

HOMELAND INSECURITY

How ICE Implements the Trump Regime's Remigration* Policy Through Enforced Disappearance, Torture, and Mass Deportation



Homeland Security
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Remigrate.

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From left to right: ICE officers at the ICE facility in Chicago to observe enforcement operations, Oct. 3, 2025; ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations in Los Angeles, California, June 12, 2025; ICE officers at the ICE facility in Chicago to observe enforcement operations, Oct. 3, 2025; ICE officers at the ICE facility in Chicago to observe enforcement operations, Oct. 3, 2025; Federal law enforcement and their partners assisting with immigration enforcement efforts in New York City, New York, Jan. 28, 2025; ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations in Phoenix, Arizona.

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About Crude Accountability

The purpose of Crude Accountability, Incorporated shall be to protect the environmental and human rights of people and communities, especially those who are marginalized by extractive, corporate, and authoritarian actions. We hold in high esteem the leadership and expertise of frontline communities and believe that local peoples are the best stewards of their environments. Crude Accountability collaborates on the national, regional, and international levels with those committed to a just, equitable, and environmentally sustainable world.

*DHS. "Remigrate." X (formerly Twitter), October 14, 2025.

<https://x.com/DHSgov/status/1978175527329358094>.

See also:

Remigration: "...ethnically cleansing or forcibly deporting from traditionally white countries everybody who's not white," according to Heidi Beirich of the Global Project Against Hate and Extremism. "The idea is often attributed to a French novelist [Renaud Camus] who became known as the originator of the Great Replacement conspiracy theory [in his book, *Le Grand Remplacement*], which is this ... claim that white Christian Europeans are being systematically replaced by immigrants in an attempt to dilute European or Western cultures. And remigration was the solution he proposed. And the idea was that it would be a kind of organized removal of immigrants and even the children of immigrants," according to Odette Yousef, NPR domestic extremism correspondent.

Chang, Ailsa, and Odette Yousef. "'Remigration,' Once a Fringe Idea, Becomes a Mantra for the Trump Administration." NPR, December 9, 2025.

<https://www.npr.org/2025/12/09/nx-s1-5630505/remigration-once-a-fringe-idea-becomes-a-mantra-for-the-trump-administration>.

Camus, Renaud. *Le grand remplacement: Introduction au Remplacisme Global*. Paris: La Nouvelle Librairie, 2021.

Executive Summary

In 2025, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detained almost 400,000 people. Despite the Trump regime's claims that migrants here without proper documentation are criminals, according to statistics from CBS news, fewer than 14% of those arrested have violent criminal records.¹ Roughly 40% have no criminal record at all.² As of February 7, 2026, 73.6% of those detained by ICE and CBP have no criminal convictions.³ In this process of detention, arrest, and deportation, over 2,000 people have been potential victims of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance by ICE and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), according to Crude Accountability's research.

These actions are the result of policies led and implemented by the Trump regime, which issued eight executive orders and four proclamations that prioritized detaining and deporting migrants. With the support of rulings and opinions by the Supreme Court of the United States and with funding provided to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) by the US Congress, ICE and CBP have militarized American cities in their efforts to meet detention and arrest quotas, in the process detaining a historic number of people, including US citizens, and engaging in violence on the streets of US towns and cities, resulting in the death by shooting of nonviolent protesters by ICE.⁴

¹ Montoya-Galvez, Camilo. "Less than 14% of Those Arrested by Ice in Trump's 1st Year Back in Office Had Violent Criminal Records, Document Shows." CBS News, February 9, 2026.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ice-arrests-violent-criminal-records-trump-first-year/>.

² *ibid.*

³ "ICE Detainees," Trac Immigration - Comprehensive, independent, and nonpartisan information about immigration enforcement, accessed March 10, 2026,

https://tracereports.org/immigration/detentionstats/pop_agcn_table.html.

⁴ "A second U.S. citizen was killed by federal forces in Minneapolis. Here's what we know,"

[A second U.S. citizen was killed by federal forces in Minneapolis. Here's what we know | PBS News](#), PBS News, January 27, 2026.

The US has seemingly violated the rights of detainees while in custody. This report documents allegations of those in custody of ICE and CBP who claim to have been denied food, water, healthcare, and medication access and complain of overcrowding, abject hygiene, and poor food and water quality. These allegations appear to violate numerous US and international civil and human rights standards, as we describe in our report. We also present three case studies of potential enforced disappearance of migrants while detained by US officials.

If true, these allegations may constitute torture, and may violate the 5th and 14th Constitutional Amendments, federal and national detention standards,⁵ the UN charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Convention Against Torture, the Nelson Mandela Rules of the United Nations (the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners), and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

⁵ The Federal and National Detention Standards share overlaps but are different sets of standards. The Federal Performance Based Detention Standards cover facilities operated or owned by ICE, Bureau of Prisons (BOP), Contract Detention Facilities, Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) Facilities, Family Residential Centers, and Temporary Housing Facilities. These standards are implemented by the Department of Justice. The National Detention Standards cover a similar scope of facilities but are implemented by ICE directly.

Introduction

As of February 7, 2026, the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) are holding 68,289 migrants in detention.⁶ Detentions by ICE and CBP steadily increased in number over the first year of Trump's second term, reaching the highest number in seven years in January 2026.⁷ Deportation numbers under the Trump regime vary widely depending on the source; CNN reports nearly 200,000 deportations,⁸ the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) reports approximately 216,423,⁹ and according to former Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs of DHS, Tricia McLaughlin, in reporting to the *Daily Wire*, more than 389,000 people have been deported.¹⁰ Arrest numbers also vary; WOLA reports ICE alone has "arrested 171,649 people in the U.S. interior between February 1 and September 7 [2025], averaging 784 arrests per day,"¹¹ while McLaughlin states that "more than 415,000" people have been arrested.¹²

⁶ "ICE Detainees."

⁷ *ibid.*

⁸ Alvarez, Priscilla. "Ice Has Deported Nearly 200k People since Trump Returned to Office, on Track for Highest Level in a Decade | CNN Politics." CNN, August 28, 2025.

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/08/28/politics/ice-deportations-immigrants-trump>.

⁹ Isacson, Adam. "Weekly u.s.-Mexico Border Update: 'Mass Deportation' and Detention, Law Enforcement Personnel Diverted, Central American Kids." WOLA, September 19, 2025.

<https://www.wola.org/2025/09/weekly-u-s-mexico-border-update-mass-deportation-and-detention-law-enforcement-personnel-diverted-central-american-kids/>.

¹⁰ Taer, Jennie. "Exclusive: Trump Speeds up Mass Deportation Campaign with 389,000 Illegal Immigrant Removals." *The Daily Wire*, September 17, 2025. <https://www.dailywire.com/news/exclusive-trump-speeds-up-mass-deportation-campaign-with-389000-illegal-immigrant-removals?topStoryPosition=undefined&author=Jennie%2BTaer&category=Exclusive&elementPosition=1&row=1&rowHeadline=Top%2BStories&rowType=Top%2BStories&title=EXCLUSIVE%3A%2BTrump%2BSpeeds%2BUp%2BMass%2BDeportation%2BCampaign%2Bwith%2B389%2C000%2BIllegal%2BImmigrant%2BRemovals>.

¹¹ Isacson, Adam.

¹² Taer, Jennie.

In addition to counting arrests, detentions, and deportations, researchers, reporters, and others have also documented cases of enforced disappearances of migrants while in ICE and CBP custody. According to Human Rights First, hundreds of migrants were disappeared while in ICE custody in 2025.¹³ Amnesty International states that an unknown number of individuals have been forcibly disappeared inside the Alligator Alcatraz and Krome facilities in Florida.¹⁴ Other sources provide different data. But, while the specific numbers vary, it appears that under the current regime, ICE and CBP are potentially forcibly disappearing people in violation of the UN charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Convention Against Torture, the Nelson Mandela Rules of the United Nations (the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and US domestic law, including the Constitution.

¹³ "The U.S. Government Is Forcibly Disappearing Migrants." Human Rights First, May 2025. https://humanrightsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Forcibly-Disappearing-Migrants-factsheet_formatted-5.1.25v2.pdf.

¹⁴ "Torture and Enforced Disappearances in the Sunshine State: Human Rights Violations at 'Alligator Alcatraz' and Krome in Florida." Amnesty International, December 4, 2025. <https://www.amnestyusa.org/reports/torture-and-enforced-disappearances-in-the-sunshine-state-human-rights-violations-at-alligator-alcatraz-and-krome-in-florida/>.

Methodology

During 2025, Crude Accountability investigated alleged instances of enforced disappearance under the Trump regime, based on the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance definition. Crude Accountability began this research by examining the United States Disappeared Tracker¹⁵ and the Deportation Data Deanonimization Project.¹⁶ Utilizing these tools, Crude Accountability tried to identify the “unknowns” of the cases presented in the Disappeared Tracker. Crude Accountability investigated potential cases of enforced disappearance across 21 states, using a variety of data sources, including local jail publications, social media posts, news articles, PayPal, and interviews with immigration lawyers. Our investigation expanded beyond enforced disappearances to include claims of torture, unsanitary conditions while in detention, inadequate food and water supply, and poor food and water quality. The manner in which ICE arrests were conducted was also concerning, with many stories involving alleged illegal seizures, entries, ambushes, and assaults by ICE officers without judicial warrants. Our research also suggests that ICE and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) lack transparency in dealing with the public, including sharing information on the whereabouts of those they have detained. This potentially indicates a systemic pattern of secrecy and purposeful withholding of information. The violent actions of ICE, CBP, and DHS have not been stopped by the US President, the Supreme Court, or the US Congress, in spite of the apparent violations of national and international human rights standards.

¹⁵ “United States Disappeared Tracker.” Tableau Public, March 28, 2025.

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/danielleharlow/viz/UnitedStatesDisappearedTracker/Map>.

¹⁶ “Deportation Data Deanonimization Project.” Tableau Public, July 15, 2025.

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/danielleharlow/viz/DeportationDataDeanonimizationProject/Deanon>.

Crude Accountability reached out to ICE, CBP, DHS, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the White House for comment on these allegations. ICE, CBP, DHS, and the DOJ did not respond. White House Deputy Press Secretary Abigail Jackson responded with the following:

“ICE officers are facing a 1300% increase in assaults because of dangerous, untrue smears by elected Democrats. Just the other day, an officer had his finger bitten off by a radical left-wing rioter. ICE officers act heroically to enforce the law and protect American communities. Anyone pointing the finger at law enforcement officers instead of the criminals is simply doing the bidding of criminal illegal aliens. The entire Trump Administration is working to lawfully deliver on President Trump’s mandate to enforce federal immigration law and carry out the largest mass deportation campaign of criminal illegal aliens in history.”¹⁷

A nearly identical quote was provided to Fox News,¹⁸ the Boston Herald,¹⁹ CBS News,²⁰ and ABC27 News²¹ at least as far back as January 14, 2026, according to Crude Accountability’s research.

