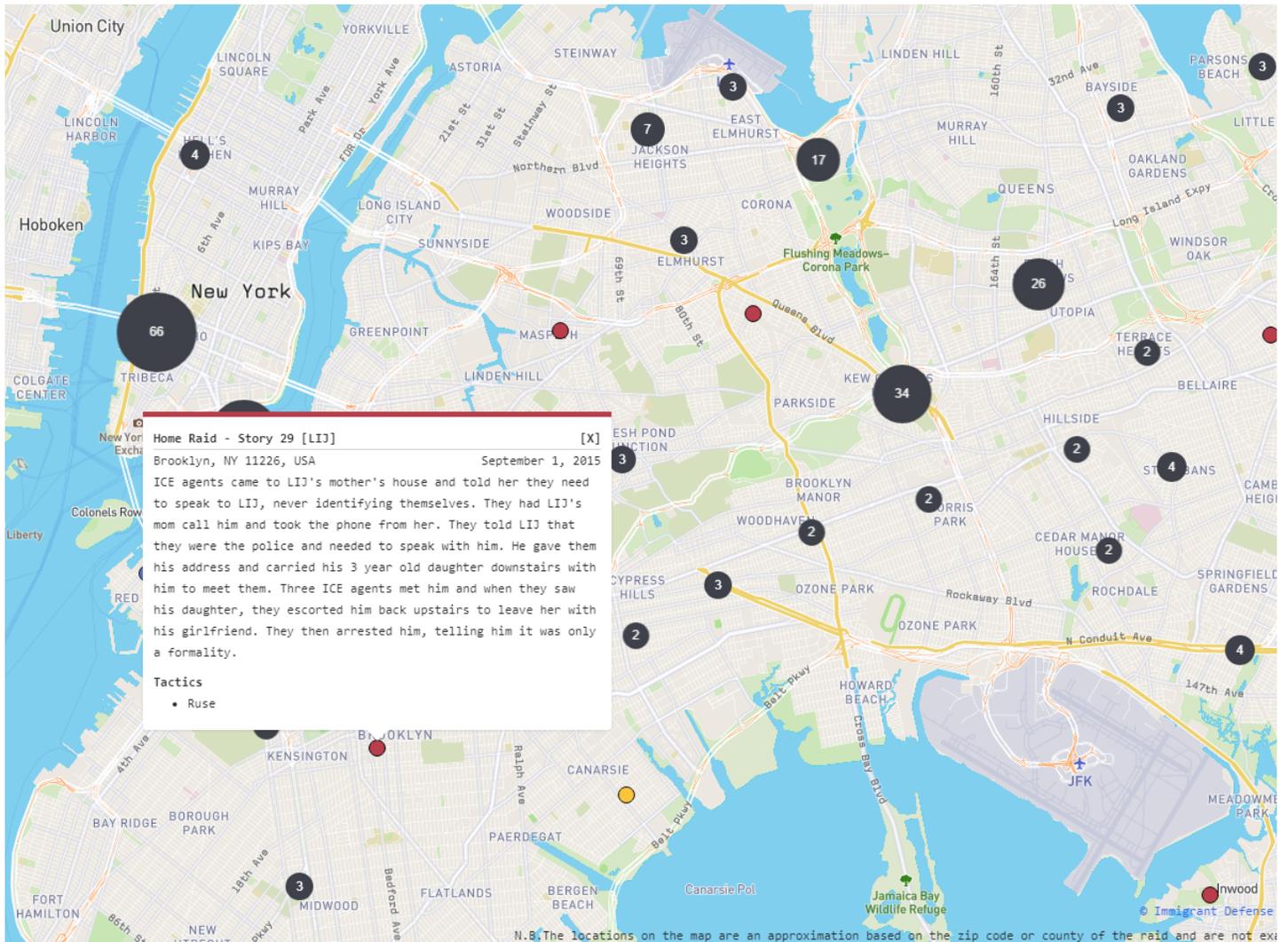


ICEwatch: ICE Raids Tactics Map

A Brief Summary of ICE Raids Trends to Accompany

raidsmap.immdefense.org



A Brief Summary of ICE Raid Trends

The calculated and sustained attack on migrants and immigrant communities continues to be a key feature of the Trump administration. One of the primary methods used by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to identify and target immigrants in the interior is through home, community, and courthouse raids.¹ Immigrant Defense Project (IDP) has been monitoring ICE raids, primarily in the New York Metropolitan area, since 2013. To best share this information with community members and advocates, IDP, in partnership with the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR), has developed ICEwatch, an interactive map that currently includes summaries of over 650 ICE raids. By offering details on ICE practices, ICEwatch aims to help equip individuals to exercise their constitutional rights. Also, as ICE conducts these raids, largely with impunity, we share these details in ICEwatch in support of advocacy for defunding and abolishing this agency and ending deportation.

During the past five years, IDP has collected reports of ICE raids through collaborations with community-based and legal services organizations throughout New York State, as well as through calls and reports received on our hotline. In addition, New York State uniquely houses both Regional Immigrant Assistance Centers (RIAC) in all counties across the state, as well as the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP) in immigration courts.² Both initiatives have provided a mechanism for IDP to collect firsthand accounts of raids from the individuals arrested by ICE (via their attorneys), whose experiences during ICE raids may otherwise not have been shared or reported. IDP confirms details of raids reports by speaking with witnesses of raids or those with direct knowledge, the individuals arrested by ICE themselves, or their attorneys.

On January 25, 2017, Trump issued an Executive Order which laid out an expansive set of priority targets for deportation and stated its intention to triple the ICE police force.³ This has included the escalation of community arrests and raids, and the targeting of what the administration calls “Sanctuary Jurisdictions”—jurisdictions with policies that limit the collusion between local

1 We have defined a raid as any instance where ICE agents arrest, or attempt to arrest, a non-citizen.

2 For more on the New York State RIACs: <https://www.ils.ny.gov/content/riac-general-information>; For more on NYIFUP: <https://www.vera.org/projects/universal-representation-for-immigrants-facing-deportation/learn-more>

3 Executive Order: Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States, www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-enhancing-public-safety-interior-united-states/

law enforcement and ICE. Trump's goal is to "take the shackles" off ICE agents—encouraging the agency to arrest and deport as many people as possible. Then-acting Director of ICE, Thomas Homan, issued a public warning to immigrants in June 2017 making the intentions of ICE clear: "[y]ou should look over your shoulder, you should be worried."⁴

From Trump's January 20 inauguration through the end of ICE's fiscal year on September 30, 2017, ICE made 42% more arrests (110,568 in total) than during the same time period in 2016.⁵ IDP has also documented a 1200% increase in ICE arrests and attempted arrests at courthouses throughout New York State in 2017 from the previous year.

