

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2026

Mr. Todd M. Lyons
Acting Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20536 USA

Dear Acting Director Lyons:

I write to you regarding reports that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is planning to lease office space at 2020 Main Street in Irvine, California.¹ As the Representative for California's 47th Congressional District, I have serious concerns about the scope, purpose, and implications of the agency's expanded presence in Irvine. Our community deserves additional information regarding these plans, and I formally request that you or a member of your staff participate in a public meeting to address our shared concerns.

ICE's unlawful conduct in Southern California—and across the country—has eroded public trust in the agency. For months now, Orange County has seen an escalation in aggressive immigration enforcement operations carried out by federal agents employing violent tactics, like those seen in the incident involving Narciso Barranco, who was brutally beaten during an immigration raid.² These operations have led to protests and civil unrest, sparked political backlash from local officials and community leaders, and negatively impacted local small businesses across Orange County.³ Increasing ICE's presence in Irvine without community consultation is unacceptable.

Transparency is especially critical where federal enforcement activities may affect local public safety resources, first responders, community relations, and the overall sense of safety in our neighborhoods. As such, I invite you to join me in Irvine for a public meeting with local elected officials, business leaders, and other members of the community to discuss these plans and to ensure my constituents have the opportunity to comment before further action is taken.

¹ Leah Feiger, *ICE Is Expanding Across the US at Breakneck Speed. Here's Where It's Going Next*, WIRED (Feb. 10, 2026), <https://www.wired.com/story/ice-expansion-across-us-at-heres-where-its-going-next/>.

² Spencer Custodio, *Orange County's Year on ICE*, VOICE OF OC (Dec. 29, 2025), <https://voiceofoc.org/2025/12/orange-countys-year-on-ice/>.

³ Spencer Custodio, *Orange County's Year on ICE*, VOICE OF OC (Dec. 29, 2025), <https://voiceofoc.org/2025/12/orange-countys-year-on-ice/>; Sara Cardine, *Costa Mesa allocates \$200K for immigrant legal defense fund, backs legal efforts*, LA TIMES (Sept. 11, 2025), <https://www.latimes.com/socal/daily-pilot/news/story/2025-09-11/costa-mesa-allocates-200k-for-immigrant-legal-defense-fund-backs-legal-efforts/>; Jireh Deng, *ICE enforcement affects Vietnamese, Cambodian communities in SoCal*, LOS ANGELES PUBLIC PRESS (Jul. 9, 2025), <https://lapublicpress.org/2025/07/ice-enforcement-affects-vietnamese-cambodian-communities-in-socal/>.

Questions you should expect to answer in this forum include but are not limited to:

1. General

- Under what statutory authority is the office or facility being opened, and what is the defined mission?
- Is this office or facility planned to be temporary, surge-based, or permanent?
- How many personnel will be assigned to this facility, including agents, officers, and contractors?

2. Jurisdiction

- What geographic jurisdiction would this office or facility cover – only Irvine or other cities and communities in Orange County?
- How and under what metrics did ICE determine that Irvine and Orange County needed another office or facility?
- Does ICE plan to lease any additional space in Orange County to support its operations there?

3. Funding

- Does the Department of Homeland Security or ICE intend to request Congressional appropriations for this office or facility in fiscal year 2027? If so, how much and under what account?
- If the Department of Homeland Security experiences a lapse in government funding, which authorities or appropriations will ICE open and operate this office or facility?

4. Operations

- Will this office or facility conduct worksite enforcement, large-scale operations, community arrests, fugitive operations, or some combination of these above?
- Will detainees be processed or held at this office or facility?
- If ICE plans to house detainees at this office or facility, will it be subject to ICE's Performance-Based National Detention Standards?⁴

5. Oversight

- Will DHS and ICE follow established laws permitting Members of Congress to conduct unannounced oversight visits to this office or facility? If not, under what legal justification?

6. Community Impacts

- Were any state or local elected officials or stakeholders contacted prior to ICE's actions to assume this lease? If not, why not?
- Given that this address is located near a childcare facility—and considering the prior administration's decision to set aside the longstanding "protected areas"

⁴ U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement, Detention Management, (last visited Feb. 12, 2026), <https://www.ice.gov/detain/detention-management>.

policy—what protections will be in place to ensure ICE operations do not put children at risk?⁵

- What impact do you expect to have on local public safety officers and first responders in Irvine and the surrounding cities?
- If this office or facility intends to house detainees, has ICE coordinated with local healthcare providers and hospitals to account for all medical concerns, episodes, or conditions? If not, why not?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. I look forward to hearing back and coordinating a public-facing event on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DM', written over a horizontal line.

Dave Min
Member of Congress

⁵ Lynn Damiano Pearson, *Factsheet: Trump's Rescission of Protected Areas Policies Undermines Safety for All*, NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER (Feb. 26, 2025), <https://www.nilc.org/resources/factsheet-trumps-rescission-of-protected-areas-policies-undermines-safety-for-all/>.