¹⁷ Email exchange between Crude Accountability and Abigail Jackson.

¹⁸ Pinedo, Peter. “White House Slams Democrat Governor for Urging Public to Track ICE Agents with New Video Portal.” Fox News, February 5, 2026. <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/dem-governor-slammed-white-house-after-pledging-launch-portal-track-ice-agents>.

¹⁹ Dunn, Tim. “White House Responds to Healey’s Increased Criticism, Actions against Ice.” Boston Herald, February 1, 2026. <https://www.bostonherald.com/2026/02/01/white-house-responds-to-healeys-increased-criticism-actions-against-ice/>.

²⁰ Prussin, Mark, Marcia Krammer, and Jennifer Bislam. “N.Y. Gov. Kathy Hochul Blasts Ice in Push to Ban Local Police Cooperation.” CBS News, January 30, 2026. <https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/news/hochul-federal-immigration-enforcement-ice-local-police/>.

²¹ Owens, Dennis, and Alton Northrop. “Pennsylvania Lawmakers Debate Immigration Crackdowns after Minneapolis Shooting | ABC27.” ABC27.com, January 27, 2026. <https://www.abc27.com/pennsylvania-politics/pennsylvania-lawmakers-debate-immigration-crackdowns-after-minneapolis-shooting/>.

The Trump Regime & the Expansion of ICE

On the first day of his second term as president in January 2025, US President Donald Trump made it clear that the detention and deportation of migrants was a priority. He has signed into effect eight executive orders regarding immigration since the beginning of his second term: EO 14156 (Protecting the American People Against Invasion),²² EO 14160 (Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship),²³ EO 14161 (Protecting the United States From Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats),²⁴ EO 14163 (Realigning the United States Refugee Program),²⁵ EO 14165 (Securing Our Borders),²⁶ EO 14218 (Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders),²⁷ and EO 14287 (Protecting American Communities from Criminal Aliens).²⁸ According to the Center for Migrant Studies of New York,²⁹ these EOs target birthright citizenship, bypass due process rights, pave the way for travel bans outside of

²² "Protecting the American People Against Invasion." The White House, January 21, 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/protecting-the-american-people-against-invasion/>.

²³ "Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship." The White House, January 21, 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/protecting-the-meaning-and-value-of-american-citizenship/>.

²⁴ "Protecting the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats." The White House, January 21, 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/protecting-the-united-states-from-foreign-terrorists-and-othenational-security-and-public-safety-threats/>.

²⁵ "Realigning the United States Refugee Admissions Program." The White House, January 21, 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/realigning-the-united-states-refugee-admissions-program/>.

²⁶ "Securing Our Borders." The White House, January 21, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/securing-our-borders/>.

²⁷ "Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders." The White House, February 20, 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/ending-taxpayer-subsidization-of-open-borders/>.

²⁸ "Protecting American Communities from Criminal Aliens." The White House, April 28, 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/protecting-american-communities-from-criminal-aliens/>.

²⁹ "Homepage." The Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMS). Accessed November 3, 2025.

<https://cmsny.org/>.

judicial jurisdiction, and target or eliminate a number of programs designed to assist migrants.³⁰ The EOs target American citizens by calling for the withholding of federal funding to certain jurisdictions and non-profits, as well as for investigating and/or prosecuting non-profits that are assisting migrants.³¹ EO 14161 even provides resources to “denaturalize” US citizens; ie, strip them of their citizenship.³²



Image 1. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem rides an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) along the U.S.-Mexico Border Wall in El Paso, Texas, April 28, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

³⁰ “Summary of Executive Orders and Other Actions on Immigration.” The Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMS), February 14, 2025. <https://cmsny.org/publications/essential-but-ignored-low-earning-immigrant-healthcare-workers-and-their-role-in-the-health-of-new-york-city/>.

³¹ *ibid.*

³² *Author’s note:*

This is identified in Section 3(e) of EO 14161 that states, “Ensure the devotion of adequate resources to identify and take appropriate action for offenses described in 8 U.S.C. 1451.” 8 U.S.C. 1451, according to the US Code, is focused on revocation of naturalization. Revocation of naturalization, U.S. Code 8 (2023), § 1451, <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/USCODE-2023-title8/USCODE-2023-title8-chap12-subchapIII-partII-sec1451>.

Trump has also issued four proclamations targeting immigration:

Proclamation 10886 (Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States),³³ Proclamation 10888 (Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion),³⁴ Proclamation 10949 (Restricting the Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States From Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats),³⁵ and Proclamation 10973 (Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers).³⁶ These proclamations allow military assets, including personnel, to detain and deport migrants,³⁷ suspend the entry of any migrant engaged in an “invasion” of the United States at the southern border,³⁸ enact travel bans on certain nationalities,³⁹ and restrict H-1B visas, setting petition fees as high as \$100,000.⁴⁰

In addition to the acts of the executive, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has taken several actions that appear to undermine the rights of migrants. Among these are the rulings in *D.V.D. v. DHS*,⁴¹ *Perdomo v. Noem*,⁴²

³³ “Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States.” The White House, January 21, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/declaring-a-national-emergency-at-the-southern-border-of-the-united-states/>.

³⁴ “Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion.” The White House, January 21, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/guaranteeing-the-states-protection-against-invasion/>.

³⁵ “Restricting the Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats.” The White House, June 4, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/06/restricting-the-entry-of-foreign-nationals-to-protect-the-united-states-from-foreign-terrorists-and-other-national-security-and-public-safety-threats/>.

³⁶ “Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers.” The White House, September 19, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/09/restriction-on-entry-of-certain-nonimmigrant-workers/>.

³⁷ Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States.

³⁸ Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion.

³⁹ Restricting the Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats.

⁴⁰ Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers.

⁴¹ *DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, ET AL. v. D.V.D., ET AL.* No. 1:25-cv-10676 (U.S. Supreme Court. Jun. 16, 2025). [supremecourt.gov](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24pdf/24a1153_15gm.pdf), March 12, 2026. https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24pdf/24a1153_15gm.pdf.

⁴² *KRISTI NOEM, SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, ET AL. v. PEDRO VASQUEZ PERDOMO, ET AL.* No. 25A169 (U.S. Supreme Court. Sep. 8, 2025). [supremecourt.gov](https://www.supremecourt.gov). https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24pdf/25a169_5h25.pdf.

and a number of other stays, orders, and opinions. These decisions have allowed the Trump regime to move forward in revoking the humanitarian parole status of more than 500,000 non-citizens;⁴³ deport migrants to third countries, not of their origin,⁴⁴ with disregard for their safety and well-being;⁴⁵ and allowed immigration authorities to utilize factors such as race, language, location, and employment to stop and question those suspected of being illegal immigrants.⁴⁶

The House of Representatives and the Senate have also joined the attack on migrant rights. In July 2025, Congress passed the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act”⁴⁷ that allocated approximately \$75 billion in additional funding to ICE over the next four years. This brought ICE’s annual budget to \$28.7 billion for 2025.⁴⁸ The bill provided nearly \$30 billion to boost ICE’s enforcement and deportation operations and \$45 billion to expand ICE’s detention capacity. This injection of capital into ICE places the immigration enforcement agency’s budget on par with that of other nations’ entire militaries, namely Canada and Türkiye.⁴⁹ On June 9, 2025, the US House of Representatives also passed House Resolution 488, titled “Denouncing the antisemitic terrorist attack in Boulder, Colorado.” In this

⁴³ Howe, Amy. “Supreme Court Allows DHS to End Parole for a Half-Million Noncitizens.” SCOTUSblog, May 30, 2025. https://www.scotusblog.com/2025/05/supreme-court-allows-dhs-to-end-parole-for-a-half-million-noncitizens/?utm_source=chatgpt.com.

⁴⁴ *Author’s note*: This was determined illegal by the United States District Court of Massachusetts on February 25, 2026. In his Ruling, Judge Murphy determined the US government must first attempt to deport the noncitizen to the country of their origin. In addition, the noncitizen must be granted ample notice of their deportation so as to provide them the opportunity to appeal within 30 days of the ruling. *D.V.D., et al., v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, et al., No. 1:25-cv-10676-BEM, D. Mass., Feb. 25, 2026.*

<https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.mad.282404/gov.uscourts.mad.282404.241.0.pdf>

⁴⁵ “NILA’s Affirmative Litigation Docket.” National Immigration Litigation Alliance. Accessed November 12, 2025. <https://immigrationlitigation.org/impact-litigation/>.

⁴⁶ KRISTI NOEM, SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, ET AL. v. PEDRO VASQUEZ PERDOMO, ET AL.

⁴⁷ One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Publ. L. No. 119-21, 139 STAT. 72 (2025). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text>.

⁴⁸ O’Herron, Margy. “Big Budget Act Creates a ‘Deportation-Industrial Complex’.” Brennan Center for Justice, February 14, 2025. <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/big-budget-act-creates-deportation-industrial-complex>.

⁴⁹ Baio, Ariana. “Ice Is Now Richer than Most of World’s Militaries Thanks to Trump’s New Funding.” The Independent, July 16, 2025. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/world/americas/us-politics/ice-funding-world-militaries-b2790466.html>.

resolution, the House specifically “expresse[d] gratitude to law enforcement officers, including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel, for protecting the homeland.”⁵⁰ The resolution was focused on the attack of pro-Israeli protesters on June 1, 2025, an incident that did not include a single ICE officer.⁵¹ The resolution passed with bipartisan support.⁵²



Image 2. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem participates in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) in Los Angeles, California, June 12, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

ICE and CBP have been provided immense resources from the federal budget—both financial and human—to carry out the mandate of the Trump regime, resulting in the apparent violation of the UN charter, the Universal Declaration of Human

⁵⁰ Evans, Gabe, et al. “DENOUNCING THE ANTISEMITIC TERRORIST ATTACK IN BOULDER, COLORADO; Congressional Record Vol. 171, No. 98.” Congress.gov, June 9, 2025. <https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/volume-171/issue-98/house-section/article/H2542-1>.

⁵¹ Evans, Gabe, et al.

⁵² House Clerk. “House Roll Call Vote 158.” Congress.gov, June 9, 2025. <https://www.congress.gov/votes/house/119-1/158>.

