

URGENT ACTION

STOP MILITARIZED IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

Immigration agents have been committing widespread human rights violations with impunity, including extrajudicial executions, mass detentions and deportations against communities in and around Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota and across the USA. On 7 January 2026, immigration agents fatally shot Renee Macklin Good, a community responder in Minneapolis who was observing immigration authorities in her community. On 24 January, Alex Pretti was also fatally shot by immigration agents in Minneapolis while filming them and attempting to help an individual being assaulted by an agent. Demand an end to militarized immigration enforcement now.

TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER

DHS Secretary Kristi Noem
300 7th St, SW, Washington, DC 20024, USA
Email: kristi.noem@hq.dhs.gov

Dear Secretary Noem,

I am writing to express my deep concern and alarm at the violent, militarized immigration enforcement by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Border Patrol and other federal agents in cities and communities across the USA. These operations must cease and all human rights violations must be fully investigated and prosecuted.

I am appalled to learn that, in a single month (January 2026), following the expansion of ICE and Border Patrol operations in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, federal agents have:

- *extrajudicially executed Renee Good, a writer and mother, and Alex Pretti, an ICU nurse, who were actively observing ICE and Border Patrol operations;*
- *threatened a pregnant immigration lawyer in her firm's parking lot;*
- *targeted and detained refugees;*
- *detained numerous U.S. citizens, including one who was dragged out of his house in his underwear and another taken without her family knowing her whereabouts;*
- *smashed in the windows of cars and detained their occupants, including a U.S. citizen who was on her way to a medical appointment at a traumatic brain injury center;*
- *deployed crowd-control grenades and a tear gas container next to a car that contained six children, including a 6-month-old;*
- *subjected entire communities to racial profiling; and*
- *detained a 5-year-old and used him as "bait" to detain additional family members.*

As you must be aware, these widespread enforcement actions have resulted in racialized communities living in fear, afraid to leave their homes, children missing school, and food insecurity, and have placed individuals in detention facilities that are rife with abuse. It is unacceptable that, already in 2026, at least six migrants have died while in ICE custody, including one that was determined a homicide.

I demand that you uphold your international human rights obligations and end the militarized enforcement in Minnesota and across the USA; work with local authorities to investigate all excessive use of force incidents against residents and protesters, including the use of lethal force, and hold those responsible accountable; while end the use of mass deportation and detention and the use of racial profiling in immigration enforcement.

Sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Since November 2025, the Trump administration has concentrated its heavy-handed immigration enforcement efforts in Minnesota, launching “Operation Metro Surge” which deployed more than 3,000 federal agents to the area targeting Minnesotans of Somali descent and other immigrants. Trump previously called those of Somali descent “garbage” that “are completely taking over the once great State of Minnesota.” This operation has resulted in excessive use of force, including lethal force, and racial profiling of Black and Brown communities, as well as other human rights violations in response to community responders documenting immigration enforcement activity and mass organized protests against the operation.

On 7 January 2026, Renee Nicole Good, a white community responder for immigration enforcement activity, was extrajudicially executed in her car by immigration enforcement agents after she partially blocked traffic while a convoy of unmarked immigration vehicles were in the area. Video evidence of the incident contradicted US officials’ descriptions of the shooting, and Secretary Noem called Renee Good a “domestic terrorist” before any investigation into the incident. Local and state officials reported that the Trump administration refuses to collaborate with them on investigating the shooting.

On 14 January 2026, Destiny Jackson and her husband along with their six children from ages 6 months to 11 years old were driving home in Minneapolis when they encountered immigration enforcement agents and a protest. While the family was attempting to leave agents deployed tear gas cannisters, engulfing the inside of their vehicle. The impact caused the car doors to automatically lock making it difficult to breathe and exit the vehicle. Upon rescue, the six-month-old was discovered unconscious and required CPR.

That same day, Nasra Ahmed, a Somali-American woman, was surrounded by at least 10 immigration agents at her apartment complex while leaving to pick up medication. As she attempted to present documents to show US citizenship, they violently pinned her to the ground, arrested her without a warrant, and used racial slurs against her as they shoved her into their vehicle. She was detained for two days. Upon release, she was sent to the hospital with bruises and a concussion caused by immigration agents.

On 20 January 2026, Liam Conejos Ramos, a five-year-old child with a pending asylum case was detained by immigration agents when he was returning home from preschool with his father. Using him as “bait”, immigration agents brought the preschooler to his home and made him knock on the door to see if other family members were home before sending him and his father to a detention facility in Texas.

On 24 January 2026, Alex Pretti, a white community responder was extrajudicially executed by a Border Patrol agent. Prior to his death, Pretti was directing traffic around immigration agents as he filmed them when he stepped in to protect another protester who was violently pushed by federal agents. At least five agents tackled him and removed his lawfully concealed firearm. Moments later, an agent fired his gun in Alex Pretti’s back and he and another agent proceeded to shoot nine to ten more times. Alex Pretti died at the scene. Government officials quickly labelled him a “domestic terrorist” and stated that he attempted to use his gun despite video evidence to the contrary.

On 18 January 2026, Chongly Scott Thao, a senior Minnesotan of Hmong descent, was taken at gunpoint from his home without warrant, after ICE agents breached his front door and forced him to walk in the cold in his underwear and a blanket. They detained him despite family members showing proof of his US citizenship. He was released and brought back to his home several hours later.

These incidents demonstrate human rights violations committed by immigration enforcement agents with impunity. The heavy-handed enforcement of “Operation Metro Surge” is another example of authoritarian practices implemented by the Trump administration that violate human rights.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English. You can also write in your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: XX April 2026. Please check with the Amnesty office in your country if you wish to send appeals after the deadline.

NAME AND PRONOUN: they/them

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: N/A