ICE repeatedly justifies its deportation practices by using a rhetoric of criminalization and racism, and by asserting that their mission promotes public safety. Trump's Executive Order asserts that "many" undocumented people present "a significant threat to national security and public safety" and reinforces its mandate to deport anyone who is in violation of immigration laws—which can include long time green card holders, people with refugee and asylum status, and military veterans with any of a wide range of criminal offenses—regardless of contributions to the community, ties to the U.S., how long ago their offense took place, or the specifics of their life circumstances. Their intended outcome is to legitimize the agency's mass deportation program rather than draw a close examination of a system that enables mass deportation because it is fueled by the criminalization and demonization of immigrant communities, in tandem with unjust immigration laws that allow for a wide-scale deprivation of liberty. The mandate to arrest and deport people en masse has also legitimized a vast expansion of the police state.

Raids illustrate the zeal with which ICE agents deploy their agency's deportation program with a complete disregard for human rights. Since its inception, the agency has demonstrated an indifference to community members' constitutional rights and little interest in internal accountability for misconduct.

4 Tal Kopan, "ICE Director: Undocumented Immigrants 'Should Be Afraid,'" CNN June 16, 2017, available at www.cnn.com/2017/06/16/politics/ice-immigrants-should-be-afraid-homan/index.html

5 ICE Impact in FY2017 www.ice.gov/topics/fy2017

Under the current administration, not only has there been an alarming escalation in disregard for the rights of immigrants, but also in the number of attacks on municipalities that seek to protect those rights and the functioning of state judicial systems.

Some examples of the “unshackling” detailed in ICEwatch include: ICE agents forcefully throwing a 6-month pregnant woman to the ground (Story 430), an ICE agent holding a gun to a man’s neck without identifying himself (Story 272), ICE agents threatening to withhold food and water from a man if he didn’t sign their paperwork (Story 562), a throng of agents storming into a home wearing black masks over their faces (Story 723), and six agents carrying guns and forcing their way into a home without identifying themselves, while threatening to arrest everyone inside if they failed to cooperate (Story 322).

ICEwatch, available at raidsmap.immdefense.org, supplements additional materials IDP and CCR have developed on ICE raids, including the “Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests” toolkit, documents from our FOIA litigation, Know Your Rights and Train-the-Trainer materials, available at: immdefense.org/raids.

Select ICE Tactics

From the stories collected, IDP has interpreted and extrapolated trends in the enforcement tactics used by ICE to target and arrest immigrants in the New York Metropolitan area. Although many of the tactics ICE agents currently employ during raids are legacies of past practices, these tactics shift and change with the political tide, successful legal challenges, and significant protest. We have chosen to highlight select tactics that have been increasingly prevalent under the Trump administration because they illustrate trends in ICE enforcement, or underscore egregious and inhumane ICE practices and the agency’s disregard for fundamental rights. These tactics reflect national trends, though the majority of reports on the map come from New York State.⁶ ICEwatch can be filtered to show select examples of how these tactics play out on the ground. The tactics

⁶ In addition to the six tactics highlighted in this map, there has also been a national increase in large-scale workplace raids under the current administration.

include: (1) warrantless entry into a home; (2) the use of ruses to enter a home; (3) use of force; (4) the use of surveillance; (5) a significant increase in courthouse raids; and (6) an increase in collateral arrests. Often, ICE uses more than one tactic in an arrest. Examination of ICE tactics provides a window into the human rights violations that occur under an agency that relies on criminalization and fear-mongering to enact its mandate to forcibly remove and exile as many immigrants as possible from their families, communities, and lives.

Warrantless Entry & Coercion

Under the Fourth Amendment, in order to legally enter a home, ICE agents must have a judicial warrant or voluntary consent. Since ICE agents rarely have judicial warrants that authorize them to enter a person's home, they are legally required to gain voluntary consent by an authorized adult to enter a home. Although ICE agents are advised and trained to not use coercion or threats to enter homes, they regularly violate this guidance.⁷

— Since January 2017 we have seen an increase in arrests in which ICE agents enter homes using coercive means, including physically forcing their way inside, brandishing their guns, and threatening to arrest everyone in the home if they are not allowed in.

Ruses

ICE encourages the use of deceptive methods, known as ruses. These ruses allow ICE to confuse or mislead with the purpose to enter a home where they don't have a judicial warrant or to obtain information about the person they are seeking.

— Throughout the last year and a half, we have seen an increase in ICE using ruses, as well as a shift in the variations of ruses they use. The most common ruse continues to be ICE agents pretending to be local law enforcement investigating criminal offenses or individuals, often in person, but sometimes calling individuals or their loved ones on the phone and asking for the individual to come to local police precincts.

⁷ See ERO Fugitive Operations Handbook and ICE Fourth Amendment Powerpoint, Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests, Appendix A, available at: immigrantdefenseproject.org/raids-toolkit

Use of Force

Since 2017 we have seen an increase in the use of aggressive behavior by ICE agents. This behavior includes: the use of excessive force to gain entry into homes, the use of physical force against non-citizens, and the use of verbal threats and coercion, and the display of guns.

Surveillance

Throughout the last year and a half, we have heard repeated reports of prolonged, targeted monitoring of non-citizens, including the loitering of ICE agents outside of homes for hours, following non-citizens in cars to arrest them, and using coercive methods, such as ruses, to obtain information on family members and phone numbers or addresses on where to locate individuals.

Courthouse Arrests

Under Trump, ICE has identified courthouses as a preferred site to arrest non-citizens. IDP documented a 1200% increase in ICE courthouse arrests from 2016 to 2017.⁸

— This tactic includes arresting individuals as they enter courthouses, inside courthouses (including inside courtrooms) and as they leave courthouses. ICE courthouse arrests have happened in both public and private areas throughout New York State courthouses, in all types of courts, including family court and problem-solving courts.

“Collateral Arrests” (Arrests of people not initially targeted)

ICE agents most often pre-identify and investigate the individual they have targeted for arrest. ICE agents also have the discretion to make arrests of other people they believe can be deported, which they call “collateral arrests.” Increasingly, we have heard reports of ICE agents questioning witnesses to arrests, asking them for their identity documents and immigration history. In some instances, this has led to the arrests of witnesses as well.

⁸ See IDP’s “ICE Courthouse Arrests in New York” infographic at immdefense.org/ice-courts.