Rights, the UN Convention Against Torture, the Nelson Mandela Rules of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, Federal Performance Based Detention Standards, National Detention Standards and the US Constitution. As documented in media coverage, masked agents who refuse to identify themselves are stalking American streets.⁵³ ICE agents, armed with assault rifles and other weapons and covered in body armor, hunt, chase, physically assault, and kill⁵⁴ individuals across the United States.⁵⁵ These individuals are not exclusively criminals,⁵⁶ nor are they exclusively migrants,⁵⁷ nor are they exclusively adults.⁵⁸

In October 2025, [ProPublica](#) found that over 170 US citizens had been “kicked, dragged and detained for days.”⁵⁹ More than 20 US citizens had been held incommunicado for over a day with no access to legal representation or family.⁶⁰ US veterans have also been detained and deported, including a Purple Heart Recipient,⁶¹ among others.⁶² On January 7 and January 24, 2026, ICE agents shot and killed two American citizens, Renee Good and Alex Pretti respectively. Forty-

⁵³ “Masked ICE Agents Who Refuse to Show ID Drawing Public Backlash | FOX 11 LA.” Fox 11 LA, YouTube. Accessed November 12, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvziN3sQ6Hw>.

⁵⁴ Evans, Tim, and Renee Hickman. “Ice Agent Fatally Shoots Woman in Minneapolis, Mayor Disputes Government Claim of Self-Defense | Reuters.” Reuters, January 7, 2026. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-federal-agent-involved-minneapolis-shooting-during-immigration-surge-city-2026-01-07/>.

⁵⁵ “Surveillance Footage Shows Ice Agents Pushing 79-Year-Old Man to the Ground.” Guardian News, YouTube. Accessed November 12, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LU2-y0BOCAY>.

⁵⁶ “TRAC Immigration Tools: Immigration Detention Quick Facts.” Tracreports.org, September 21, 2025. <https://tracreports.org/immigration/quickfacts/>.

⁵⁷ Silva, Daniella. “Ice Sent 3 U.S. Citizen Children, Including Boy with Cancer, to Honduras with Their Deported Moms.” NBC News, August 13, 2025. <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/ice-deport-us-citizen-kids-stage-4-cancer-honduras-rcna224501>.

⁵⁸ ACLU of Louisiana. “Ice Deports 3 U.S. Citizen Children Held Incommunicado Prior to the Deportation.” American Civil Liberties Union, November 1, 2025. <https://www.aclu.org/press-releases/ice-deports-3-u-s-citizen-children-held-incommunicado-prior-to-the-deportation>.

⁵⁹ <https://www.propublica.org/article/immigration-dhs-american-citizens-arrested-detained-against-will>

⁶⁰ *ibid.*

⁶¹ Barr, Luke. “DHS Secretary Kristi Noem Confronted about Veteran in Contentious Hearing over Deportations.” ABC News, December 12, 2025. <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/dhs-secretary-kristi-noem-confronted-veteran-contentious-hearing/story?id=128325824>.

⁶² *ibid.*

three other individuals have died at the hands of ICE between January 2025 and March 2026.⁶³

⁶³ Singh, Maanvi, Coral Murphy, and Charlotte Simmonds. "2025 Was Ice's Deadliest Year in Two Decades. Here Are the 32 People Who Died in Custody." *The Guardian*, January 4, 2026.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2026/jan/04/ice-2025-deaths-timeline>.

See also

Hellmann, Mellissa. "Eight People Have Died in Dealings with Ice so Far in 2026. These Are Their Stories." *The Guardian*, January 28, 2026. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jan/28/deaths-ice-2026>.

Hesson, Ted. "Eleven People Died in US Immigration Custody This Year, Ice Says | Reuters." *Reuters*, March 9, 2026. <https://www.reuters.com/world/eleven-people-died-us-immigration-custody-this-year-ice-says-2026-03-09/>.

Enforced Disappearances

The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance defines an enforced disappearance as *“the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorization, support or acquiescence of the State, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law.”*⁶⁴

In May 2025, [Human Rights First](#) (HRF) published, “The U.S. Government is Forcibly Disappearing Migrants,” a report detailing the mass disappearance of migrants to El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Panama.⁶⁵ HRF found that of the 252 Venezuelans and 36 Salvadorans deported to El Salvador’s Terrorism Confinement Center, many “had no opportunity to notify relatives, speak with counsel, or contest the rendition.”⁶⁶ Further, many of their fates were unknown to their families and legal representatives.⁶⁷ Their fates were only confirmed through pictures of those marked for flights bound for the Terrorism Confinement Center or when their names appeared on an incomplete list obtained by reporters.⁶⁸ According to HRF, as of May 2025, the US and Salvadoran governments continued to conceal the identities of those sent to the center.⁶⁹ [Cristosal](#), a human rights organization in

⁶⁴ International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, Article 2, Dec. 20, 2006, UN General Assembly resolution 61/177, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-convention-protection-all-persons-enforced>.

⁶⁵ “The Trump Administration Is Forcibly Disappearing Migrants.” Human Rights First, June 11, 2025. <https://humanrightsfirst.org/the-trump-administration-is-forcibly-disappearing-migrants/>.

⁶⁶ *ibid.*

⁶⁷ *ibid.*

⁶⁸ *ibid.*

⁶⁹ *ibid.*

Central America, confirmed that nearly 100 disappearance cases registered with them involving the Terrorism Confinement Center have been unable to contact their families or legal counsel.⁷⁰ According to HRF, an additional 500 migrants were disappeared in Costa Rica and Panama, being held incommunicado both at the US Southern border and within the countries after arrival.⁷¹

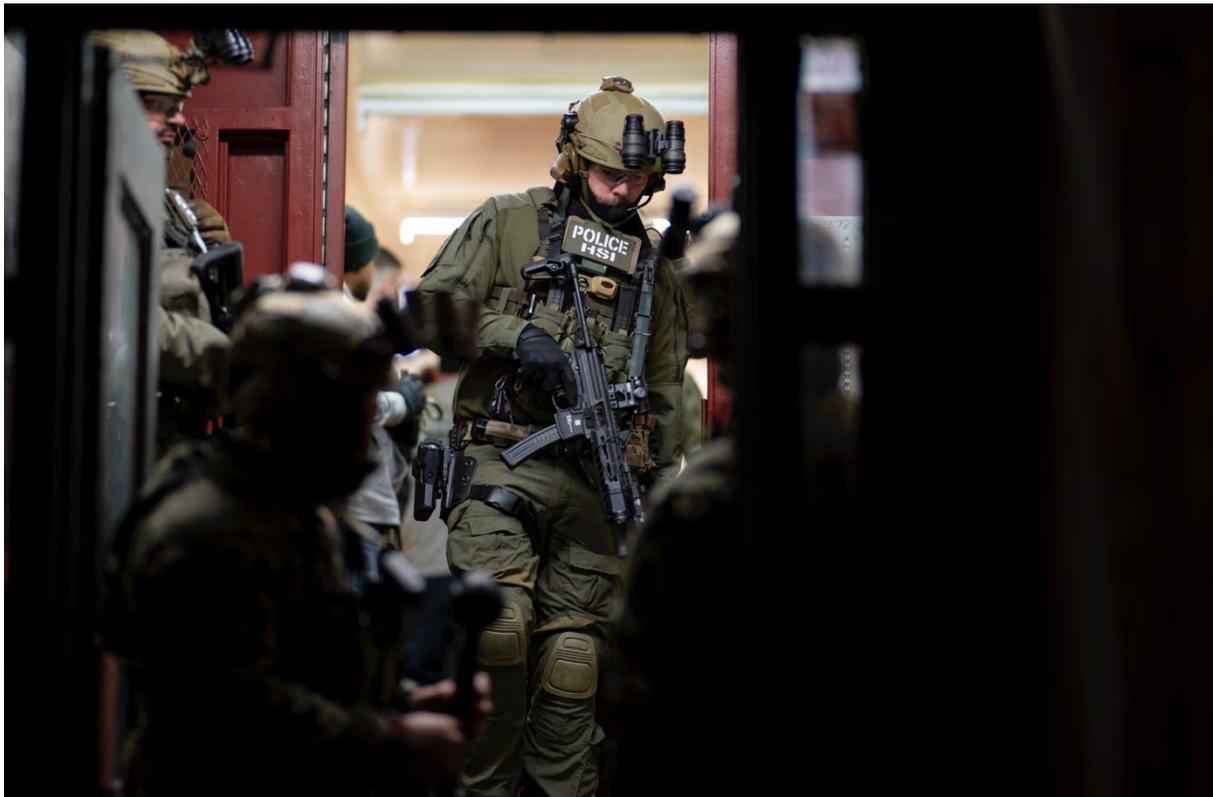


Image 3. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem visits and observes federal law enforcement and their partners assisting with immigration enforcement efforts in New York City, New York, Jan. 28, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

In December 2025, [Amnesty International](#) published “Torture and Enforced Disappearances in the Sunshine State: Human Rights Violations at ‘Alligator Alcatraz’ and Krome in Florida,”⁷² which examined allegations of torture and inhuman treatment at these facilities. The report uncovered a variety of human

⁷⁰ *ibid.*

⁷¹ *ibid.*

⁷² Torture and Enforced Disappearances in the Sunshine State: Human Rights Violations at ‘Alligator Alcatraz’ and Krome in Florida.

rights violations, including enforced disappearance and other methods of torture, conducted by authorities at the two facilities.⁷³



Image 4. President Donald Trump is joined by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Acting Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement Todd M. Lyons and Executive Director of Florida Division of Emergency Management Kevin Guthrie for a facility tour of “Alligator Alcatraz” and roundtable at the site of the Dade-Collier Training and Transition Airport in Ochopee, July 1, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

Per three separate immigration attorneys interviewed by Crude Accountability, all of their clients met the definition of an enforced disappearance.⁷⁴ Per the individual representations of these attorneys, they have cumulatively represented over 1,500 clients who have been detained. These attorneys stated that they showed up for hearings, only to learn that their clients had been transferred to different facilities without notification to their families or legal counsel.

⁷³ *ibid.*

⁷⁴ Conversations between legal counsel and Crude Accountability researcher.

Cases of Enforced Disappearances Verified by Crude Accountability

In this non-transparent environment, Crude Accountability provides three examples of independently investigated alleged instances of enforced disappearance. Due to the sensitive nature of these cases, information pertaining to exact identities will not be shared.

