October 10, 2025

The Honorable Don R. Berthaiume, Jr. Acting Inspector General Department of Justice Office of Inspector General 1425 New York Avenue NW, Suite 5000, Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Joseph V. Cuffari Inspector General Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General 245 Murray Lane., S.W. Washington, DC 20528

Dear Acting Inspector General Berthaiume and Inspector General Cuffari,

We write to demand answers and accountability regarding the recent activities carried out by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Over the past few months, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has conducted unprecedented raids throughout the nation, including within our home state of Illinois, frightening and injuring community members. We write to request the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Inspector General (OIG), and the DHS OIG conduct full and independent investigations of those enforcement actions and report to Congress about the status of those investigations.

On October 1, 2025, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) agents raided an apartment complex in the South Shore neighborhood of Chicago with flashbang grenades, helicopters, and drones. Federal agents dragged Black and Brown residents, including U.S. citizens, out of their beds and detained them. Agents handcuffed and detained Chicagoans who were observing federal agents as they arrested community members, including Alderwoman Jessie Fuentes, who was arrested in a hospital while visiting an individual injured during an enforcement action.

Furthermore, two tragic shootings by federal agents left Chicago communities reeling and have underscored the need for transparency and accountability. On September 12, 2025, an ICE agent fatally shot Silverio Villegas Gonzalez in Franklin Park, Illinois, during a traffic stop. ICE agents were not wearing Body Worn Cameras (BWCs), but DHS stated Mr. González refused commands, attempted to flee the scene, and dragged an ICE officer a "significant distance." A security camera and BWCs from responding local police did not corroborate DHS' account. On October 4, 2025, a U.S. Border Patrol agent shot and wounded a woman in Brighton Park, Chicago. Once again, the statement from DHS detailing the number of vehicles involved, as well as the presence of a semiautomatic weapon, could not be verified by police reports, video, or eyewitness testimony.^{4,5,6}

- 1. https://chicago.suntimes.com/immigration/2025/10/05/congress-members-rally-south-shore-apartment-ice-raid
- 2. https://chicago.suntimes.com/immigration/2025/10/03/ald-jessie-fuentes-detention-ice-agents-humboldt-park-hospital
- 3. https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/ice-fatal-shooting-chicago-bodycam-footage-villegas-gonzalez-rcna233484
- 4. https://www.wbez.org/immigration/2025/10/04/federal-agents-shoot-woman-they-say-boxed-in-authorities-in-brighton-park
- 5. https://www.cnn.com/2025/10/04/us/chicago-dhs-shooting-vehicle-ramming
- 6. Attorney for woman shot by Border Patrol claims officer said 'Do something b----' before shooting Chicago Sun-Times

These incidents, among numerous others, and the recent deployment of National Guard Troops leave us feeling deeply concerned about the lack of transparency and oversight within DHS and their immigration enforcement tactics.

We ask that you investigate the following issues.

- 1. We strongly urge your office to undertake a full and independent investigation of the September 12, 2025, and October 4, 2025, shootings. Additionally, we urge your office to undertake full and independent investigation of the conflicting DHS statements, media reports, and court filings related to these shootings.
- 2. The October 1, 2025, raid in the South Shore neighborhood of Chicago where reports indicate U.S. citizens unlawfully detained, including the type and scope of warrant authorizing Department of Justice personnel to search and detain individuals during the October 1st raid.
- 3. Incidents in Illinois following the launch of "Operation Midway Blitz" in which federal law enforcement personnel participating in immigration enforcement activity detained U.S. citizens or engaged in excessive or deadly use of force.
- 4. Incidents where ICE agents violated ICE Directive 19010.3 mandates or DOJ personnel violated agency specific policies regarding the use of BWCs. 7,8,9,10,11,12
- 5. Coordination between agencies when non-DHS personnel participate in DHS-led operations to ensure that following an incident, all administrative actions are appropriately handled within the respective agency's jurisdiction.

In addition, if there is a pending investigation related to one or more of the above matters, we request that you provide Congress with an update or briefing by October 24, 2025.

Sincerely,

Robin L. Kelly

Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García

Member of Congress

^{7..} https://www.aila.org/ice-issues-guidance-on-use-of-body-worn-cameras

^{8.} https://www.propublica.org/article/drug-enforcement-administration-ends-body-camera-program-trump

 $^{9.\} chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/docs/guide/atf-o-30203a-special-agent-bodyworn-cameras/download$

^{10.} https://www.usmarshals.gov/what-we-do/body-worn-camera-program

^{11.} chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.justice.gov/archives/dag/file/1144936-0/dl?inline

^{12.} https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/reports-and-publications/body-worn-camera-policy-082322.pdf/view



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