



WELLSTONE DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL CLUB



DEFENDING RIGHTS & DISSENT



July 6, 2017

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Hon. Desley Brooks (dbrooks@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Annie Campbell Washington (acampbellwashington@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Noel Gallo (ngallo@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Lynette Gibson McElhaney (lmcElhaney@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Abel Guillen (aguillen@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Dan Kalb (dkalb@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Rebecca Kaplan (atlarge@oaklandnet.com)
Hon. Larry Reid (lreid@oaklandnet.com)
Oakland City Council
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Resolution terminating “ICE” task force authority (Kaplan)

Dear Honorable Members of the Oakland City Council:

We are a broad coalition of organizations from Oakland, or with local chapters encompassing Oakland-based constituencies. We strongly urge the Oakland City Council to adopt the “Resolution Directing The City

Administrator To Immediately Terminate The Agreement With ICE”, sponsored by Councilmember Kaplan. The recommendation to terminate the agreement with ICE was approved unanimously by the Privacy Advisory Commission on June 1, 2017. The Public Safety Committee will consider Councilmember Kaplan’s resolution at its July 11 meeting.

With increasing frequency, the media is reporting horror stories about ICE “lying in wait” at courthouses, schools, probation offices, and other public facilities, tearing families and communities apart as ICE seeks to increase the numbers of deportations pursuant to President Trump’s directives. Having rolled back previous protections implemented under President Obama, the Trump Administration’s policies targeting non-criminal immigrants clearly conflict with Oakland’s Sanctuary City Status.

As referenced in the Privacy Advisory Commission’s June 5, 2017 letter and findings, the chilling effect of President Trump’s rhetoric is already causing a dramatic decrease in the Hispanic population’s reporting of crimes, and their cooperation with local law enforcement. The maintaining of any relationship with ICE is itself a public safety threat to Oakland.

The willingness of ICE to lie while posing as local police officers, or when operating a joint task force as they did in Santa Cruz, is further evidence that the Oakland Police Department must distance itself from ICE to establish and maintain trust in our community.

Sincerely,

American Civil Liberties Union - NorCal
Block By Block Organizing Network
California Sanctuary Campaign
Center For Media Justice
Coalition for Police Accountability
Defending Rights & Dissent
First They Came For The Homeless
Jewish Voice for Peace – Bay Area Chapter
Latino Task Force
Media Alliance
Oakland Privacy
Strike Debt Bay Area
Veterans for Peace – East Bay Chapter #162
Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club