On May 26, 2025, a man residing in the state of Maine was disappeared by ICE. The man, married to a Maine resident who is a US citizen, was pulled over by the Maine State Police.⁷⁵ According to Public Safety Spokesperson for the Maine State Police, Shannon Moss, “the vehicle's front plate was not visible, it was mounted unusually low and far to the right, outside of the trooper's line of sight. Additionally, the trooper observed the license plate lights were inoperable, which was also a factor in the stop.”⁷⁶ The officers ran a check on the man and the other occupant of the vehicle, discovering both had expired visas, and subsequently detained and handed both occupants over to CBP and ICE.⁷⁷ According to statements made by the spouse of the man, the family of the man was repeatedly lied to by immigration officers and local detention centers about his location.⁷⁸

⁷⁵ Bishop, Bonnie. “Two Men Detained by Ice in Maine Now at Immigration Facility in Texas.” WMTW, June 3, 2025. <https://www.wmtw.com/article/two-men-detained-by-ice-in-maine-now-at-immigration-facility-in-texas/64950196>.

⁷⁶ Haskell, Alex. “Family Rallies for Release of Brazilian Men in Portland | Newscentermaine.Com.” News Center Maine, May 30, 2025. <https://www.newscentermaine.com/article/news/local/maine-immigration/traffic-stop-two-brazilian-men-detained-rally-portland/97-c2a127bf-fc39-448f-a7ed-3c5072c1fdef>.

⁷⁷ Reyna, Megan. “After ICE Detained Her Husband 2,000 Miles Away, Maine Woman Traveled to Karnes County, Determined to Bring Him Home.” Kens5, June 26, 2025. <https://www.kens5.com/article/news/local/maine-couple-ice-detention-center-karnes-county-freedom/273-d8794b84-aca7-4068-8970-4091d3fdedc7>.

⁷⁸ Grindley, Stephanie. “‘I Felt so Powerless’: Rally Held in Portland for 2 Men Being Held by Ice in Maine.” WGME, June 2, 2025. <https://wgme.com/news/i-team/i-felt-so-powerless-rally-held-in-portland-for-2-men-being-held-by-ice-in-maine-immigration-customs-enforcement-president-donald-trump>.

From May 26 to May 30, 2025, there was no definitive confirmation of the man's location by ICE.⁷⁹ At 8:52 am on May 30, the family received confirmation that the male was being moved to a new facility, though the location of that facility was not made clear.⁸⁰ The spouse claims she lost contact with her husband for nearly 24 hours after this, eventually learning that he had been moved to a facility in Texas.⁸¹ Crude Accountability reached out to Shannon Moss for further comment on the involvement of the Maine State Police in this potential enforced disappearance. Crude Accountability received no response to our request for comment.

In the state of California, an El Salvadoran man, who immigrated to the US when he was two years old and has subsequently lived in the US for the past 40 years, marrying his wife and raising two children, was likely disappeared. On January 23, 2025, the man was taken by ICE agents while buckling the seatbelts of his children as they prepared to drive to school. His family had no contact with him for three days.⁸²

On June 17, 2025, a male residing in the state of Rhode Island for 19 years appeared in a traffic tribunal court for a traffic violation. The man is married to a US citizen and has been waiting on visa approval since 2016, according to his spouse. According to WPRI12, he was detained by ICE after leaving the courtroom, where he appeared for the traffic violation.⁸³ He was held in a local correctional facility

⁷⁹ *ibid.*

See also

Haskell, Alex.

⁸⁰ Grindley, Stephanie.

⁸¹ Reyna, Megan.

⁸² Fry, Wendy. "As Ice Arrests Hit California, Families Broken up, Working People Detained." KQED, February 14, 2025. <https://www.kqed.org/news/12027013/it-was-just-a-regular-morning-californians-picked-up-in-recent-ice-raids-include-kids-volunteers>.

⁸³ Flower, Jusolyn. "Worker at Popular Providence Restaurants Detained by Ice, Moved to Texas Facility." WPRI.com12, July 28, 2025. <https://www.wpri.com/news/immigration/worker-at-popular-providence-restaurants-detained-by-ice-moved-to-texas-facility/>.

before being transferred in the middle of the night, without any notice to lawyers or family, and flown across the country to an ICE facility in Raymondville, Texas.⁸⁴



Image 5. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem receives a tour of the Terrorist Confinement Center CECOT with the Minister of Justice and Public Security Gustavo Villatoro in Tecoluca, El Salvador, March 26, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

As discussed above, the Trump regime has reported that it has deported over 400,000 people since January 20, 2025,⁸⁵ with 68,289 people currently being held by ICE and CBP.⁸⁶ In the cases discussed above, including the 1,500 cases discussed in our interviews with immigration lawyers, per their attorneys, those detained are being denied their right to speak to legal counsel and to notify their families of where they are. Frequently, the detainees themselves do not know

⁸⁴ *ibid.*

See also

Fullam, Amanda. "Donate to Help Pablo Grave Fight for Justice against Ice." [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-pablo-grave-fight-for-justice-against-ice), July 21, 2025. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-pablo-grave-fight-for-justice-against-ice>.

⁸⁵ Taer, Jennie.

⁸⁶ "ICE Detainees."

where they are or where they are being taken. Through these actions, the Trump regime, ICE, and CBP appear to be violating a basic human right of those detained: their right to recognition as a person under the law and thus their very humanity.

Stripping the individual of their identity is a key aspect of enforced disappearances. In this sense, the act is a form of degrading treatment and torture, for both the detained and their family. As such, enforced disappearance is a violation of both domestic and international law.

These allegations appear to be violations of the 5th⁸⁷ and 14th⁸⁸ Amendments, with regard to the due process and the equal protection clauses. With regard to international human rights law, these allegations appear to be a violation of the Nelson Mandela Rules (United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners),⁸⁹ which were adopted by the UN general assembly in 2015 with US approval, and the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁹⁰ which was signed by the United States in 1988 and ratified in 1994.⁹¹ In addition, violations of the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment are also violations to article 55 of the UN Charter,⁹² article 5 of the Universal Declaration of

⁸⁷ U.S. Const. amend. V. <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-5/>

⁸⁸ U.S. Const. amend. XIV. sec. 1. <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-14/>

⁸⁹ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." UNODC.org. Accessed November 12, 2025. https://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/Nelson_Mandela_Rules-E-book.pdf.

⁹⁰ General Assembly. "Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment." United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, December 10, 1984. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-against-torture-and-other-cruel-inhuman-or-degrading>.

⁹¹ "Chapter IV. Sec. 9. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment." United Nations Treaty Collection, November 11, 2025. https://treaties.un.org/pages/viewdetails.aspx?src=ind&mtdsg_no=iv-9&chapter=4&clang=en.

⁹² Chapter IX, article 55, sec. c. "International Economic and Social Cooperation." United Nations. Accessed November 12, 2025. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-9>.

Human Rights,⁹³ and article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁹⁴ signed by the United States in 1977 and ratified in 1992.⁹⁵



Image 6. Nelson Mandela, Deputy President of the African National Congress of South Africa, addresses the Special Committee Against Apartheid in the General Assembly Hall. 22 June 1990. (UN Photo/P. Sudhakaran)

With regard to the Nelson Mandela Rules, the following rules appear to be violated:

Rule 1: All prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings. No prisoner shall be subjected to, and

⁹³ "Universal Declaration of Human Rights." United Nations. Accessed November 12, 2025. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>.

⁹⁴ General Assembly. "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights." United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, December 16, 1966. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-political-rights>.

⁹⁵ "Chapter IV. Sec 4. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights." United Nations Treaty Collection, November 12, 2025. https://treaties.un.org/pages/viewdetails.aspx?chapter=4&clang=en&mtdsg_no=iv-4&src=ind.

*all prisoners shall be protected from, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, for which no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked as a justification. The safety and security of prisoners, staff, service providers and visitors shall be ensured at all times.*⁹⁶

*Rule 3: Imprisonment and other measures that result in cutting off persons from the outside world are afflictive by the very fact of taking from these persons the right of self-determination by depriving them of their liberty. Therefore the prison system shall not, except as incidental to justifiable separation or the maintenance of discipline, aggravate the suffering inherent in such a situation.*⁹⁷

Rule 58: 1. Prisoners shall be allowed, under necessary supervision, to communicate with their family and friends at regular intervals:
(a) By corresponding in writing and using, where available, telecommunication, electronic, digital and other means; and
*(b) By receiving visits.*⁹⁸

*Rule 59: Prisoners shall be allocated, to the extent possible, to prisons close to their homes or their places of social rehabilitation.*⁹⁹

Rule 61: 1. Prisoners shall be provided with adequate opportunity, time and facilities to be visited by and to communicate and consult with a legal adviser of their own choice or a legal aid provider, without delay, interception or censorship and in full confidentiality, on any legal matter, in

⁹⁶ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 1, pg. 2.

⁹⁷ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 3, pg. 3.

⁹⁸ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 58, pg. 18, sec. 1, subsections a-b.

⁹⁹ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 59, pg. 18.

conformity with applicable domestic law. Consultations may be within sight, but not within hearing, of prison staff.

3. Prisoners should have access to effective legal aid.¹⁰⁰

Rule 68: Every prisoner shall have the right, and shall be given the ability and means, to inform immediately his or her family, or any other person designated as a contact person, about his or her imprisonment, about his or her transfer to another institution and about any serious illness or injury. The sharing of prisoners' personal information shall be subject to domestic legislation.¹⁰¹

With regard to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Article 1 defines torture as, "... any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in, or incidental to lawful sanctions."¹⁰²

¹⁰⁰ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 61, pg. 19, secs. 1&3.

¹⁰¹ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 68, pgs. 20-21.

¹⁰² General Assembly. "Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment."



Image 7. OSCE Ministerial Council 2020, 3-4 December 2020, online/Tirana, Albania. Credit: OSCE/Albanian MFA.

According to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the act of an enforced disappearance matches this definition of torture.¹⁰³ In December 2020, the OSCE Ministerial Council's decision 7/20 condemned torture, and included enforced disappearance in its statement.¹⁰⁴ The United States was actively involved in this decision-making process and, in fact, made its own statement in an addendum, which included, "Torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment are an affront to human dignity and our values."¹⁰⁵

¹⁰³ Ministerial Council. "DECISION No. 7/20 PREVENTION AND ERADICATION OF TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT." OSCE.org, December 4, 2020. <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/8/2/479762.pdf>.

¹⁰⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁰⁵ Delegation of the United States of America. "INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE." OSCE.org, pg.7, December 7, 2020. <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/3/d/473199.pdf>.

Conditions



Image 8. South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas. Source: <https://www.ice.gov/factsheets/south-texas-family-residential-center>

The conditions at several ICE facilities appear to violate not only international law but also domestic regulations related to prisoner detention. Immigrants detained under ICE's care are held in facilities that violate multiple Federal Performance-Based Detention Standards, as written by the US Department of Justice,¹⁰⁶ and the 2025 National Detention Standards.¹⁰⁷ Lawsuits against ICE and its private contractors routinely cite the National Detention Standards, such as the cases of

¹⁰⁶ "Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12." U.S. Marshals Service, April 18, 2025. <https://www.usmarshals.gov/resources/guideline/federal-performance-based-detention-standards-version-12>.

