Be Informed:
What is ICE? How Do They Operate? (Session 1 of Our Workshop Series)

March 28, 2023
TO ACCESS INTERPRETATION

Via computer

English and Spanish interpretation available!

- Interpretation
- Off
- English
- Spanish
- Mute Original Audio

Via smartphone

- Chat
- Q&A
- More

Language Interpretation
- Original Audio
- English
- Spanish
- Minimize Meeting
- Meeting Settings
- Mute Original Audio

Done
PARA ACCEDER A LA INTERPRETACIÓN

Por computador

Por teléfono inteligente
Housekeeping

- We’re recording presenters and slides only
- **Spanish translation** is available
- Recordings and slides will be shared after Session 2
- Please put questions in the chat
- **Tech issues**: contact help@onpoint.pro

**A note on language:** for our training, we are using “noncitizen” to refer to people in the U.S. who are not U.S. citizens.
Who We Are

The Immigrant Defense Project fights to protect and expand the rights of all immigrants, with a particular focus on immigrants accused or convicted of crimes. We’ve spent a decade monitoring ICE policing and community arrests in the New York area.

The Surveillance Resistance Lab takes on state and corporate surveillance as one of the greatest threats to migrant justice, racial equity, economic justice, and democracy. We partner with organizers across movements to fight for government divestment from technologies that expand systems of control and punishment in public spaces, schools, workplaces, and at and across borders.

Genia Blaser, Supervising Attorney, IDP
Alli Finn, Senior Researcher & Organizer, the Lab
Workshop Series Agenda & Goals

**Session 1:** Baseline understanding of ICE policing
- DHS political history and current moment
- How ICE operates and gets information
- Recent tactics in ICE policing and surveillance
- Ways to plug in and fight back

**Session 2:** Know Your Rights with ICE
Political Context
The U.S. is built on history of exclusion and expulsion, the justification evolves over time
Department of Homestland Security established 2002 to “protect the homeland”
CBP & ICE Budgets

↑3X
CBP and ICE budgets have almost tripled since the founding of DHS.

↑2000%
The budget for border policing has increased by more than 2000% since 1990.

CBP & ICE Annual Budgets, FY 2003—2021

- Customs and Border Protection
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

$25
$20
$15
$10
$5
$0


Source: Congressional budgets, gross budget authority as provided in Conference Reports, FY 2003—2021
BORDER FENCING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>&lt;36 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>&gt;625 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump’s goal</td>
<td>500+ miles by 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BORDER PATROL AGENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1981</th>
<th>1996</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Today</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>20,000+</td>
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</table>
DHS & ICE feed off and rely on the racially biased and classist criminal legal system.
The Era of Mass Deportation: State of “Permanent Emergency”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
<th>Presidents</th>
<th>Deportations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1882-2000</td>
<td>108 years</td>
<td>2,630,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2007</td>
<td>Bush, DHS est. ’02</td>
<td>2,012,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2016</td>
<td>Obama</td>
<td>3,080,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2020</td>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>~935,347</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current Situation under Biden

- Rolled back some Trump era policies:
  - Muslim Ban
  - large workplace arrests
  - rescinding of DACA
  - public charge rule
- Increased: electronic monitoring
- Continuing:
  - Title 42 expulsions
  - Family detention?
  - Prioritizing “threats” to national security, border security, public safety

2021-present
Biden

~131,188 deportations
How ICE Gets Information
All immigration agencies under DHS help identify people for ICE to target for deportation.

- **Customs & Border Protection (CBP)**
  - Border Patrol

- **US Citizen & Immigration Services (USCIS)**
  - Immigration Applications

- **Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)**
  - Immigration arrests, detentions, removals
- At borders & ports of entry
- Claims to have authority within 100 miles of all borders. This includes all of NYS!
- Customs
- Takes biometrics, like fingerprints

Customs & Border Protection (CBP)  
Border Patrol

US Citizen & Immigration Services (USCIS)  
Immigration Applications

Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)  
Immigration arrests, detentions, removals
- Handles affirmative applications:
  - Green cards
  - Renewing work permits
  - Applying for citizenship etc.
- Gathers biometrics, like fingerprints, & biographics
- **ICE**: interior policing arm of DHS
  - Uses info from CBP & USCIS to locate noncitizens
- **ERO**: locate and deport noncitizens they believe are removable
- **HSI**: “criminal investigative agency”; works on joint task forces with state/federal law enforcement and agencies
ICE relies on local police and the criminal legal system to identify and target noncitizens for arrest.
At the time of an arrest by local police, fingerprints get automatically shared with ICE.
ICE then decides if they will try to deport the individual and where to find them.