Select Tactics and Report Summaries

Warrantless Entry & Coercion

Since January 2017 we have seen an increase in arrests in which ICE agents enter homes by use of coercive means, including physically forcing their way inside, holding up their guns, and threatening to arrest everyone in the home if they are not allowed in.

Under the U.S. Constitution, in order to enter a home (barring exigent circumstances), ICE agents, like all law enforcement officers, must either have voluntary consent by an authorized adult or a judicial warrant. In the hundreds of reports collected by IDP since 2013, not a single report has been received where ICE had a judicial warrant--rather, agents relied on coercive means to either obtain permission to enter a home or they physically forced their way inside.⁹ Where ICE agents have had warrants, the warrants are administrative warrants which are not signed by judges, but rather, signed by a deportation officer, without having to show the probable cause which is necessary for a judicial warrant.

Although ICE manuals and trainings dictate that consent to enter a home cannot be obtained through coercive means (such as having a large number of agents present, displaying weapons, or using threatening language), since 2017 we have seen a significant uptick in ICE raids where agents enter the home using coercion or threats. Examples include raids in which five or more agents are present, weapons are visible, and agents either physically force their way inside or threaten to break down doors and arrest everyone in the home if the door is not opened.

Story 621 - Bronx, NY, 2/7/2018

Four ICE officers dressed as police knocked loudly on CR's front door around 6:00 or 6:30 in the morning. When CR went to open the door, the ICE officers barged in. CR's teenage son was awake and tried to leave his bedroom to see what was going on. The ICE officers told him that he couldn't come out and closed his door, blocking

⁹ While the majority of the raids reports for the map were of ICE agents, we have received limited reports of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) agents presenting judicial warrants.

the exit and preventing him from leaving. The ICE officers proceeded to handcuff CR, as well as question his cousin, who was in the home, about her criminal history. They asked for her ID and then told her that she should stay and take care of CR's two children (ages 16 and 10) while they took CR to sign some papers, and that he would be back in a few hours. CR was not home after a few hours, he was instead taken to an ICE processing center where he was detained.

Story 322 - Queens, NY, 5/9/2017

Six ICE agents arrived at NR's home in Elmhurst, Queens around 9pm and banged on the front door. They yelled "open up!" without identifying who they were. NR and his roommates would not open the door, so the agents stood outside the building yelling NR's name, and then convinced an upstairs neighbor to open the front door to the building. The ICE agents then banged on NR's apartment door, and finally one of his roommates opened the door to ask the agents if they had a warrant. The agents did not show him anything and forcibly pushed their way inside. The agents were carrying weapons and threatened to arrest everyone in the home if NR did not submit to arrest, so he did. The agents then took him into a room, handcuffed and arrested him.

Story 624 - Bronx, NY, 2/12/2018

Five plain-clothes ICE agents arrested AM at 6:30am in the Bronx. The agents identified themselves as police, and convinced AM's sister to open the door by claiming they were conducting an investigation and needed to show her photos. When they saw AM through the open door they forced their way into the home, refused to show a warrant, and only identified themselves as ICE after they arrested AM.

Story 705 - Staten Island, NY, 4/11/2018

LL and his four roommates were all arrested in their home. When one of LL's roommates opened the door of the home to leave for work, multiple plain-clothes ICE agents rushed into the home, pushing the door open. The agents showed LL and his roommates a photo of a person that none of the roommates recognized. The roommates told the ICE agents that they did not know the person in the photo, but the ICE agents arrested LL and his roommates regardless.

Story 240 - Queens, NY, 2/26/2017

Four to five HSI agents raided EK's home in Corona, Queens at 5am. The agents stopped EK's roommate on the street as he left the home and forced him to let them into the apartment. The officers asked EK for his ID and when he showed his foreign ID, he was arrested.

Supplemental Resources

See FOIA documents available in:

Appendix A of "Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests",

immdefense.org/raids-toolkit

or individual documents online at immdefense.org/raids-foia/

- Fugitive Operations Handbook
- Fourth Amendment Powerpoint
- ICE Fourth Amendment and Policy Refresher
- Fourth Amendment Lesson Plan
- Verbal Techniques/Communication for Consent Training
- National Fugitive Operations Training Document
- Documentation of Consent in Enter and Search

Ruses

Throughout the last year and a half, we have seen an increase in ICE using ruses, as well as a shift in the variations of ruses they use. The most common ruse continues to be ICE agents pretending to be local law enforcement investigating criminal offenses or individuals, often in person, but sometimes calling individuals or their loved ones and asking for the individual to come to local police precincts.

For years ICE agents have used deceptive methods, such as ruses, to trick people into letting them into their home, or to obtain information on where to find non-citizens they have targeted. Since 2017, we have received an increase of reports in ICE using ruses and variations of the ruses they have been using. ICE agents often come early in the morning and pretend to be the police investigating a fictional crime or person, showing photos of “suspects” that are not known to anyone in the home, and sometimes even claiming that someone in the house has been a victim of a crime. These ruses almost always include ICE agents asking to enter the home to discuss their investigation, see who lives in the home, or try to gain information about the whereabouts of those who live in the home.¹⁰

ICE agents are given very limited restrictions on the ruses they cannot use, such as claiming that there is a life threatening emergency or pretending to be investigating a gas leak.¹¹ ICE has not updated its internal guidance on the use of ruses since 2006. For more information on ICE ruses, see “Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests.”¹²

More recently, we have seen ICE’s ruse tactics evolve to become more detailed about fake criminal offenses and individuals they are investigating, so as to include calling non-citizens on the phone to locate them. When they call individuals, they continue to pretend to be local police, criminal courts, or even potential employers, trying to obtain information on where to find that person. In many of the reports IDP received where ICE called non-citizens, they set up a time and place for a meeting -- often somewhere in public, like outside

10 ICE agents are specifically trained on redirecting focus when looking for targeted individuals. Their trainings include teaching agents how to control a conversation and ask questions like, “We are looking for a person. I have some photos I want to show you. Can we come inside and talk? Can we come inside and speak to you? This won’t take very long.” See the Verbal Techniques/ Communication for Consent Training Document, at: immdefense.org/raids-toolkit

11 ICE agents are trained on suggestions of allowed ruse tactics, including a “van altered so not obviously a government vehicle. Carrying a box and clipboard, fake business card and emblem. Not allowed: representing an employee of a real business or a government agency such as OSHA or Child Welfare Services. Must not fabricate life threatening emergency.” For more information, see the 4th Amendment Training [Refresher for ERO Fug Ops] immdefense.org/raids-toolkit

12 Toolkit & Ruse memos, at: immdefense.org/raids-toolkit

of the individual's home or more recently, outside of a local New York police department precinct. Because ICE's ruses are so deceptive and its agents are evasive, many times the witnesses of raids that involved ruses do not know at the time that it was, in fact, ICE that arrested their loved one and not the police.