¹⁰⁷ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." ice.gov, June 18, 2025. <https://www.ice.gov/doelib/detention-standards/2025/nds2025.pdf>.

Maryland v. Noem,¹⁰⁸ Barrientos v. CoreCivic Inc.,¹⁰⁹ and Owino v. CoreCivic Inc.¹¹⁰ Neither of the detention standards are legally enforceable and thus may be presented alongside enforceable laws such as the Administrative Procedures Act,¹¹¹ the National Environmental Policy Act,¹¹² the Trafficking Victims Protection Act,¹¹³ and the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act.¹¹⁴

Food and Water

Detainees at the ICE South Texas Family Residential Center, also known as the Dilley Immigration Processing Center (DIPC), allegedly lack access to quality food and water. Detainees were presented with “worms and mold in the food that result in children becoming ill. Children are weak, faint, pale and often crying because they are so hungry,” according to Leecia Welch, deputy litigation director at Children’s Rights.¹¹⁵ Tap water is reported to be cloudy and sour-tasting.¹¹⁶ According to detainee N.T.G., “Water from the tap isn’t good. Sometimes I drink the water from the sink but it makes my throat hurt and it makes me cough a

¹⁰⁸ *State of Maryland v. Noem*, No. 1:26-cv-00733 (D. Md. 2026). oag.maryland.gov. March 13, 2026.

[https://oag.maryland.gov/News/Documents/pdfs/Maryland%20v.%20Noem,%20Case%20number%2026-733%20\(District%20of%20Maryland\).pdf](https://oag.maryland.gov/News/Documents/pdfs/Maryland%20v.%20Noem,%20Case%20number%2026-733%20(District%20of%20Maryland).pdf).

¹⁰⁹ *Barrientos v. CoreCivic Inc.*, No. 18-15081 (11th Cir. 2020). cases.justia.com. March 13, 2026.

<https://cases.justia.com/federal/appellate-courts/ca11/18-15081/18-15081-2020-02-28.pdf?ts=1582914728>.

¹¹⁰ *Owino v. CoreCivic Inc.*, No. 21-55221 (9th Cir. 2022). cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov. March 13, 2026.

<https://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/opinions/2022/06/03/21-55221.pdf>.

¹¹¹ Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 551-559 (1946).

<https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/jmd/legacy/2014/05/01/act-pl79-404.pdf>.

¹¹² National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. § 4321-4347 (1970).

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-10352/pdf/COMPS-10352.pdf>.

¹¹³ Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2017, Pub. L. No. 115-393.

<https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ393/PLAW-115publ393.pdf>.

¹¹⁴ Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-386.

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-106publ386/pdf/PLAW-106publ386.pdf>.

¹¹⁵ Alvarez, Priscilla, and Michael Williams. “Exclusive: Migrant Families Paint Grim Picture of Life in Texas Ice Detention Facility, New Court Documents Show | CNN Politics.” CNN, December 11, 2025.

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/12/09/politics/migrant-families-ice-detention-facility-texas>.

¹¹⁶ *ibid*.

lot.”¹¹⁷ “You can’t drink the water here. The smell is bad, and it hurts our stomachs a lot,” said detainee J.F.R.¹¹⁸ Instead, detainees are forced to buy water for \$1.21 per bottle from the commissary.¹¹⁹ There are reports of children having to fight adults for water, due to them not having access to funds to purchase it.¹²⁰ In response to allegations, ICE has reportedly installed Brita filters at the facility.¹²¹

Crude Accountability reached out to the operators of the DIPC, CoreCivic, a private corporation working in partnership with DHS, as well as ICE and DHS for comment on these alleged conditions at the facility.¹²² According to CoreCivic, “Any claim of water quality issues at DIPC is patently false. DIPC gets the same clean drinking water the local utility supplies to the surrounding community. Staff at our facility drink the same water as those in our care.”¹²³ Further, CoreCivic stated, “It is important to know that all of our facilities, including DIPC, are subject to multiple layers of oversight and are monitored very closely by our government partners to ensure full compliance with policies and procedures, including any applicable detention standards.”¹²⁴ CoreCivic provided Crude Accountability with a fact sheet

¹¹⁷ *ibid.*

¹¹⁸ *ibid.*

¹¹⁹ The Associated Press. “Bottled Water Sold for \$1.21, Dismissed Medical Pleas and Faith Tested at Family Detention Facility.” NBCNews.com, September 17, 2025. <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/families-held-texas-immigration-facility-said-lacked-clean-water-timel-rcna231846>.

See also

Moreno, Erica. “Support for Norma in ICE Detention.” *gofundme.com*, July 24, 2025.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-norma-in-ice-detention>.

¹²⁰ Gonzalez, Valerie. “Texas Family Detention Center Witnesses Describe Adults Fighting Kids for Clean Water.” *Los Angeles Times*, June 21, 2025. <https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2025-06-21/new-insight-into-texas-family-detention-reveals-adults-fighting-kids-for-clean-water>.

¹²¹ Alvarez, Priscilla, and Michael Williams.

¹²² Allegations on food quality were not included in this line of questioning as testimony on poor food quality at the DIPC facility was not known to Crude Accountability at the time a request was sent to CoreCivic, ICE, and DHS.

¹²³ Email reply from CoreCivic to Crude Accountability’s request for comment. Jan 8, 2026.

¹²⁴ *ibid.*

of their audit from 2024 as well as statistics on staff training and administered medical care.¹²⁵ CoreCivic also provided a copy of their Human Rights Policy.¹²⁶



Image 9. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem visits the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Processing Center at 26 Federal Plaza in New York City, New York, July 10, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

Since 2020, CoreCivic has faced roughly 700 legal complaints and lawsuits, with roughly 100 additional cases between January-August 2025.¹²⁷ Several cases filed against the company include claims of wrongful death,¹²⁸ mismanagement, forced labor, inhumane living conditions, excessive use of force, prolonged use of solitary confinement, medical negligence, physical and sexual abuse, spying and

¹²⁵ *ibid.*

¹²⁶ Board of Directors. "CoreCivic Human Rights Policy." CoreCivic.com, December 15, 2021. [https://www.corecivic.com/hubfs/_files/CoreCivic Human Rights policy statement.pdf](https://www.corecivic.com/hubfs/_files/CoreCivic%20Human%20Rights%20policy%20statement.pdf).

¹²⁷ Akers, Julianne. "CoreCivic Is Facing Hundreds of Lawsuits." Nashville Scene, August 12, 2025. https://www.nashvillescene.com/news/citylimits/corecivic-lawsuits/article_08cf173b-b843-4bfd-99f4-08d14dfff33c.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com.

¹²⁸ Akers, Julianne.

voyeurism, overcrowding, understaffing, and other civil rights violations.¹²⁹ Both a demand letter and a lawsuit against ICE at a CoreCivic facility include access to water and water quality allegations. In October 2024, the ACLU of Hawai'i issued a demand letter to CoreCivic and the Hawai'i Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation regarding water contamination allegations at the Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy, Arizona.¹³⁰ The letter states that detainees at the facility face gastrointestinal issues, among other health concerns, after consuming and/or bathing in water from the facility.¹³¹ The lawsuit, *Gomez Ruiz, et al. v. ICE*,¹³² alleges several violations, including lack of adequate potable water access at the California City Detention Facility in California City, California. Water at the facility is described as having a foul smell and being discolored.¹³³ The lawsuit alleges that agents at the facility "distributed sealed plastic water bottles and told people not to drink the tap water," but later provided tap water to detainees in Igloo coolers without explanation regarding safety of the water.¹³⁴ The letter from the ACLU of Hawai'i, based on Crude Accountability's research, has been unanswered and *Gomez Ruiz, et al. v. ICE* is ongoing¹³⁵ as of March 4, 2026.¹³⁶

¹²⁹ T, Esmie. "We Cannot Trust CoreCivic to Keep Anyone Safe - in Leavenworth or Anywhere Else." ACLU of Kansas, November 12, 2025. <https://www.aclukansas.org/publications/we-cannot-trust-corecivic-keep-anyone-safe-leavenworth-or-anywhere-else/>.

¹³⁰ Kim, Wookie. "ACLU of Hawai'i Issues Demand Letter Regarding Contaminated Water Problem at Saguaro Correctional Center." ACLU of Hawaii, October 28, 2024. https://www.acluhi.org/press-releases/SaguaroDemandLetter/?utm_source=chatgpt.com.

¹³¹ *ibid.*

¹³² *FERNANDO GOMEZ RUIZ; FERNANDO VIERA REYES; JOSE RUIZ CANIZALES; YURI ALEXANDER ROQUE CAMPOS; SOKHEAN KEO; GUSTAVO GUEVARA ALARCON; and ALEJANDRO MENDIOLA ESCUTIA, on Behalf of Themselves and All Others Similarly Situated, v. U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT; TODD M. LYONS, Acting Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; SERGIO ALBARRAN, Acting Director of San Francisco Field Office, Enforcement and Removal Operations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; KRISTI NOEM, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, No. 1:25-Cv-10189 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 9, 2025). ACLU.org, November 12, 2025. <https://assets.aclu.org/live/uploads/2025/12/1.-Complaint.pdf>.

¹³³ *ibid.*

¹³⁴ *ibid.*

¹³⁵ *Gomez Ruiz, et al. v. ICE*, No. 3:25-cv-09757-MMC (N.D. Cal. Feb. 10, 2026). [ACLU.org](https://www.aclu.org/cases/gomez-ruiz-et-al-v-ice?document=PI-Order), March 13, 2026. <https://www.aclu.org/cases/gomez-ruiz-et-al-v-ice?document=PI-Order>.

¹³⁶ *Ruiz v. U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement*, No. 3:25-Cv-09757 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 12, 2025). Courtlistener.com, March 4, 2026. <https://www.courtlistener.com/docket/71906132/ruiz-v-us-immigration-customs-enforcement/>.

Crude Accountability reached out to CoreCivic for further comment on the above information and received no response. Crude Accountability wrote to both ICE and DHS for comment regarding water quality and access at DIPC. ICE redirected Crude to DHS; DHS did not respond to our request for comment.



Image 10. Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy, Arizona. Source: <https://moss.com/projects/saguaro-correctional-center/>

The Federal Performance Based Detention Standards do not explicitly mandate potable water but F.2.7 states, “The facility’s potable water source and supply, whether owned and operated by the public water department or the facility, is certified at least annually by an independent, outside source to be in compliance with jurisdictional laws and regulations.”¹³⁷

¹³⁷ “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. F, sec. 2, subsection 7, pg. 58.

