Services in the Nation's Capital**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 19, 2025)
- Mark Nevitt, **Trump, the National Guard, and the District of Columbia: What You Need to Know**, [Just Security](#) (Aug. 18, 2025)
- **Eight Things to Know About the National Guard in Washington, D.C.**, [Protect Democracy](#) (Aug. 13, 2025)
- Chris Mirasola, **Deploying the D.C. National Guard**, [Lawfare](#) (Aug. 11, 2025)
- **Use of Militia, National Guard, or Federal Armed Forces Within the District of Columbia Prior to 2020**, [Congressional Research Service](#) (Aug. 25, 2021)

Deployment of Federal Forces in other Public Places

Polling Places

Backgrounders & Resources

- Sean Morales-Doyle, **Explainer: Federal and State Election Laws Ban Federal Forces From Polling Places**, [Brennan Center](#) (Oct. 22, 2025)
- Deany El-Mallawany, Christine Kwon & Rachel Homer, **Trump Can't Lawfully Use Armed Forces to Sway the Election: Understanding the Legal Boundaries**, [Just Security](#) (Sept. 23, 2020)

Hospitals

Backgrounders & Resources

- **Health Care and U.S. Immigration Enforcement: What Providers Need to Know**, [National Immigration Law Center](#) (March 2025)

Schools

Backgrounders & Resources

- Emma Winger, **At Graduation Time, ICE Targets Young Dreamers**, [American Immigration Council](#) (June 12, 2025)