Story 686 - Orange County, NY, 4/11/2018

MG works in construction as an independent contractor and received a call on his cell phone from a potential client asking him to come and look at a worksite. MG and a colleague arrived at the agreed-upon location the next day around 8 am: a private residence in Newburgh. When MG and his colleague arrived, there was a man wearing paint-splattered pants and work boots waiting for them. They walked around the outside of the house together doing an inspection to discuss the job. After they finished, the man asked MG if he was interested in the job. MG said yes, and the man asked him to wait ten minutes until his boss arrived. MG and his colleague waited in front of the house by their car. Ten minutes later a van pulled up to the house and three ICE agents got out. The man, who toured the site with MG, identified himself as an ICE agent and asked MG and his colleague for their IDs. After reviewing their IDs, the agents arrested MG and let MG's colleague go.

Story 307 - Staten Island, NY, 1/25/2017

Plain-clothes ICE agents knocked on JP's brother's home in Staten Island at 6am. His brother answered the door and the agents told him they were looking for JP. The agents did not identify themselves and did not explain why they were looking for JP. His brother assumed they were from the NYPD and told the agents that JP was not there.

Later, one of the agents called JP's sister to ask for him, pretending to be the police, but she did not know where he was. The agent left his phone number and asked her to have JP call him back. JP's sister asked why they were looking for JP and the agent was vague in his response. She then called JP to tell him to contact the agent, and when JP spoke to the ICE agent, he told JP he could not explain the matter over the phone and that JP needed to come in person to the 120th NYPD precinct. JP went to the precinct in the morning, where he was surrounded and arrested by ICE.

Story 483 - Bronx, NY, 8/9/2017

Six ICE agents came to RD's home at 5:30am in the Bronx. His wife answered the door, and the agents, who did not identify themselves as ICE, asked for RD. She told the agents that he was not home. One of the agents then told her his name was "Detective Chad" from Manhattan, that he was investigating an open criminal case, and left his card before leaving.

After RD's wife shared what happened with him, RD called the agent, believing that he was from NYPD, and told him he would come to the precinct to talk to him. Over the phone, the agent explained he would rather come to RD. They arranged a time for the agent to come to RD's home to speak with him. Once the ICE agents showed up, they arrested RD and only then identified themselves as ICE.

Story 308 - Queens, NY, 2/2/2017

Plain-clothes ICE agents arrived at JR's ex-partner's cousin's home in Corona, Queens around 7am, identified themselves as police and showed JR's ex-partner's cousin a piece of paper. They told him they were looking for JR, and then entered the home and searched the premises. They took JR's ex-partner's cousin's cell phone without his permission and went through his contacts, called JR, and told JR they were the police and needed to speak with him. Over the phone, they asked JR where he was and whether he could come and meet them. JR agreed to meet them outside his house, and once he arrived there, the agents arrested him and only then identified themselves as ICE.

Story 399 - Bronx, NY, 7/10/17

Six to seven ICE agents wearing shirts that read POLICE arrived at GM's home at 6:15am in the Bronx. GM and his wife answered the door, and the agents showed them photos of a suspect they were searching for. When GM and his wife told the agents they had never seen the suspect, the agents asked to come inside to verify that the suspect was not hiding in the home. At that time, GM's four children were inside: an 18-year-old, a 17-year-old, a 10-year-old and a sleeping 4-year-old. After GM let the agents in, they asked to see identification from GM, his wife and his 18

year old son. GM handed over his ID and the agents asked how long he had been in the U.S. He did not want to answer, but the agents persisted in their questioning and he told them. They then asked him where he was from and how he had entered the US. After he responded, the agents arrested him.

GM's wife, still under the impression that the agents were from the NYPD, asked the agents why they were arresting GM. At this point, the agents identified themselves as ICE, and showed her GM's photo, which had been hidden under the photo of the fake suspect they had earlier shown the family. The agents then insisted that GM needed to leave with money for the subway fare home, because they were merely investigating an incident and GM would be subsequently released from Federal Plaza. GM took \$20 from his wallet to keep on him before returning his wallet to his wife. The ICE agents detained GM and he did not return home.

Story 256 - Staten Island, NY, 2/7/2017

ICE agents arrived at CK's sister's home around 6am in Staten Island and showed her a photo of CK with another man. The agents told her they were the police and that the other man in the photo was dangerous and that they wanted to question CK about him. CK's sister told the agents she did not know the other man. She then called CK, and he told her to give his telephone number and address to the agents, believing they were NYPD. The agents went to CK's home, called him on the phone and asked him to come outside to talk to them, and arrested him once he was outside.

Story 666 - Queens, NY, 4/6/2018

Five ICE agents, three who were plain-clothes and two who were wearing vests that said POLICE, came to MG's home in Far Rockaway at 6am. They knocked on the door of his apartment and told MG's roommate that they were the police and were looking for MG. The roommate closed the door and told MG the police were there asking for him. MG went to the front door (which was closed) and through the door asked who it was. ICE agents said they were probation and that they had papers for him to sign to verify that he was living there. MG asked them to slide the papers under the door, which they refused to do. One of the agents then called

MG on his cell phone from an unknown number, asking for him in Spanish and repeated that they they were probation, wanting to verifying where he lived. He also refused to slip the papers under the door when MG asked. MG looked out the window and saw the officer tell the others that he wasn't coming out. A few of the officers left but 2 of them stayed behind. MG called the probation office to see if it was them and the officer confirmed that it was not.

Story 713 - Queens, NY, 1/23/2018

Four ICE agents came to JS's home at 6 am and his wife let them in after they told her they were the police and were looking for someone convicted of a crime. They separated JS from his wife and asked to see his ID and asked his wife for her full name, country of origin and date of birth. When she asked who they were, the ICE agents stated "Homeland Security." JS's wife told them she did not know what that was and the agent laughed at her. When she refused to give her DOB, they threatened that they would come back for her. Their four minor children, with disabilities, were all awakened by the commotion and were crying when they saw their father arrested and placed in handcuffs. Since ICE arrested JS, his wife and children have been evicted and are currently living in a homeless shelter.

Supplemental Resources

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- Fugitive Operations Handbook
- Fourth Amendment Powerpoint & Lesson Plan
- Verbal Techniques/Communication for Consent Training
- National Fugitive Operations Training Document

Use of Force

Since 2017 we have seen an increase in the use of aggressive behavior by ICE agents. This behavior includes: the use of excessive force to gain entry into homes, the use of physical force against non-citizens, and the use of verbal threats and coercion, and the display of guns.