These allegations, if true, would be in violation of the following National Detention Standards:

*STANDARD 2.5 D.3: Officers shall provide a meal to any adult in the hold room for more than six hours. Juveniles will receive meal service regardless of time in custody. Juveniles, babies, pregnant women, and others for whom it is medically necessary shall have regular access to snacks, milk, juice, etc. Staff shall ensure that sanitation and temperatures in hold rooms are maintained at acceptable levels. Juveniles, pregnant women, and others with evident medical needs shall have access to temperature-appropriate clothing and blankets. The facility will record when food is provided.*¹³⁸

*STANDARD 3.1 A.3: Staff may not impose or allow imposition of the following sanctions: corporal punishment; deviations from food services or availability of water; deprivation of clothing, bedding, or items of personal hygiene; deprivation of correspondence privileges; deprivation of legal visitation, legal mail, access to the law library, and the removal of legal papers; or deprivation of physical exercise unless such activity creates an unsafe condition.*¹³⁹

*STANDARD 4.1: The facility shall provide detainees with nutritious, attractively presented meals, prepared and served in a sanitary and hygienic food service operation.*¹⁴⁰

C.1: Ordinarily detainees shall be served three meals every day, at least two of which shall be hot meals; however, the facility administrator may approve

¹³⁸ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 2.5, sec. D, subsec. 3, pg. 33.

¹³⁹ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 3.1, sec. A, subsec. 3, pg. 91.

¹⁴⁰ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.1, pg. 97.

variations in the food service schedule during religious and civic holidays, provided that basic nutritional goals are met. The dining room schedule must allow no more than 14 hours between the evening meal and breakfast. Clean, potable drinking water must be available.¹⁴¹

C.2a: Food is fit for consumption and appropriately presented.¹⁴²

E.2: Food shall be prepared and served in compliance with the most recent version of the FDA food code and/or applicable local standards. Food shall be prepared with minimal manual contact. Food service workers shall thoroughly wash fruits and vegetables with fresh water before cooking or serving raw.¹⁴³

E.3: Food and ice will be protected from dust, insects and rodents, unclean utensils and work surfaces, unnecessary handling, coughs and sneezes, flooding, drainage, overhead leakage, and other sources of contamination. Protection will be continuous, whether the food is in storage, in preparation/on display, or in transit.¹⁴⁴

These allegations, if true, would be in violation of the following Nelson Mandela Rules:

Rule 22: 1. Every prisoner shall be provided by the prison administration at the usual hours with food of nutritional value adequate for health and strength, of wholesome quality and well prepared and served.

¹⁴¹ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.1, sec. C, subsec. 1, pg. 98.

¹⁴² "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.1, sec. C, subsec. 2a, pg. 98.

¹⁴³ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.1, sec. E, subsec. 2, pg. 100.

¹⁴⁴ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.1, sec. E, subsec. 3, pg. 100.

2. Drinking water shall be available to every prisoner whenever he or she needs it.¹⁴⁵

*Rule 42: General living conditions addressed in these rules, including those related to light, ventilation, temperature, sanitation, nutrition, drinking water, access to open air and physical exercise, personal hygiene, health care and adequate personal space, shall apply to all prisoners without exception.*¹⁴⁶

*Rule 43: 1. In no circumstances may restrictions or disciplinary sanctions amount to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The following practices, in particular, shall be prohibited: [d] corporal punishment or the reduction of a prisoner's diet or drinking water.*¹⁴⁷

Healthcare/Medication Access

There have also been reports of detainees not being provided access to medical care and medication. One detainee reported that he was denied his leukemia medication for 22 days.¹⁴⁸ He was also not allowed out on bond, and has therefore not received treatment by a specialist team.¹⁴⁹ There have also been reports of detainees being stripped of their insulin and HIV medications, leading to

¹⁴⁵ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 22, sec. 1-2, pg. 7.

¹⁴⁶ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 42, pg. 13.

¹⁴⁷ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 43, sec. 1, subsection d, pg. 13.

¹⁴⁸ Brown, Ely. "Father Battling Leukemia Detained by ICE, Can't Get Correct Medication: ACLU." ABC News, October 2, 2025. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/father-battling-leukemia-detained-ice-correct-medication-aclu/story?id=126157306>.

¹⁴⁹ *ibid.*

hospitalizations.¹⁵⁰ According to CNN, allegations against the DIPC also suggest medical neglect.¹⁵¹

These cases appear to be a violation of B.5.2 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook, which states, “Patients with chronic diseases are identified and enrolled in a chronic disease program to decrease the frequency and severity of symptoms, prevent disease progression and complications, and foster improved function. Chronic diseases include, but are not limited to, asthma, diabetes, high blood cholesterol, HIV, hypertension, seizure disorder, tuberculosis (TB), and serious mental illnesses (SMI).”¹⁵² These cases also appear to show violations of B.5.18 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook, which states, “Detainees entering the facility on prescription medications continue to receive the medication in a timely fashion as prescribed, or acceptable alternate medications are provided as clinically indicated.”¹⁵³

These allegations, if true, would be in violation of the following National Detention Standards:

*STANDARD 4.3: All detainees shall have access to appropriate medical, dental, and mental health care, including emergency services. Each medical facility will strive for accreditation with National Commission on Correctional Health Care.*¹⁵⁴

¹⁵⁰ Goodyear, Sheena. “Shackled, Abused and Humiliated: Report Paints Grim Picture of Life in Ice Detention | CBC Radio.” CBCnews, July 22, 2025. <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/ice-detention-centres-report-1.7591429>.

¹⁵¹ Alvarez, Priscilla, and Michael Williams.

¹⁵² “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. B, sec. 5, subsection 2, pg. 22.

¹⁵³ “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. B, sec. 5, subsection 18, pg. 25.

¹⁵⁴ “National Detention Standards Revised 2025.” STANDARD 4.3, pg. 112.

A2: Medically necessary and appropriate medical, dental and mental health care and pharmaceutical services at no cost to the detainee;¹⁵⁵

A3: Comprehensive, routine and preventive health care, as medically indicated;¹⁵⁶

A5: Specialty health care;¹⁵⁷

A6: Timely responses to medical complaints;¹⁵⁸

L: Medication will be distributed according to the specific instructions and procedures established by the health care provider. Health care providers and officers shall keep written records of all medication given to (or refused by) detainees.¹⁵⁹

M: The facility will notify ICE/ERO of any detainee who requires close medical supervision, including chronic and convalescent care. The facility shall develop a written treatment plan, including access to health care and other treatment, and coordination with nonmedical personnel as necessary.¹⁶⁰

N3: Medical personnel shall provide all detainees diagnosed with HIV or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) appropriate medical care consistent with national recommendations and guidelines disseminated

¹⁵⁵ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. A, subsec. 2, pg. 112.

¹⁵⁶ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. A, subsec. 3, pg. 112.

¹⁵⁷ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. A, subsec. 5, pg. 112.

¹⁵⁸ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. A, subsec. 6, pg. 112.

¹⁵⁹ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. L, pg. 117.

¹⁶⁰ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. M, pg. 117.

through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services agencies, including the CDC, and the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Medical and pharmacy personnel shall ensure that all Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved medications currently approved for the treatment of HIV/AIDS are accessible. Medical and pharmacy personnel shall develop and implement distribution procedures to ensure timely and confidential access to Medications... Medical and pharmacy personnel shall ensure the facility maintains access to adequate supplies of FDA-approved medications for the treatment of HIV/AIDS to ensure that newly admitted detainees are able to continue with their treatment without interruption. Upon release, detainees currently receiving anti-HIV therapy and other drugs shall receive up to a 30-day supply of their medications as medically appropriate.¹⁶¹

These allegations appear to be in violation of the following Nelson Mandela Rules:

Rule 24: 1. The provision of health care for prisoners is a State responsibility. Prisoners should enjoy the same standards of health care that are available in the community, and should have access to necessary health-care services free of charge without discrimination on the grounds of their legal status.

2. Health-care services should be organized in close relationship to the general public health administration and in a way that ensures continuity of treatment and care, including for HIV, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, as well as for drug dependence.¹⁶²

Rule 25: 1. Every prison shall have in place a health-care service tasked with evaluating, promoting, protecting and improving the physical and mental

¹⁶¹ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.3, sec. N, subsec. 3, pg. 118.

¹⁶² "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 24, sec. 1-2, pg. 8.

health of prisoners, paying particular attention to prisoners with special health-care needs or with health issues that hamper their rehabilitation.

2. The health-care service shall consist of an interdisciplinary team with sufficient qualified personnel acting in full clinical independence and shall encompass sufficient expertise in psychology and psychiatry. The services of a qualified dentist shall be available to every prisoner.¹⁶³

Hygiene

Rule E.4.26 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook states, “Detainees in restrictive housing units have the opportunity to shave and shower at least three times per week. Detainees in RHUs receive laundry, hair care services, and are issued, exchange clothing, bedding, and linen on the same basis as detainees in the general population.”¹⁶⁴ According to Rule F.3.2 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook, “Detainees are issued clean, well-maintained clothing items in a sufficient quantity of each item, or provided an opportunity to exchange or have laundered, each item on a weekly equivalent basis:

F.3.2.a Two outer garments (two shirts & pants, or two jumpsuits);

F.3.2.b Seven pairs of underwear (seven undershirts, seven drawers in accordance with male or female needs) and;

F.3.2.c Seven pairs of socks.”¹⁶⁵

¹⁶³ “The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.” Rule 25, sec. 1-2, pg. 8.

¹⁶⁴ “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. E, sec. 4, subsection 26, pg. 54.

¹⁶⁵ “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. F, sec. 3, subsection 2, a-c, pg. 59.

F.4.1 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook states, “Detainees have access to toilets and washbasins with temperature-controlled hot and cold running water 24 hours per day and are able to use toilet facilities without staff assistance when they are confined in their cells/sleeping areas.”¹⁶⁶ F.4.2 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook states, “Detainees have access to operable showers with temperature-controlled hot and cold running water.”¹⁶⁷



Image 11. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem visits the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Processing Center at 26 Federal Plaza in New York City, New York, July 10, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

As alleged by detainees in *Mercado v. Noem et al.*,¹⁶⁸ detainees were not allowed access to showers for up to two weeks while held in the facility at Fed 26. They

¹⁶⁶ “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. F, sec. 4, subsection 1, pg. 60.

¹⁶⁷ “Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12.” Ch. F, sec. 4, subsection 2, pg. 60.

