



CITY OF MILWAUKIE

October 7, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Kristi Noem,

As the elected City Council of Milwaukie, Oregon, we condemn in the strongest possible terms the actions of federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. Today, we read reports of a member of our community and United States (U.S.) citizen who was abducted and unlawfully detained. What we are seeing across the country is not an isolated mistake, these are systematic abuses of power, a violation of the Constitution, and acts of state-sanctioned violence.

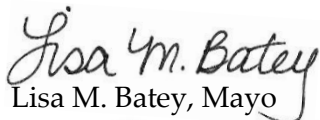
Details of this case will continue to develop but the facts remain that across our nation plain clothed and masked ICE agents are confronting and seizing our neighbors without cause and detaining them for hours without answers to questions, even after they've provided proof of U.S. citizenship. This is not law enforcement; it is unlawful kidnapping, harassment, and abuse carried out by federal officers acting outside their legal authority.

ICE's actions in this case fit squarely within a long and shameful pattern of unconstitutional behavior by the agency. From the retaliatory targeting of those who speak out against the agency's abuses, to wrongful detentions, to the separation of children from their families at the border, ICE has repeatedly violated the civil rights of law-abiding people and intentionally ignored the limits of its own authority. These are not one-off incidents. They are symptoms of an agency that has been emboldened to abandon accountability and sees itself as above the law.

This is not just unconstitutional, it is immoral. It represents an affront to the basic values of our nation and to this community: dignity of the individual, compassion for our neighbors, fairness under the law, and respect for human life. For years, ICE's actions have inflicted fear and suffering on families and communities, undermining the moral fabric of the country it is supposed to serve. Let us be clear: This conduct is unacceptable.

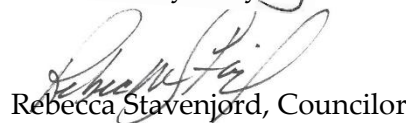
Until ICE can demonstrate adherence to the Constitution, transparency in its operations, and respect for the people it serves, it has no moral or legal legitimacy to operate in our communities.

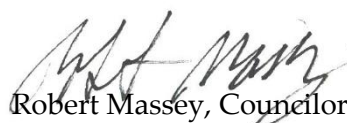
Sincerely,


Lisa M. Batey, Mayor


Will Anderson, Council President


Adam Khosroabadi, Councilor


Rebecca Stavenjord, Councilor


Robert Massey, Councilor

CC: US Senator Ron Wyden
US Senator Jeff Merkley
US Representative Janelle Bynum

CITY OF MILWAUKIE

10501 SE MAIN ST. MILWAUKIE, OR 97222 • 503.786.7555 • MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV