

NO SECRET POLICE

FEBRUARY 2026

POLICY TOOLKIT FOR LOCAL ELECTEDS

LOCAL PROGRESS**LOCAL PROGRESS**

IMPACT LAB

INDIVISIBLE**NATIONAL
IMMIGRATION
LAW CENTER**

Introduction

The Trump administration's accelerated federal immigration enforcement and military deployments are causing irreparable harm, tearing apart families and communities, and causing people to live in fear. Masked federal agents are employing secret police-style tactics, detaining our immigrant neighbors from job sites, and arresting people at or near places of worship, courthouses, schools, and hospitals. In the midst of these attacks, local governments across the country have stepped up to protect our most vulnerable community members and demonstrated that we will stand against the surveillance, detainment, and deportation of our neighbors. One of the best ways local elected leaders and community members can do this is continue to document immigration enforcement actions and connect those most at risk to legal resources and other supports.

The *No Secret Police - Local Policy Toolkit* is a call-to-action for local governments to wield their regulatory, procurement, and legislative powers to disrupt the rise in authoritarian tactics utilized by the Trump administration and protect community members across the country. **Local governments are the last line of defense for residents' right to safety in this era of rising authoritarianism and this toolkit serves to support them in answering the call.**

The toolkit features six priorities, each with model ordinances or how-to guides designated to fulfill each aim:

- **No Data for Secret Police**
- **No Collaboration with Secret Police**
- **No Public Funds for Secret Police**
- **No Public Space for Secret Police**
- **No Secret Police in Our Schools**
- **No Impunity for Secret Police**

✓ Policies with this checkmark may be particularly useful to local elected officials in hostile or heavily preempted states.

This is a working document that will be updated as conditions change.

Check out our No Secret Police Messaging Guidance

For local elected leaders interested in spearheading one or more of these policies in their communities, please see this [messaging resource](#), which includes talking points / messaging guidance for each policy included in this toolkit.

No Data for Secret Police

✓ Cancel Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) contracts

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) have become one of the most pervasive surveillance tools used by federal immigration enforcement agencies to surveil and ultimately detain the most vulnerable members of our communities. Localities can use their procurement power to turn off these surveillance cameras and protect residents' safety and privacy.

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✓ End Participation in Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF), Homeland Security Task Forces (HSTF), and Fusion Centers

JTTFs, HSTFs, and Fusion Centers allow for additional information-sharing and coordination between federal, state, and local law enforcement that operate with little oversight or transparency. JTTFs are run by the Federal Bureau of Investigations; Fusion Centers are networks supported by the Department of Homeland Security; and HSTFs receive support from both agencies. Participation in these programs enables federal immigration enforcement agencies to expand its ability to surveil, arrest, and detain immigrants and bolsters the federal government's ability to pursue the prosecution of political dissidents.

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No Collaboration with Secret Police

Implement robust sanctuary policies

Strong sanctuary policies that limit cooperation with federal immigration enforcement officials can protect communities from detention and deportation. There is no obligation under federal law for local law enforcement to support federal immigration enforcement. Ensure your locality's sanctuary policies are robustly implemented and eliminate loopholes and carveouts. Localities

should also consider changes to agency policy, administrative rules, and contract language to reinforce policy aims.

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End 287(g) agreements

287(g) agreements allow local law enforcement agencies to act as immigration enforcement officers.

There are different kinds of 287(g) agreements which grant varying powers:

- **Task Force Model** - Offers the most expansive powers. Allows local law enforcement to question and arrest people for immigration violations during routine police work.
- **Jail Enforcement Model** - Local law enforcement can access DHS databases to investigate immigration status of inmates, conduct interviews, and begin deportation processes in local jails.
- **Warrant Service Officer Model** - Local law enforcement can serve ICE warrants and detain and transport people to ICE custody.
- **Tribal Task Force Model** - the newest agreement, which permits tribal law enforcement to enforce immigration laws.

 [Model Legislation](#) |  [Model Implementation Guidance](#) |  [Messaging Guidance](#)

✓ Cancel federal detention contracts

ICE plans to sharply increase their capacity to detain immigrants, including opening or expanding dozens of additional facilities across the country. Counties should cancel any existing detention contracts held with the federal government in accordance with the terms of the contract.

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Remove traffic enforcement from low-level traffic offenses

Despite the terror federal immigration enforcement agents are carrying out on our streets, they still rely heavily on support from local law enforcement to make arrests. Traffic stops are the most common interaction the public has with law enforcement and represent one of the main ways federal immigration officers detain people after initial contact with local police.

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No Public Funds for Secret Police

Use procurement power to ensure local contractors abide by local law to protect residents, students, and families

Local jurisdictions should amend contract language to ensure local contractors, from school bus companies to construction firms, abide by local laws prohibiting contact with federal immigration enforcement officers. Contractors should also be trained on what to do if they come into contact with them.

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Use procurement power to ensure public dollars do not support contractors that do business with ICE and CBP

Local jurisdictions have the power to ensure public dollars are spent on meeting the needs of local residents, students, and families, and not lining the pockets of contractors helping ICE abduct and cage their neighbors. Localities should terminate any existing contracts with contractors doing business with ICE in accordance with the terms of the contract and prohibit future contractors from doing so as well.

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No Public Space for Secret Police

✓ Prohibit federal immigration enforcement agencies from using municipal, county, or school owned or controlled property as a staging area, processing location, or operations base

Federal immigration enforcement agencies are using locally-owned and controlled spaces to stage enforcement actions and process people in detention. Localities should prohibit the use of publicly-owned and controlled spaces for any federal immigration enforcement operations.

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✓ Enforce local zoning, permitting, and health and safety policies to regulate existing detention facilities and to prohibit siting of future facilities

Immigration detention facilities are dangerous and becoming increasingly deadly under this administration. Local governments can try to intervene by directing local agencies to investigate zoning, permitting, and health and safety violations taking place in immigration detention facilities and to prevent the siting of future facilities.

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No Secret Police in Our Schools

✓ Develop policies and protocols to keep young people safe and create welcoming school environments

Develop policies to protect students and families from immigration enforcement, including:

- Prohibiting school district staff from sharing student records or any other related data with federal immigration enforcement agencies unless they are required to do so by court order or a valid judicial warrant.
- Develop protocols for all school district staff and external partners (including crossing guards, security guards, bus drivers, and after-school program providers) in the event immigration enforcement officers seek to detain or seek information about a student, parent or school staff member.

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No Impunity for Secret Police

Require law enforcement to identify themselves while on duty and prohibit them from concealing their identity

Law enforcement officials should face the public and never conceal their identity while performing official duties. Require these officials to identify themselves by name and badge number and require badges to be worn identifying their agency while on municipal, county, and school-owned property.

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