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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Are Governor Abbott's Threats and Pending Lawsuit Moot? Is SB 4 Null and Void?

Governor Abbott's threats and pending lawsuit may be Moot and SB 4 that prohibits cities from passing policies to stop law enforcement agencies from working with ICE, while allowing HPD to work with ICE is Null and Void.

If HPD doesn't have a signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) also known as 287 (g) Agreement, between United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for Law enforcement Agencies to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program that allow HPD officers to detained undocumented immigrants on noncriminal administrative warrants on traffic stops, Governor Abbott's threats and pending lawsuit may be Moot and SB 4 is Null and Void and does not apply to HPD.

Furthermore, HPD is violating their own police Department's Policy 600-42 Racial Profiling Prohibited, against the practice of racial profiling as set out in state and federal laws concerning racial profiling and discriminatory practices. Discrimination in any form, including racial profiling, is strictly prohibited and the department shall take immediate and appropriate action to investigate allegations of discrimination.

HPD officers unlawfully detaining undocumented immigrants for ICE based solely on an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity is Racial Profiling and a violation of Department's Policy 600-42 Racial Profiling Prohibited, and a violation of undocumented immigrants detained Constitutional Rights. "The United States Supreme Court case of Rodriguez v. United States (575 U.S. 348 (2015)) makes it clear that a person cannot be detained at a traffic stop unless reasonable suspicion exists, they committed a crime," An administrative warrant from the Department of Homeland Security is not evidence of a crime. If Dallas, Austin, and other cities in Texas are not doing this why is Houston?"

Mayor Whitmire confirmed in a statement to Channel 13, KTRK on Friday March 6, 2026, that HPD violated department Policy.

Channel 13, headline is **In HPD relationship with ICE violates department policy.**

Mayor Whitmire stated:

"I'm disappointed. It was a violation of Houston Police Department policy, and it will be corrected."

"As the mayor has previously stated, Houston Police enforce local and state laws. The Houston Police Department is not ICE and does not enforce federal law. When police encounter someone, and it turns out they have a warrant, police are obligated to contact the agency that issued the warrant."

In addition according to the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) website Law Enforcement Agencies, including HPD can only enforce ICE administrative warrants unless they have specific agreements, such as a 287(g) Program, which allows law enforcement agencies to participate in ICE 287(g) Program Models, Jail Enforcement, Task Force, Tribal Task Force, and Warrant Service Officer.

This is a big problem if the City/HPD Do Not have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program.

The City/HPD is violating the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Policy. The City/HPD are also violating the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Policy if HPD officers were detaining undocumented immigrants for ICE without being trained as required related to the immigration duties pertinent to the applicable MOA and didn't have at least two (2) years of total law enforcement officer experience.

ICE 287(g) Memorandum, formally known as a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), is a legal document establishing a partnership between U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and a state or local Law Enforcement Agency. It typically appears as a formal, multi-page government contract that outlines the specific delegation of immigration enforcement authority to local officers. Task Force Model nominees must also have at least two (2) years of total law enforcement officer experience. Nominees will receive training at the expense of ICE related to the immigration duties pertinent to the applicable MOA.

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ICE 287 (g) Law enforcement Agencies are required to sign an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for Law enforcements to participate in ICE 287 (g) program.

[.https://www.ice.gov/](https://www.ice.gov/)

1. Does HPD have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) also known as 287 (g) agreement, between United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
2. Did officers who detained undocumented immigrants for ICE have at least two (2) years of total law enforcement officer experience as required in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)?
3. Did these officers receive training at the expense of ICE related to the immigration duties pertinent to the applicable MOA?
4. Do City Councilmembers have a copy of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allow officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program, mainly the Task Force?
5. As taxpayers, can we, the public, the media, or City Council members, have a copy of the 14-page Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) also known as 287 (g) Agreement, between City/ HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allow officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
6. Did you Mayor, Chief Diaz or Doug Griffith, HPOU President, know the City/HPD did not have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
7. Did these officers receive training at the expense of ICE related to the immigration duties pertinent to the applicable MOA?
8. Do City Councilmembers have a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allow officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
9. As taxpayers, can we, the public, the media, or City Council members, have a copy of the 14-page Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) also known as 287 (g) Agreement, between City/ HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allow officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
10. Did you Mayor, Chief Diaz or Doug Griffith, HPOU President know the City/HPD did not have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
11. Did you Mayor accept some or all of the \$114 million for overtime from the State, or ICE without a City/HPD having a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?
12. What year did you Mayor accept some or all of the \$114 million for overtime from the State, or ICE?
13. Why did you Mayor accept some or all of the \$114 million for overtime from the State, or ICE without the City/HPD having a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?