ICE's mission encourages officers to regard all individuals they have targeted as a threat to both public safety and to the officers themselves. Throughout 2017 and into the first six months of 2018, as this administration has prioritized the arrest and deportation of all non-citizens, and as ICE agents have exclaimed relief at their "unshackling," we have seen an increase in the use of aggressive behavior beyond the evasive and disorienting tactics outlined in ICE training manuals.¹³

IDP received reports of aggressive use of force by ICE prior to January 2017, but in the last year reports of this kind have increased. This aggressive behavior includes both physical force, such as pushing or shoving non-citizens—in one case, tackling a pregnant woman—and verbal threats or coercion, including threatening to break down doors or to arrest witnesses who ask questions. ICE agents have used force both to gain entry into homes as well as in making arrests. They have purposefully displayed or threatened individuals with guns. They have also used verbal threats and coercion— including mocking those they have arrested by using homophobic or other slurs, shackling adults in front of children and forcibly detaining children in rooms. Often ICE agents do not identify themselves while this is happening purposely misleading the individual arrested and any witnesses about who they are or what would happen post-arrest. We have received reports of this excessive use of force towards those who were not resisting arrest, those who were witnesses, and those who have illnesses or physical disabilities. This often happens in the presence of children.

¹³ Nicholas Kulish et.al., "Immigration Agents Discover New Freedom to Deport Under Trump," The New York Times, Feb. 25, 2017 www.nytimes.com/2017/02/25/us/ice-immigrant-deportations-trump.html

Story 723 - Brooklyn, NY, 05/03/2018

Six ICE agents, wearing black masks covering part of their faces, entered SE's home through the front door before 6am. They entered the bedroom of one of her housemates, who was asleep, and woke her up roughly by shaking her -- leaving red marks on her arms. Through the window, she could see more ICE agents in the backyard.

The ICE agents, without identifying themselves, then went through the house to round up four of the housemates and directed them to sit in the living room while they did a sweep of the house. The fifth roommate, scared by what was happening, hid in a closet. The ICE agents then asked the housemates to look at a photo of a suspect and answer if they knew him. It was only then that they identified themselves as ICE. None of the housemates had seen the person in the photo before. The agents yelled at them, accused them of lying, and threatened to arrest all four of them if they continued to lie. The agents asked each housemate for their name and identification documents. The agents then took photos of each housemate and scanned their fingerprints. One of the agents then informed SE that she had a removal order and that they would have arrested her, but because she had a young child in the home they would not.

Story 403 - Staten Island, NY, 8/4/2017

Five to six ICE agents wearing vests that read POLICE and ICE were sitting in two unmarked vehicles outside CO's home in Staten Island, NY around 6am when she was on her way out with her 26-year-old son and her 20-year-old daughter to drop off her 5 year old daughter at school. The agents stepped out of their cars and surrounded CO, telling her that "we came for you," while calling her and her children "illegals." CO's daughter asked the agents who they were and they responded "immigration" but did not show them a warrant. CO's husband came out of their home and started filming the agents on his cell phone, who then questioned all four adults about their immigration status. The agents then arrested CO and her son.

Story 241 - Brooklyn, NY, 2/8/2017

Eight ICE agents began banging on the door to ALA's apartment in Bushwick, Brooklyn at 5am, yelling "Police." ALA's girlfriend went to the door, and with the door closed, asked why they were there and said that they couldn't enter without a warrant. The ICE officers responded that they had a warrant and to "either open the door or the door is going to come off the hinges." ALA's girlfriend opened the door and the officers barged in so quickly that she didn't have time to turn on the lights. The officers ran in and held up guns to ALA's girlfriend and ALA, who was still in bed. They arrested ALA without identifying themselves and asked ALA's girlfriend for her name and ID. They refused to answer why they were there, and when ALA's girlfriend asked if they were taking ALA to the local NYPD precinct, they said they were taking him somewhere else. ALA was wearing only his underwear and ALA's girlfriend tried to give him clothes but the officers were still pointing guns at her so the officers gave ALA the clothes. ALA's girlfriend thought it was the NYPD who arrested ALA until she got a call from him later and learned that it was ICE.

Story 430 - Brooklyn, NY, 9/21/2017

MK and his visibly pregnant girlfriend were walking down Jay Street in Brooklyn towards a subway entrance, when MK's girlfriend heard someone behind them yell "yo, yo!" They continued walking as they did not think the speaker was addressing them. As they crossed Livingston St., right in front of Brooklyn Housing Court, two plain-clothes ICE agents dressed in jeans and sweaters came towards them and tackled MK. One agent grabbed MK's arm and threw him to the ground and got on top of him. MK's girlfriend kept asking what was going on, and telling them that she was pregnant, but the agents would not explain themselves. She grabbed one of the agents and he tossed her to the ground. She fell on her knees and her knees started to bleed. As she was sobbing, one agent took MK into an unmarked car, while the other told MK's girlfriend that they had an immigration warrant, before both agents drove away.

Story 566 - Bronx, NY, 7/11/2017

In July 2017, five ICE agents knocked on AS's door in the Bronx at 7am, without identifying who they were, claiming that a neighbor had called the local precinct to report an incident in the home. AS and his wife explained that there was nothing happening in the home. The ICE agents then asked AS for his name and arrested him once he told them.

Five months later, in December 2017, multiple ICE agents raided AS's home again at 6am, even though AS remained detained by ICE. Five different ICE agents, both plain-clothes and in "police" vests, entered through an unlocked door with their guns drawn. Once they entered the home, they didn't identify themselves, only telling AS's wife they were looking for a "fugitive" as they walked through the different rooms of the house. AS's wife repeatedly asked the agents to see a warrant and asked them to leave. The agents came upon AS's 9-year-old who was sleeping in bed and aggressively began questioning him about who lived in the home. Once they stopped, AS's wife told the agents to leave their family alone and took out a cell phone to begin filming. As AS's wife repeatedly asked the agents to see a warrant and to leave, the ICE agents ignored her request until AS's 13-year-old daughter repeated what her mother said in English.

Story 505 - Staten Island, NY, 11/17/2017

Two plain-clothes ICE agents came to WL's partner's home in Staten Island looking for WL at 6 am. They knocked on the door and WL's partner opened it, thinking it was WL, returning from work. Without identifying themselves, they showed her a photo of WL and pushed their way into the home. The agents asked WL's partner where WL was and she explained she didn't know. They then asked her for his address and she explained that he lived with his mother and she didn't know the address. One agent then threatened WL's partner saying "if you don't give me his number or address, we'll take you too." She gave them his phone number and the agents took her phone away and began yelling at her saying "you don't belong here, look how you live." One agent violently grabbed a chair and kept slamming it to the ground, ordering her to sit. Her children woke up. She asked them not to yell

in front of the kids because they were crying and scared. Her daughter was asking why the agent was yelling.