Some jails turn people over to ICE if there's a detainer or "hold".

ICE may use info from police booking to learn about a person's future court hearings.

ICE targets people in the community and arrests them.
What ICE Surveillance Looks Like
Sample of ICE’s Data Sources

Criminal Legal System
- Police warrant database
- Secure Communities (fingerprinting)
- Court databases and employees
- Criminal Alien Program (jails, prisons) and probation & parole

Joint Task Forces (local police, HSI, USAO)

DHS Fusion Centers

Other countries
biometrics, criminal history and other personal info

USCIS Immigration Applications

US-VISIT
Biometrics and photos collected with visa applications and entry/exit

Orders of Deportation
Apprehension by CBP at entry or ordered deported after entry

Social Media

Data brokers
- e.g., Thomson Reuters CLEAR & Lexis Nexis
- USCIS Immigration Applications

DMV

ICE “case mgmt”
(e.g., Palantir’s FALCON)

Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement Databases

License Plate Readers (Vigilant)

License Plate Readers (Vigilant)
Explicit Surveillance Technologies

How the Face-Recognition Device Works

- **IRIS RECOGNITION**
  - Officer holds the device, which attaches to an iPhone, a few inches from a suspect’s eye and takes a photo.
  - The MORIS system analyzes some 235 features in the iris, which is a unique identifier akin to a fingerprint.
  - The system looks for a match in a database of criminal records.

- **FACIAL RECOGNITION**
  - Officer uses the cellphone camera to snap a photo from a distance of 2 to 5 feet.
  - Based on technology from Ammetrics Inc., the system analyzes about 120 distinguishing points on the face, such as distance between eyes and nose.
  - System then scans the database of criminal records looking for a likely match.

Source: WUSA-9

Photos of MORIS device by BF Technologies
So what does ICE surveillance do?

- Denial of Rights
- Who does/does not belong
The Big Business of Homeland Security
ICE Policing Trends
Common ICE arrest tactics

At and around homes

● Wait outside of homes early morning to see who lives there/their routines
● 1-2+ agents will often knock on the door and yell “Police!”
● Often push their way inside when a door is opened

On the street and in the community

● Often by people’s homes as they leave for work or court
● Occasionally go to people’s workplaces if they are public (restaurant, etc.)
● Often call out people’s name to confirm their identity

**ICE agents usually dress in “plain clothes” and don’t identify themselves before making an arrest**
Common ICE arrest tactics

In cars

- ICE agents in unmarked cars stop vehicles they think are carrying noncitizens they have targeted for arrest
- May question everyone in the car for ID

Jail turnovers and cooperation from local law enforcement

- May issue a “detainer” or request for the jail or police to hold someone for ICE to arrest
- Pick-up individuals as they are released from criminal custody
ICE agents are trained to mislead and lie using “ruses”, like pretending to be local police by:

- Dressing in similar colors as local police
- Wearing vests that say POLICE
- Saying they are the “police”
- Carrying guns
- Showing a photo of a fake “suspect”, pretending to investigate a “crime” or asking to speak to a specific person

ICE sightings in NYC 2020
Yes. ICE may also arrest witnesses who are present and vulnerable to deportation. ICE calls these “collateral” arrests.

ICE may identify people in real time through:
- use of mobile fingerprint devices
- through racial profiling like asking “do you have papers?” or to see passports

FAQ: does ICE arrest people on the ground who they haven’t targeted?
FAQ: ICE arrests & “protected areas”?

ICE internal policy: avoid arrests at or near “protected areas” (except for limited circumstances)

- Schools & places where children gather
- Religious institutions & funerals
- Medical or mental health care facilities
- Social service centers
- Places for disaster/emergency response aid
- Parades, protests & public demonstrations

**ICE still surveils protected areas.**
How do I get involved?
Immigration is complicated!
Get an individualized consultation to learn about:

- Your immigration status
- If you have options to change your status
- If you are at risk of an ICE arrest

One place to start:
Immigrant Advocates Network National Legal Service Directory
How to plug in?

- **Advocacy and organizing - check with local organizers!**
  - Say no to corporations behind ICE ([#NoTechforICE](#NoTechforICE))
  - Protective policies at the local level: “sanctuary city” and beyond
  - Rapid response collectives

- **Bail fund networks**
  - [Find local organizations](#) working against immigration policing

- **Know Your Rights sessions - next week, April 4, 2023 at 2pm ET!**
Questions:

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