¹⁶⁸ *Sergio Alberto Barco Mercado v. Kristi Noem et al*, No. 1:2025cv06568 (S.D.N.Y. 2025). [courtlistener.com](https://www.courtlistener.com). March 13, 2026.

https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.nysd.647291/gov.uscourts.nysd.647291.1.0_1.pdf.

were also not provided feminine hygiene products, soap, or toilet paper. No sheets were provided to them, as there are no beds to sleep on. There are no showers, as the detainees remain in detention cells. They were forced to wear the clothes that they came in with, for up to weeks at a time. There are reports of similar conditions for detainees in Baltimore MD,¹⁶⁹ Massachusetts,¹⁷⁰ and Michigan.¹⁷¹ Toilets at Fed 26 are also effectively not accessible, given that up to 90 people are forced to share one toilet.¹⁷² Reports from Alligator Alcatraz describe similar conditions, with detainees reportedly not being allowed to shower for up to four days at a time.¹⁷³ According to CNN, conditions at the DIPC also indicate a lack of access to feminine hygiene products and soap.¹⁷⁴

These allegations, if true, would be in violation of the following National Detention Standards:

*STANDARD 1.1 I: Environmental health conditions will be maintained at a level that meets recognized standards... The facility, in consultation with the HSA and the Environmental Health and Safety officer or equivalent, shall establish a housekeeping plan to ensure a high level of environmental Sanitation.*¹⁷⁵

¹⁶⁹ Misra, Tanvi. "Essentially Cages': Ice Is Using Courthouse Cells for Lengthy Detentions." *The Nation*, March 17, 2025. <https://www.thenation.com/article/society/ice-detention-courthouse-holding-room/>.

¹⁷⁰ Adler, Ben. "'Atrocious': Lawyers, Family and Friends of Detainees Describe Ice Detention." *USA Today*, June 16, 2025. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2025/06/13/ice-detention-describe-horrible-conditions/84173121007/>.

¹⁷¹ Warikoo, Niraj. "Trans Immigrant Woman in Michigan Detained by Border Patrol and Ice Alleges Abuse." *Detroit Free Press*, August 19, 2025. <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2025/08/19/trans-immigrant-detained-border-patrol-ice-alleges-abuse/85502173007/>.

¹⁷² *ibid.*

¹⁷³ Vela, Hatzel. "Exclusive: Former 'alligator Alcatraz' Worker Describes 'Inhumane' Conditions Inside." *NBC 6 South Florida*, August 5, 2025. <https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/former-alligator-alcatraz-worker-describes-inhumane-conditions-inside/3673307/>.

¹⁷⁴ Alvarez, Priscilla, and Michael Williams.

¹⁷⁵ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 1.1, sec. I, pg. 6.

*I2: General: Facility cleanliness and sanitation shall be maintained. All surfaces, fixtures, and equipment shall be kept clean and in good repair.*¹⁷⁶

*STANDARD 2.1 B: During intake, detainees shall be given the opportunity to shower, where possible, and be issued clean institutional clothing, bedding, towels, and personal hygiene items.*¹⁷⁷

*D: Facility staff shall issue detainees clothing and bedding in quantities, sizes, and weights appropriate for the facility environment and local weather conditions.*¹⁷⁸

*E: Staff shall provide detainees with articles necessary for maintaining proper hygiene. The facility will replenish all hygiene supplies as needed at no cost to the detainee.*¹⁷⁹

*STANDARD 2.5 B.7: Detainees shall be provided with basic personal hygiene items, e.g., potable water, disposable cups, soap, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items, diapers, and sanitary wipes.*¹⁸⁰

*STANDARD 4.4: Good hygiene is essential to the well-being of detainees in the custody of ICE/ERO. ICE/ERO requires that all facilities provide detainees with regular exchanges of suitable and clean clothing, linens, blankets, and towels for as long as they remain in detention.*¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁶ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 1.1, sec. I, subsec. 2, pg. 7.

¹⁷⁷ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 2.1, sec. B, pg. 18-19.

¹⁷⁸ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 2.1, sec. D, pg. 19.

¹⁷⁹ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 2.1, sec. E, pg. 19.

¹⁸⁰ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 2.5, sec. B, subsec. 7, pg. 32.

¹⁸¹ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, pg. 127.

A: The facility shall have a policy and procedure for the regular issuance and exchange of clothing, bedding, linens, and towels. The facility shall keep a supply of these items that exceeds the minimum amount required for the number of detainees to prevent delay in replacing the items.¹⁸²

B: At no cost to the detainee, all new detainees shall be issued clean, indoor/outdoor, temperature-appropriate, presentable clothing during in-processing. Damaged or unusable shoes or clothing shall be replaced at no cost to the detainee. The standard issue of clothing for detainees should be consistent with facility policy but should include not less than one uniform shirt and one pair of uniform pants or one jumpsuit; one pair of socks; one pair of underwear; two brassieres, as appropriate; and one pair of footwear. Additional clothing shall be issued as necessary for changing weather conditions or as seasonally appropriate.¹⁸³

C: All new detainees shall be issued clean bedding, linens, and a towel(s). Detainees shall be held accountable for these items.¹⁸⁴

E: Detainees shall be provided with clean clothing, linens, and towels on a regular basis to ensure proper hygiene. Socks and undergarments will be exchanged daily, outer garments at least twice weekly and sheets, towels, and pillowcases at least weekly. More frequent exchanges of outer garments may be appropriate, especially in hot and humid climates. Individual facilities may institute their own clothing, linen, and towel exchange policy and procedures, provided the standards in this policy are met.¹⁸⁵

¹⁸² "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, sec. A, pg. 127.

¹⁸³ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, sec. B, pg. 127.

¹⁸⁴ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, sec. C, pg. 127.

¹⁸⁵ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, sec. E, pg. 128.

F: Female detainees shall be issued and may retain sufficient feminine hygiene items, including sanitary pads or tampons, for use during the menstrual cycle, and may be permitted brushes to replace combs. The facility shall replenish personal hygiene items at no cost to the detainee on an as-needed basis, in accordance with written facility procedures.¹⁸⁶

G: Detainees shall be provided with a reasonably private bathing and toileting environment in accordance with safety and security needs. Detainees shall be able to shower, perform bodily functions, and change clothing without being viewed by staff of the opposite sex, except in exigent circumstances or when such viewing is incidental to routine cell checks or is otherwise appropriate in connection with a medical examination or monitored bowel movement.¹⁸⁷

These alleged conditions appear to be in violation of the following Nelson Mandela Rules:

Rule 15: The sanitary installations shall be adequate to enable every prisoner to comply with the needs of nature when necessary and in a clean and decent manner.¹⁸⁸

Rule 16: Adequate bathing and shower installations shall be provided so that every prisoner can, and may be required to, have a bath or shower, at a temperature suitable to the climate, as frequently as necessary for general

¹⁸⁶ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, sec. F, pg. 128.

¹⁸⁷ "National Detention Standards Revised 2025." STANDARD 4.4, sec. G, pg. 128.

¹⁸⁸ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 15, pg. 6.

*hygiene according to season and geographical region, but at least once a week in a temperate climate.*¹⁸⁹

*Rule 18: 1. Prisoners shall be required to keep their persons clean, and to this end they shall be provided with water and with such toilet articles as are necessary for health and cleanliness.*¹⁹⁰

*Rule 19: 2. All clothing shall be clean and kept in proper condition. Underclothing shall be changed and washed as often as necessary for the maintenance of hygiene.*¹⁹¹

*Rule 20: If prisoners are allowed to wear their own clothing, arrangements shall be made on their admission to the prison to ensure that it shall be clean and fit for use.*¹⁹²

*Rule 42: general living conditions addressed in these rules, including those related to light, ventilation, temperature, sanitation, nutrition, drinking water, access to open air and physical exercise, personal hygiene, health care and adequate personal space, shall apply to all prisoners without exception.*¹⁹³

¹⁸⁹ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 16, pg. 6.

¹⁹⁰ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 18, sec. 1, pg. 6.

¹⁹¹ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 12, sec. 2, pg. 7.

¹⁹² "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 20, pg. 7.

¹⁹³ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 42, pg. 13.

Capacity

An alarming number of ICE facilities are over capacity, with reports from TRAC,¹⁹⁴ which used ICE data on the number of detainees held and the facility data on bed capacities, showing that of the 181 facilities utilized by ICE in April 2025, 45 were over the rated bed capacity. Alarming, almost all of these facilities are either county jails/detention centers or private facilities.¹⁹⁵ Of the 45 facilities that exceeded their rated bed capacity, 8 of them exceeded the capacity by 100 individuals or more.¹⁹⁶



Image 12. Clay County Jail in Brazil, Indiana. Source: <https://www.elevatus.com/portfolio/clay-county-jail/>

¹⁹⁴ "ICE Contractual Capacity and Number Detained: Overcapacity vs. Overcrowding." Tracreports.org, July 8, 2025. <https://tracreports.org/reports/762/>.

¹⁹⁵ *ibid.*

¹⁹⁶ *ibid.*

By the end of September 2025, 82 facilities, for which TRAC was able to obtain data, exceeded bed capacity for at least one day.¹⁹⁷ Krome North Service Processing Center, for example, has a maximum capacity of 611.¹⁹⁸ Yet, this facility has detained as many as 1,806 people at one time, which is 1,195 people over capacity.¹⁹⁹ While Krome has built a new tent facility that reportedly can hold an additional 100 people,²⁰⁰ as of June 2025, this did not come close to addressing the crisis.

Twenty-five ICE facilities' average detainee counts for the 2025 fiscal year were over their contractual capacity.²⁰¹ The Clay County Justice Center in Indiana is contracted to hold 100 detainees, with its average for the 2025 fiscal year being 242.²⁰² There are also allegations from detainees who were held at 26 Fed in New York that up to 90 people at a time were detained in a single holding cell of 20 square meters, as per *Mercado v. Noem et al.*²⁰³

These instances appear to be in violation of F.2.10 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook, which states, "The number of detainees does not exceed the facility's rated bed capacity."²⁰⁴ These aforementioned cases also appear to be in violation of F.3.6 of the DOJ Detention Standards Handbook: "Detainees are issued clean bedding and linen, including two sheets, a pillow, a pillowcase, and one mattress, not to exclude a mattress with integrated pillow, with cushion thickness of four inches."²⁰⁵ Not all detainees are given beds, with many being forced to lie on concrete floors, with only a single blanket. In some instances,

¹⁹⁷ *ibid.*

¹⁹⁸ *ibid.*

¹⁹⁹ *ibid.*

²⁰⁰ *ibid.*

²⁰¹ *ibid.*

²⁰² *ibid.*

²⁰³ *Sergio Alberto Barco Mercado v. Kristi Noem.*

²⁰⁴ "Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12." Ch. F, sec. 2, subsection 10, pg. 59.