One of the agents said to WL's partner, "I know you work at—(her place of employment), and I'll call your boss so that he'll fire you and I'll send you to immigration." She said that she was going to call her case manager and he replied, "I don't fucking care." Another agent asked for her passport and asked her if she had immigration papers. He took a photo of her passport and said that he was going to call immigration on her because she won't tell them where WL was. He then threw the passport on the ground. In the meantime, two more plain-clothes agents came to the home. Finally the agents called WL at the number they got from his partner. When WL answered, they told him to come to the home, without identifying themselves. Once he got there, they arrested him and gave WL's partner back her phone. At no time during this interaction and WL's eventual arrest did the ICE agents identify themselves.

Story 290 - Ossining, NY, 6/7/2017

Six ICE agents and two local police officers arrived at DP's brother's home in Ossining, NY at 6:30am, where they forcefully and loudly banged on the door while yelling "police" and "immigration." The agents claimed to have a warrant to enter, but refused to slide it under the front door when the family asked to see it, so the family did not open the door. In the meantime, DP's 8-year-old son and 21-year-old cousin hid in the attic because they were so scared. The ICE agents then threatened to break down the door and arrest everyone in the home if DP did not open the door. DP then opened the door and was immediately arrested by the agents.

Story 581 - Queens, NY, 12/27/2017

ICE agents wearing "police" vests came to FG's home, said they were looking for a suspect and showed FG and his wife a photo of a man that looked nothing like FG. The ICE agents arrested FG and when his wife asked them why, they told her to calm down and threatened that they would arrest her as well for her disruption.

Story 310 - Suffolk County, NY, 2/23/2017

Seven plain-clothes ICE agents stopped the taxi JAQ was a passenger in while it was driving in Bay Shore, Long Island. The agents approached the car with their guns drawn, telling JAQ to get out of the car. One agent approached the driver side and told the taxi driver not to worry, but did not show him any documents as to who he was. Two other agents approached the passenger side, opened the back door and physically pulled JAQ out of the backseat of the car. The agents shoved JAQ against the back of the car, handcuffed and searched him before driving away, leaving the taxi driver with all of JAQ's belongings and no explanation of who they were.

Supplemental Resources

See FOIA documents available in:

Appendix A of "Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests",

immdefense.org/raids-toolkit

or individual documents online at immdefense.org/raids-foia/

- Fugitive Operations Handbook
- Fourth Amendment Powerpoint

Surveillance

Throughout the last year and a half, we have heard repeated reports of prolonged, targeted monitoring of non-citizens, including the loitering of ICE agents outside of homes for hours, following non-citizens in cars to arrest them, and using coercive methods, such as ruses, to obtain information on family members and phone numbers or addresses on where to locate individuals.

Although surveillance has been a tactic used by immigration enforcement for almost two decades, throughout 2017 and into the first half of 2018 we have continued to see ICE agents aggressively using surveillance tactics to locate non-citizens, including loitering outside homes or apartment buildings for hours to monitor who enters and leaves the home, using non-public databases to locate addresses or phone numbers, and collecting information about where non-citizens work and/or the phone number of the individual they are looking for when they come to the home.¹⁴ We have received an increase in reports where ICE uses their surveillance to arrest non-citizens at their homes, workplaces, and on the street, and even on the way to and from court, sometimes following cars for blocks before pulling them over.

Story 292 - Brooklyn, NY, 5/16/2017

In February 2017, ICE agents came to TR's home in Canarsie, Brooklyn around 7am. They knocked on the door and shined flashlights in the hallway for about 30 minutes. After 30 minutes, TR's mother answered the door to ask what the agents wanted. Without identifying themselves, they asked TR's mother, with whom she lived with, TR by name. TR's mother said that she had already gone to work. The ICE agents then said that they didn't come for anyone in particular and were just doing an investigation when TR's name "popped up." They gave TR's mother a torn-off piece of paper with a phone number written on it for TR to call. TR's mom saw three unmarked cars pull out of the parking lot once the agents left.

¹⁴ Another form of surveillance use by ICE is the tracking of individuals through ICE's access to local, federal, and other databases, which contain a wide range of information on people it may target for arrest. For more info, see Spencer Woodman "Palintir Provides the Engine for Donald Trump's Deportation Machine," *The Intercept*, March 2, 2017, available at: theintercept.com/2017/03/02/palintir-provides-the-engine-for-donald-trumps-deportation-machine/

TR's mother passed on the message to her. Thinking it was the police, TR called the phone number they left that same day. The agent who answered it did not identify himself, told her to come to an address the following morning. When TR asked why she needed to go in, the agent said, "it's nothing serious, just tell your boss you'll be running a little late tomorrow morning." TR was too scared to go.

On May 16, 2017, TR was in her car and on her way to work around 8am. A few blocks from her home, her car was blocked by an unmarked car. Two plain-clothes ICE agents walked over to TR's window and asked for her ID, without identifying themselves. She did not have her ID on her and the agents instructed her to get out of her car, where they then arrested her. TR did not know it was ICE who arrested her until she was brought to an ICE processing center.

Story 562 - New York, NY, 12/20/2017

Six plain-clothes ICE agents arrested HB inside a 7-Eleven store in Manhattan in front of his wife and 2 week old daughter. ICE agents had visited the 7-Eleven two days before and told the store manager that they were detectives and that HB had been using a fraudulent debit card. Based on this, they had asked to see the video surveillance from the store to identify him, showing the manager a photo. When they arrested HB two days later inside the same 7-Eleven, they refused to identify themselves, and when HB's wife tried to call HB's lawyer, the ICE agents threatened to withhold information from her. They repeatedly ignored HB's attempts to invoke his rights and to ask for a lawyer, telling him that he didn't look like someone who had a lawyer, and also ignored his requests to go to the hospital, as he had been discharged that morning after having hand surgery. Even after his hand, which was bandaged, started bleeding through the bandage and HB showed the officers his recent hospital discharge papers, they refused to give him medical attention. When they brought him to be processed by ICE and he refused to sign paperwork without his attorney, the ICE agents told him they would withhold his food and water if he didn't sign.