14. Did Governor Abbott accept \$114 million grant money from the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) without the City/HPD having a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?

15. Did Governor Abbott accept \$114 million grant money from the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that was tied to passing SB 4, that prohibits cities from passing policies to stop law enforcement agencies from working with ICE?

16. Did Governor Abbott violate the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) policy giving HPD some or all of the \$114 million grant money without the City/HPD having a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between City/HPD and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?

17. Is Governor Abbott threatening other cities after violating the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) policy giving grant money without these cities having a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between the law enforcements agencies and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program?

It's not about the \$114 million grant money. It's about the money the state and Law Enforcement agencies are getting or have gotten from Trump's Big Beautiful Bill \$170 Billion for Trump's administration's immigration and mass deportation policies that fully reimburse participating law enforcement agencies for the annual salary and benefits of each eligible trained 287(g) officer, including **overtime** coverage up to 25% of the officer's annual salary. Law Enforcement Agencies will be eligible for quarterly monetary performance awards based on the successful location of illegal aliens provided by ICE and overall assistance to further ICE's mission to Defend the Homeland.

We believe Governor Abbott and Mayor Whitmire may have accepted \$114 million grant money from the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) without the City/HPD having a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), between the law enforcements agencies and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that allows officers to participate in ICE 287 (g) Program? If so, Abbott and Mayor Whitmire violated the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) policy.

We believe Governor Abbott and Paxton, Texas Attorney General is attempting to fulfil President Donald Trump campaign promise to remove 20 million people from the country and assist Stephen Miller Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Homeland Security, and considered the central architect and chief driving force behind Trump's administration's immigration and mass deportation policies carrying out the largest mass deportation operation in U.S. history, with a target of 1 million deportations per year, which explain ICE Massive Warehouses being built in states across America. According to CNN and other News Outlet Stephen Miller is Anti -Immigration who stated during a Trump rally that America is for Americans and Americans only. Miller and Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem demanded that ICE seek to arrest 3,000 people a day.

This is the same Governor Abbott that handed over a complete list of Texas registered voters to the Trump administration.

Governor Abbott allowed ICE to implement a "Hub and Spoke Model to house undocumented Immigrants.

As of April 2026, ICE is implementing a "Hub and Spoke" model involving the acquisition and retrofitting of industrial warehouses across the U.S. In Texas, specific identified sites include large-scale facilities in Hutchins (planned for ~9,500 people), El Paso, and Socorro, along with a processing site in San Antonio. Other Texas locations mentioned in planning documents include Baytown and Los Fresnos.

On April 4, 2025 — ICE officials filed an open records request with the city of Houston for data on every motorist cited for driving without a license. The Houston Chron reported Houston granted ICE requests for a list of drivers without a license. The Houston Chron also reported that Texas DPS shared lists of traffic citations with Federal Officials, so far Texas is the only state that shared a list of drivers without a license.

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/immigration/article/ice-records-request-20253190.php>

In March 2026, Stephen Miller challenged Texas lawmakers to pass legislation that would restrict public education funding to only children who are citizens or "lawfully present" in the United States. This initiative aims to revisit the legality of providing free K-12 education to undocumented children, a right currently protected by the 1982 Supreme Court ruling in Plyler v. Doe. In the landmark case Plyler v. Doe, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that states cannot constitutionally deny students a free public K-12 education based on their immigration status. The court found that such exclusion violates the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and creates a "permanent underclass".

Current Proposals: Miller's recent discussions with Texas Republicans are part of a broader strategy to encourage conservative states to partner with the federal government on immigration policies that may be difficult to implement at the national level.

We are requesting Community Affairs and the Blue Santa program to be reopened, instead of officers participating in ICE 287 (g) Program being used to unlawfully detain undocumented immigrants and go back to enforcing State and Local laws that taxpayers of Houston pay them to enforce and not work as untrained ICE officers.

We are demanding that HPD follow their Department's Policy 600-42 Racial Profiling and Halt detaining undocumented immigrants for ICE.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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