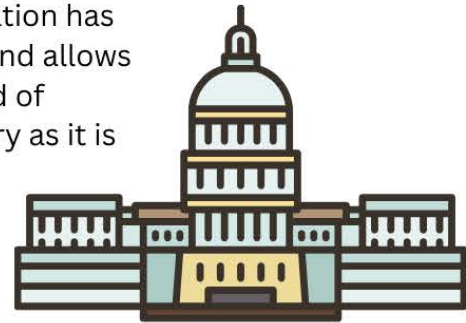


ICE OUT OF HOUSTON



What is our goal?

Houston Leads is fighting to end all collaboration between Harris County and ICE beyond what is required by state law. The ongoing and harmful collaboration has given ICE a physical space in the Harris County Joint Processing center and allows for Harris County police officers to work with ICE on operations. This kind of harmful collaboration between Harris County and ICE is entirely voluntary as it is not required under local ordinances, state, or federal laws. [1]



Impact of ICE in Houston

Harris County is a culturally diverse county and home to 1.2 million immigrants who comprise more than 25% of the county's population. Approximately 466,000, or almost 39 percent, of those individuals are undocumented. Unfortunately, Harris County is a gateway to mass deportation as it has the highest number of arrests by ICE in the nation. This is due to a deportation pipeline that comes from the Harris County Criminal System and leads to permanent separation. Approximately, 89% of ICE arrests stem from some contact with the legal system. [2]

Often, individuals are targeted by ICE and deported in Harris County facilities without a meaningful opportunity to access legal counsel. And Harris County holds more people for ICE than any other county in Texas, costing local taxpayers \$1.6 million [3]. ICE's impact in Houston is detrimental to immigrant communities.



What campaigns are Houston Leads launching to fight back?

Recently, Houston Leads dropped off a petition with 1,300 signatures at the Harris County Sheriff's office to demand ICE out. To get ICE out of Houston and to end their partnership with Harris County, Houston Leads is working on two principal campaigns: ICE Out of the JPC and ending SLO Agreement.

1. See Houston Leads'. "Let's Get ICE out of Harris County (Vamos a Sacar a ICE del Condado de Harris!)." *Action Network*, <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/lets-get-ice-out-of-harris-county> . Accessed 25 September 2023.

2. See Gupta, Anita, et al. "UNFAIR OUTCOMES FOR NON-CITIZENS IN HARRIS COUNTY CRIMINAL COURTS." *Immigrant Legal Resource Center*, 2021, https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/harris_county_report_final.pdf. Accessed 25 September 2023.

3. See Houston Leads'. "Let's Get ICE out of Harris County (Vamos a Sacar a ICE del Condado de Harris!)."

ICE OUT OF HOUSTON



ICE Out of the JPC

The Joint Processing Center (JPC) is a partnership between Harris County and the City of Houston that consolidated all Houston Police Department (HPD) and Harris County Jail prisoner processing operations into one facility [4]. Harris County has given ICE a physical place in the JPC to work in and shares booking information (including date of birth and citizenship status). We demand the following from the Harris County Sheriff's office:

- ICE should not be permitted to have a physical presence in the Joint Processing Center.
- Booking information (including date of birth and citizenship status) should not be shared with ICE.
- HCSO needs to stop honoring invalid ICE detainers. While SB4 requires county compliance with ICE detainers, this only applies to valid detainers.
- County officials, including law enforcement, Magistrate and Criminal Court judges, should not ask about citizenship status [5].

End SLOT Agreements

Harris County Sheriff Office has entered into a State & Local Over Time (SLOT) agreement to dedicate some of its officers to participate in ICE Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) joint operations/task forces. In return for participating in joint operations, HCSO is reimbursed for officer time and other expenses related to working on joint operations with HSI. This agreement has been signed by the County Attorney, HCSO Sheriff, Harris County Judge, and ICE. In 2020 alone, HCSO received \$77,300 for working with HSI. Houston Leads is looking to get members of Commissioner's Court to vote "no" when allotment approval is up for vote and to end the SLOT agreement entirely.

Additional Resources



Sign our petition to get ICE Out of the Joint Processing Center!



Read our opinion: "ICE's Intimidation and Racial Profiling of Immigrants inside of Harris County Jails Must End"

4. See Harris County Joint Processing Center's "JPC Facility Overview" (last accessed Sept. 25th 2023) <https://www.jointprocessingcenter.com/facility-overview>

5. See Houston Leads'. "Let's Get ICE out of Harris County (Vamos a Sacar a ICE del Condado de Harris!)."