Story 547 - Brooklyn, NY, 12/1/2017

IV spent the night at his mother's house in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. That morning, he walked to a nearby bus stop at 39th Street and 7th Avenue on his way to work. Plain-clothes ICE agents pulled up to IV in a black unmarked car while he was waiting. Without identifying himself, one of the plain-clothes officers in the car motioned for IV to come closer to the car and said he wanted to ask IV questions. Because IV did not know who the officer was, he started to walk away. One of the officers stepped out of the car to stop IV and spoke into a walkie talkie. A few seconds later, five more black cars pulled up and surrounded IV. The officers said they had an immigration warrant for him and arrested him.

Story 739 - Staten Island, NY, 5/31/2018

MC took the Staten Island Ferry from Manhattan to Staten Island. As soon as he arrived in Staten Island, two plain-clothes ICE agents followed MC out the door of the Ferry Terminal and stopped him as he waited for a bus just outside of the Terminal. They asked him for his ID, which he didn't have on him. They then asked him if he was MC. When he said he was MC, they arrested him.

Story 571 - Suffolk County, NY, 2/7/2017

CJ was arrested in his car after he had dropped off his daughter at a school bus stop in Bay Shore, Long Island. Three cars pulled him over, the ICE agents addressed him by his name, and told him that they were ICE and had a warrant for his arrest. After they arrested CJ, some of the ICE agents took the keys to the car he was driving and drove it back to the house of his former partner, who is the owner of the car. As the ICE agents returned the keys to her, they asked her about her relationship to CJ and told her that they were ICE and had arrested him.

Story 398 - Westchester County, NY, 8/2/2017

ICE agents arrested JO on the street in the morning in front of the restaurant where he works. As the agents were arresting JO, a neighbor happened to walk by and asked them why they were arresting JO. The ICE agents told her they were immigration and if she didn't mind her own business, they would arrest her as well.

Story 431 - Nassau County, NY, 9/25/2017

ZD and his mother had just left the Nassau County Supreme Court in Mineola, Long Island and were only three blocks from the court when the taxi they were in was stopped by two vans that had "POLICE" written on them. Two plain-clothes ICE officers asked everyone in the taxi for ID. ZD's mother's showed her ID and when ZD said he didn't have ID, they asked him to exit the taxi and then arrested him. Neither ZD nor his mother speak English so the taxi driver was interpreting for them because the ICE officers only spoke English. The ICE officers refused to share information with his mother and the officers said that ZD would call her in an hour. ZD's mother only learned it was ICE, not the police, who arrested ZD when he called her hours later from ICE custody.

Supplemental Resources

See FOIA documents available in:

Appendix A of "Defend Against ICE Raids and Community Arrests",
immdefense.org/raids-toolkit

or individual documents online at immdefense.org/raids-foia/

— Fugitive Operations Handbook (incl. Sample Field Operations Worksheet)

Courthouse Arrests

Under Trump, ICE has identified courthouses as a preferred site to arrest non-citizens. IDP documented a 1200% increase in ICE courthouse arrests from 2016 to 2017, and since the beginning of 2018, the number of courthouse arrests continues to keep pace with 2017.

This tactic includes arresting individuals as they enter courthouses, inside of courthouses (including inside courtrooms) and as they leave courthouses. ICE courthouse arrests have happened in both public and private areas throughout New York State courthouses in all types of courts, including family court and problem-solving courts. In some of the courthouse arrests, local court officers are involved in facilitating the arrests.

ICE's use of courthouse arrests has increased exponentially since 2017.¹⁵ Despite condemnation from Chief Judges, prosecutors, defense counsels, community organizations, and a wide range of service providers throughout New York State, for the last year and a half ICE has continued to make arrests at and around courthouses. They are especially targeting jurisdictions with what they refer to as "sanctuary" policies—those with restrictions on collaborations between local law enforcement and ICE.

¹⁵ immdefense.org/ice-courts/

Courthouse arrests usually entail heavy monitoring and surveillance of the individuals that ICE targets. ICE agents usually come in teams of 2 or more, sometimes with as many as 12 agents, dressed in plain-clothes. They often follow their non-citizen target(s) throughout the courthouse and even onto the street, in some instances. Their tactics include stopping non-citizens as they are entering court as well, arresting them before they have a chance to appear in court. In addition, ICE has increasingly started to arrest non-citizens on their way to court or after they have left the court and are on their way home. There have also been reports of ICE agents colluding with Office of Court Administration (OCA) officers to arrest immigrants. ICE's courthouse practices are disruptive to

court proceedings, undermine due process rights, and have fueled fear in those involved in court matters.

Story 282 - New York, NY, 4/5/2017

ICE officers appeared at the New York County Criminal Court in Manhattan looking for JG. After her case was called in the courtroom and resolved, JG started to walk out of the courtroom. Court officers and ICE officers blocked the door to the court hallway and arrested JG in the vestibule between the courtroom and the hallway as she was exiting. Court officers would not allow the criminal defense attorney to enter the vestibule to talk to JG, her client. As they walked out of the vestibule with JG in handcuffs, the ICE agents refused to answer questions from JG's attorney or show any paperwork. JG's attorney tried to explain to the ICE agents that JG was taking medication for mental health symptoms and that she had a history of suicide attempts and in response the ICE agents just shrugged. JG's attorney requested that she be taken to a hospital because of concern that she would suffer from a psychotic break, given her psychiatrist history and the ICE agents declined.

Story 232 - Westchester, NY, 3/2017

Plain-clothes ICE officers appeared at the New Rochelle Town Court looking for CM. Although CM had already appeared on his criminal case that morning, where he pled guilty and was sentenced to time in jail, the ICE officers spoke directly with the judge without CM's criminal defense attorney present. They convinced the judge to have CM's criminal case called again, without CM's attorney there, and the judge resentenced CM to time served, meaning that he could be released from the criminal court and did not have to serve time in jail. After CM was released from criminal custody, the ICE officers who were present in the court arrested him.

Story 404 - Suffolk County, NY, 8/7/2017

ICE agents came into the Suffolk County Criminal Court, where CG was on trial, and told court officers that they were just using the bathroom and not making any arrests in the courthouse. When the court closed for a lunch break, CG went out to lunch with his attorney. When they returned to the parking lot to enter the

court and resume trial for the afternoon, the same ICE agents surrounded CG and arrested him in the parking lot, even though he was in the middle of his trial.

Story 501 - Brooklyn, NY, 11/20/2017

Two plain-clothes ICE officers arrested JR in the court hallway, immediately outside the courtroom, at Kings County Criminal Court in Brooklyn, NY. The ICE officers were assisted by OCA (court) officers in JR's arrest and in taking her out of the court hallway. ICE and the court officers took JR through doors that only court officers have access to, leading to the back of the courthouse where there is a separate exit. When JR's criminal defense attorney tried to invoke JR's rights, the ICE officer laughed at her and took JR away.