²⁰⁵ "Federal Performance Based Detention Standards - Version 12." Ch. F, sec. 3, subsection 6, pg. 60.

detainees cannot lie down, with cells being so overcrowded that they must sit or stand at all times.

These allegations, if true, would be in violation of the following Nelson Mandela Rules:

Rule 12: 1. Where sleeping accommodation is in individual cells or rooms, each prisoner shall occupy by night a cell or room by himself or herself. If for special reasons, such as temporary overcrowding, it becomes necessary for the central prison administration to make an exception to this rule, it is not desirable to have two prisoners in a cell or room.²⁰⁶

Rule 13: All accommodation provided for the use of prisoners and in particular all sleeping accommodation shall meet all requirements of health, due regard being paid to climatic conditions and particularly to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation.²⁰⁷

Rule 21: Every prisoner shall, in accordance with local or national standards, be provided with a separate bed and with separate and sufficient bedding which shall be clean when issued, kept in good order and changed often enough to ensure its cleanliness.²⁰⁸

Crude Accountability reached out to ICE, CBP, DHS, and the DOJ with regard to these allegations and received no response.

²⁰⁶ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 12, sec. 1, pg. 5.

²⁰⁷ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 13, pg. 5.

²⁰⁸ "The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners." Rule 21, pg. 7.

Conclusion

Based on Crude Accountability's initial investigation, the Trump regime, through ICE and CBP, appears to be forcibly disappearing migrants on a scale potentially larger than totalitarian regimes such as Turkmenistan, where enforced disappearance has been used as a tool to intimidate society at large and to torture the disappeared and their families.²⁰⁹ In this context, the Trump regime is seemingly subjecting migrants and their families to a form of torture and creating an environment of fear throughout American society. In the process of detention and enforced disappearance, the Trump regime is seemingly subjecting migrants to inhumane conditions within ICE detention facilities, denying them access to adequate clean drinking water, adequate food, healthcare, medication, sleeping and living quarters, and basic hygiene. These alleged conditions appear to violate both domestic and international law.

The cases documented in this report demonstrate potential violations of Federal Performance-Based Detention Standards, National Detention Standards, the 5th and 14th Constitutional Amendments, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Article 55 of the UN Charter, Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The Trump regime and ICE may seek to avoid accountability on these allegations by indicating that the detention and subsequent deportation of migrants is not a form of criminal punishment. Undocumented migrants have not necessarily committed a crime;

²⁰⁹ List of the Disappeared in Turkmenistan's Prisons, November 2021, [Microsoft Word - ED Disappeared in Turkmenistans prisons report Prove November 2021 final.docx](#).

overstaying a visa is a civil offense.²¹⁰ However, the cases provided, combined with the rhetoric advanced by the Trump regime (exemplified by the EOs and proclamations cited above, which often label migrants as criminals, invaders, or terrorists), make it appear that the regime's official perspective is that these migrants are criminals.²¹¹

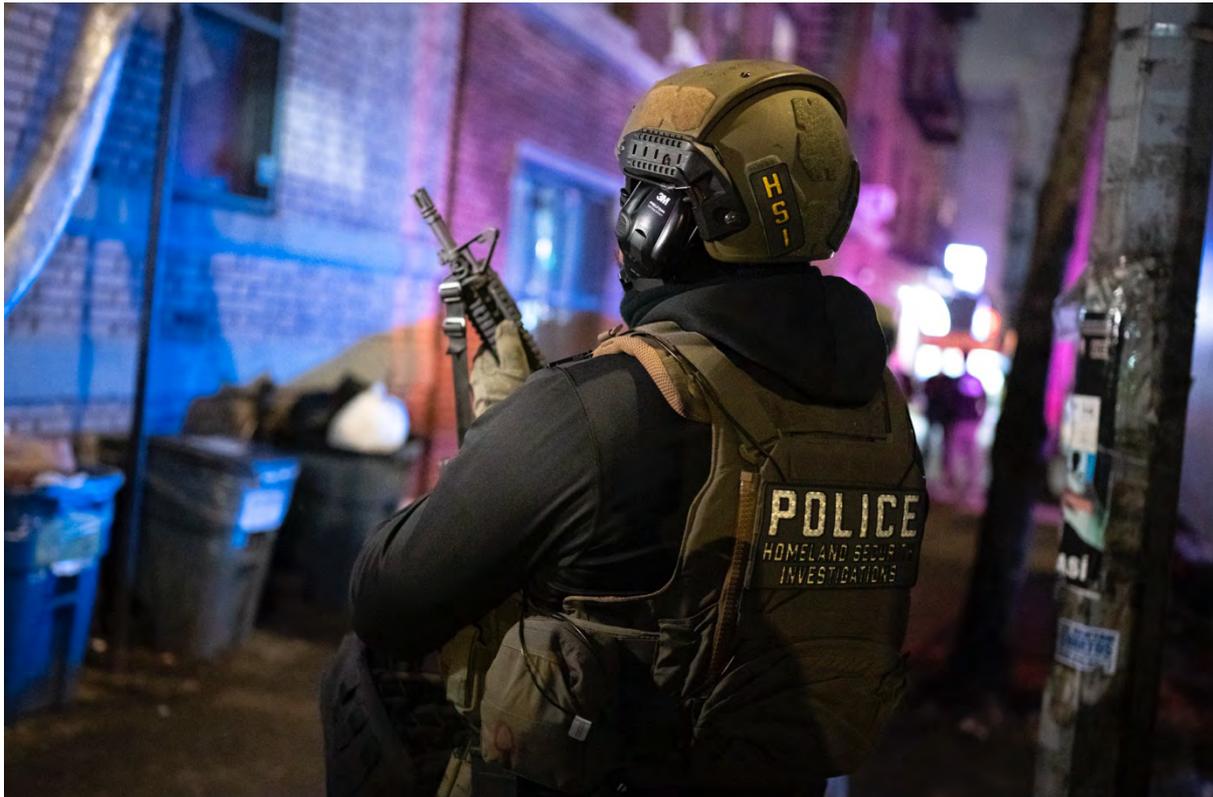


Image 13. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem visits and observes federal law enforcement and their partners assisting with immigration enforcement efforts in New York City, New York, Jan. 28, 2025. (DHS photo by Tia Dufour/Released)

The apparent disregard for international law by the Trump regime is demonstrated further by EO 14199 (Withdrawing The United States From and Ending Funding to Certain United Nations Organizations and Reviewing United

²¹⁰ "ACLU IRP Issue Brief: Criminalizing Undocumented Immigrants." ACLU.org, February 2010. https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/FINAL_criminalizing_undocumented_immigrants_issue_brief_PUBLIC_VERSION.pdf.

²¹¹ Contreras, Russell, and Avery Lotz. "Trump Administration Confirms It Calls All Undocumented Immigrants 'Criminals.'" Axios, January 28, 2025. <https://www.axios.com/2025/01/28/trump-immigrants-criminals-white-house-briefing>.

States Support to All International Organizations), which removes the US from the UN Human Rights Council,²¹² and the US regime's subsequent failure to participate in the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Not only did the US not submit its report in August 2025,²¹³ but it also failed to attend the session reviewing the US' human rights record in November 2025.²¹⁴ The UPR is a mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council, which reviews the human rights record of member nations every four and a half years.²¹⁵ It offers a platform for the nation under review to share its progress, receive recommendations from other member states, and discuss challenges in a non-confrontational format.²¹⁶ It also provides civil society with an opportunity to voice its concerns to an international body. In the history of the UPR, no other member state has refused to participate in the review.²¹⁷ On November 7, 2025, the UN Human Rights Council voted to postpone the review until November 2026 and urged the US permanent mission to the UN to comply with the review.²¹⁸

The US Congress and US Supreme Court do not appear to be checking the power of this regime, allowing it to go forth with its immigration agenda, including arbitrary and incommunicado detention and potential enforced disappearances.

²¹² "Withdrawing The United States From and Ending Funding to Certain United Nations Organizations and Reviewing United States Support to All International Organizations." The White House, February 4, 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/withdrawing-the-united-states-from-and-ending-funding-to-certain-united-nations-organizations-and-reviewing-united-states-support-to-all-international-organizations/>.

²¹³ Marshall, Andrew R.C., and Olivia Le Poidevin. "US Withdraws from Key UN Human Rights Report, Draws Criticism from Rights Advocates | Reuters." Reuters, August 29, 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/us-withdraws-key-un-human-rights-report-draws-criticism-rights-advocates-2025-08-28/>.

²¹⁴ "U.S. Failure to Participate in Scheduled Human Rights Review Betrays Nation's Values," November 7, 2025, [U.S. Failure to Participate in Scheduled Human Rights Review Betrays Nation's Values - The Advocates for Human Rights](https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/newsroom/article.php?id=US-Failure-to-Participate-in-Scheduled-Human-Rights-Review-Betrays-Nation-s-Values).

²¹⁵ "Universal Periodic Review." United Nations Human Rights Council. Accessed December 1, 2025. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-home>.

²¹⁶ *ibid.*

²¹⁷ *ibid.*

²¹⁸ "UN Human Rights Council Reschedules US Human Rights Review; Regrets Non-Cooperation with UPR Process." YouTube, November 7, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsOYx-I-7pM>.

The legislative's and judiciary's actions implicate those branches in the crisis situation in which the country finds itself, particularly with regard to the cruel and inhuman treatment of migrants. Under the norms of international law, all states, including the United States, are obliged to guarantee equal protection of fundamental human rights to all people present on their territory, regardless of citizenship or legal residency status. By providing ICE with funding to inflate its budget to that of Canada's and Türkiye's militaries, issuing letters thanking ICE for its actions, and providing rulings that undermine the fundamental rights of migrants, these two institutions and their members have failed to protect the rights of the most vulnerable and undermined the rights of all people.

Crude Accountability has not documented an exhaustive list of violations or cases, but rather what appears to be the tip of the iceberg of a civil and human rights crisis in the US. As made clear above, there are likely thousands of additional cases that require investigation. Action must be taken now, across governing bodies, among decision-makers, and in communities throughout the country, to halt this crisis. Every day that the Trump regime and ICE are allowed to act without checks on their power increases the threat of potential enforced disappearances and torturous treatment, and untold civil and human rights violations. Those whose rights have been seemingly violated deserve swift and immediate justice, and those whose rights are at potential risk deserve protection to the full extent of the law, both domestically and internationally.

Appendix

Fifth Amendment to the US Constitution

“No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.”

Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution

Section 1

“All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

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