The ICE Entanglement Problem:

Why We Need to Prevent ICE from Using New York's Resources to Harm Our Communities

Over the past decade, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has increasingly relied on local law enforcement and local government agencies to search for, arrest, and deport New Yorkers.

For years, ICE entanglement with state and local agencies have enabled the cruel separation of family members across New York State. When local agencies conspire with ICE, it multiplies the injustices of the racially biased criminal legal system and discriminatory policing.

All New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status, want to participate in their communities, provide for family, and access health care and public goods without fear and intimidation. **The New York for All Act** (S3076/A2328) offers protections that help make this possible, by prohibiting all local law enforcement and state agencies from conspiring with ICE or participating in its cruelty.

As we have seen with ICE courthouse arrests, the potential to be arrested by ICE when accessing a government service has a significant chilling effect. People should feel safe enough to access every resource available to them. However, ICE has taken advantage of people who rely on state agencies, such as the DMV, and those who are fulfilling their civil and legal responsibilities, including those following the requests of local police or probation officers.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been exiled by our past three presidents, regardless of party, and the Biden Administration has already issued policies that lay out who they plan to deport and detain. So long as ICE continues its operations, immigrant New Yorkers remain at risk.

The Stories:

DMV	LG was arrested by ICE after he left the DMV's traffic violation bureau in Harlem. He had gotten a traffic ticket in November and was given January 29, 2020 as the day to go to the DMV to pay the ticket. When LG arrived for the hearing on January 29, a DMV officer told him that the hearing was delayed, that he should go to lunch and come back. When he left to get lunch, ICE agents stopped him, asked his name and then arrested LG. January 2020
	FW was arrested by ICE agents at the Dutchess County Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in Wappinger Falls, NY after the DMV agent told her to return the following day. FW showed up and the ICE agents were waiting there to arrest her. September 2017
New York State Troopers	IU was a passenger in a car that was stopped by a New York State Trooper. The State Trooper asked who in the car was "illegal". He handcuffed everyone in the car and called ICE. He held everyone in the car, handcuffed, until ICE agents came and arrested IU. Erie County, NY, July 2017
Court mandated programs	KJ was arrested by ICE agents when he went to attend a court-mandated program. When he entered the Town Hall where the program was held, a local police officer asked if he had papers. Shortly after KJ said no, ICE agents came to the program and arrested him. Altamont, NY, November 2017
Local Police	After ICE had surveilled his home overnight, two local police sheriffs and four ICE agents arrested FCC at his home at 5:30 am. They waited outside his home and did not come inside. Out of fear for the safety of his partner and young children, FCC voluntarily went outside, where the agents arrested him. Amenia, NY, April 2018
	After JS's family paid bail, he was taken from criminal custody in East Hampton and turned over to the East Hampton town police. The town police held him for over two hours as they waited for ICE to arrive and arrest him. East Hampton, NY, May 2018

The New York For All Act will help ensure that interactions with police, going to school, and renewing a driver's license do not carry the risk of deportation. Everyone fares better when state and local dollars stay out of the business of federal immigration deportation and detention.

Learn more about how to protect your rights with ICE at immdefense.org/kyr

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