Story 660 - New York, NY, 4/5/2018

ZP was arrested early in the morning in the New York Criminal Court before his case had been called. Per his attorney's instructions, he arrived to court as early as possible. That day, ICE showed up very early and arrested him at the courthouse. By chance, a colleague of ZP's attorney was present at the time. She did not witness the arrest, but she was informed by the court officer that ZP was taken by ICE. The court officer was visibly angry because ICE arrested the client before the case was called. Two judges from the court called ICE to express their concerns about the arrest.

Story 526 - Brooklyn, NY, 9/14/2017

Ten or eleven plain-clothes ICE agents arrested four non-citizens, including SJ, outside of the Kings County Criminal Court as they were on their way to court. On the morning the ICE agents were at the court, they also arrested one person, at least, but then released him. While outside, the agents had conversations with OCA officers about why they were there and who they were looking for. A group of three agents entered the courthouse and waited on the 8th floor for at least an hour, on the benches outside of two courtrooms. The agents only left after an Assistant District Attorney came outside of the courtroom and had a heated discussion with them.

Story 570 - Staten Island, NY, 1/10/2018

ICE agents arrested JSG in the lobby, in front of the OCA clerk's window, of the Richmond County Criminal Court when he entered the building for his court appearance before he was able to see the judge.

To learn more about ICE courthouse arrests and IDP's ICE Out of Courts campaign, visit: immdefense.org/ice-courts/

“Collateral Arrests” (Arrests of people not initially targeted)

ICE agents most often pre-identify and investigate the individual they have targeted for arrest. As part of their training, however, ICE agents have discretion to make other arrests of people they believe can be deported, which they call “collateral arrests.” Increasingly, we have heard reports of ICE agents questioning witnesses to arrests, asking them for their identity documents and immigration history. In some instances, this has led to the arrests of witnesses as well.

Although ICE agents generally pre-identify and investigate the non-citizens they are targeting for arrest before going out to locate them, ICE agents have discretion to make other arrests while out in the field. In monitoring and tracking non-citizens, agents often come across family members and other witnesses to raids who they question about their target and, increasingly, about the individual, themselves, and their own immigration history and status.

Throughout the last year and a half, we have seen a rise in the number of arrests of individuals who were not initially targeted for arrest -- which ICE refers to as “collateral arrests.” Increasingly, ICE agents will threaten to make collateral arrests if that individual does not share what information they know about ICE’s target.

Story 699 - Bronx, NY, 4/12/2018

AA was arrested by ICE agents around 8:30 am at his home. The ICE agents came to his home searching for a former roommate of his. AA was home with his two roommates, and all three of them told the ICE agents that the person they were looking for no longer lived in the apartment. Upon being told that the former roommate no longer lived at that address, the agents asked to see all three roommates’ IDs. The agents then proceeded to arrest all three of the roommates.

Story 682 - Brooklyn, NY, 4/10/2018

Four ICE agents, wearing “police” vests, arrested CA in his apartment after they came there looking for his roommate, who wasn’t home. CA first encountered the agents outside the apartment when he was throwing away the garbage at 6:30 am.

A few minutes later the agents knocked on his apartment door. One of CA's other roommates opened the door and, believing the agents were the police, showed them the bedroom where the third roommate, who they were looking for, lived. CA happened to be in a common area of the apartment and the agents asked him for his ID. When CA showed them his ID, they arrested him. There was a filmmaker filming the whole encounter, even after CA asked him to stop filming and refused to give consent for the filming.

Story 710 - Suffolk County, NY, 4/12/2018

JE was arrested at his home by ICE agents wearing black "security" shirts. The ICE agents came to JE's home looking for his step-son. When the ICE agents arrived at JE's home, between 5 and 6 pm, only his wife was present and she opened the door. The ICE agents told her that they were there to collect a debt for rent owed by a tenant, and that they were looking for a man. The ICE agents asked her to tell them what men lived in the house. JE's wife called JE, who works with his step-son, and asked him to come home while his step-son stayed behind at work. JE arrived at the house half-an-hour later. The agents asked for his ID, arrested him, and placed him in their van. The agents then waited an hour-and-a-half for JE's step-son to come home. During that time, another family member came home, and the agents asked for his ID but let him go. The agents waited outside of the house for a total of two hours before leaving.

Story 687 - Brooklyn, NY, 4/11/2018

Four to five plain-clothes ICE officers came to the home looking for someone who did not live there. None of the six residents of the home, including LSJ, fit the description or name of the individual the ICE officers were looking for. When they tried to explain this, the ICE officers arrested all six of them for "not providing the individual's whereabouts."

Story 480 - Bronx, NY, 10/10/2017

Five ICE agents wearing uniforms that read "police" entered BV's apartment building around 7am in the Bronx when BV was in his building's stairwell, leaving

for work. BV shared an apartment in the building with three of his brothers. One of his brothers had left for work just a few minutes earlier. As BV walked down the stairs, he encountered three of the ICE agents, who he believed to be police, and they asked him for his apartment number, which he gave them. The agents had photos of another of BV's brothers, and they asked BV for permission to enter their apartment to search for him. BV let the agents into his apartment, and once inside the agents questioned the brothers about their immigration status. In the meantime, the other two agents had stopped BV's brother who had left minutes before BV on the first floor. They arrested BV and his three siblings, only then identifying themselves as ICE.

Story 705 - Staten Island, NY, 4/11/2018

Plain-clothes ICE agents rushed into a home in Staten Island when one of the roommates, PL, opened the door to leave for work in the morning. The agents showed PL a photo of a person that he did not know. The agents then arrested PL and his four roommates, who were all those present in the home at the time.

Story 712 - Westchester County, NY, 4/14/2018

Six ICE agents in six separate cars came to a house looking for UM in a basement apartment. When they found he was not there, they questioned two men standing outside the home who were waiting for a ride to work. The men did not feel at liberty to walk away from the agents, and the ICE agents questioned them, used a mobile fingerprinting device on them, and arrested the men on the sidewalk.

Story 728 - Brooklyn, NY, 5/8/2018

ICE agents came to DC's apartment at 7am looking for him. They didn't identify themselves as ICE and instead pretending to be the police. Once DC's roommate let the agents in the home and they discovered that DC wasn't there, they threatened to arrest everyone present in the home if they did not tell them DC's location.

For more info, visit immdefense.org/raids or contact KYR@immdefense.org