



Sheila de la Guerra

From: Gina Fischer
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 5:59 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Item D1 for the record on 7/15/2025 from Supervisor Hartmann
Attachments: 2025 07 14 County policy proposals.docx

Sent on behalf of Supervisor Hartmann – please enter this into the record for item D-1 on 7/15/2025.

To: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
From: Office of Supervisor Joan Hartmann
Subject: Policy Proposals to Protect Immigrant Residents from Civil Immigration Enforcement Abuses
In the interest of protecting the public and constituents from the ongoing racial targeting, questioning, arrest, and abduction of residents from our streets and community institutions, this memo outlines policy concepts that merit further consideration by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. ICE typically operates using administrative warrants that lack the constitutional safeguards required of criminal warrants. These administrative warrants are signed by ICE agents themselves, not by judges. ICE civil warrants (such as Form I-200 or I-205) are not signed by a judge. They are not sufficient to enter homes or non-public areas without consent. Only criminal warrants, issued by a judge under the Fourth Amendment, authorize ICE to forcibly enter private property without permission. Local governments cannot obstruct federal enforcement, but they are not obligated to assist, unless required by a valid judicial order. If Santa Barbara County wishes to uphold the constitutional rights of all residents, it must do so through local policies that restrict access, withhold voluntary cooperation, empower frontline staff, and fund legal and informational support for immigrants.

Policy Proposals for County Consideration

- 1. Require Judicial Warrants for ICE Access to Non-Public County Facilities**
Action: Adopt a county ordinance requiring that no ICE agent be granted access to non-public areas of County facilities without presentation of a valid judicial warrant, reviewed by County Counsel.
Implementation by: Board ordinance.
- 2. Ban Voluntary Data Sharing with ICE Across All Departments**
Action: Enact an ordinance prohibiting the voluntary sharing of personal, identifying, or locational information with ICE, unless compelled by a judicial order. Implementation by: Board ordinance. Departments Involved: Sheriff, Public Health, Behavioral Wellness, DSS, Probation, Elections, Human Resources
- 3. Create Real-Time ICE Warrant Review Protocol**
Action: Establish a legal protocol allowing County Counsel to review ICE subpoenas and warrants in real time before departments grant access or disclose any information.
- 4. Fund a Countywide “Know Your Rights” Campaign**
Action: Allocate funding for multilingual Know Your Rights (KYR) materials and community trainings in clinics, jails, social services offices, agricultural sector.
- 5. Coordinate ICE-Restrictive Policies with Other Public Agencies**
Action: Develop MOUs or joint policies with Cottage Health, the County Office of Education, community clinics, and other public institutions to prevent ICE access without judicial warrants.
- 6. Prohibit Voluntary ICE Cooperation by Public-Facing Staff**
Action: Direct all staff who regularly engage with the public—including caseworkers, nurses, clerks, and others—to decline voluntary cooperation with ICE agents, unless legally compelled.
- 7. Bar Landlord Cooperation with ICE Without Judicial Warrant (Unincorporated Areas)**
Action: Enact an ordinance prohibiting landlords in unincorporated areas from permitting ICE access to rental properties without a judicial warrant, or from using immigration status to harass tenants.
Implementation: Board ordinance.

8. State Legislative Support Santa Barbara County should also express support for the following state legislation:

Senate Bill 805 (Pérez) – The “**No Vigilantes Act**” prohibits federal immigration agents and other law enforcement officers operating in California from wearing masks or face coverings that obscure their identities during routine enforcement activities. It also requires them to clearly display identification—such as a nameplate or badge—when interacting with the public.

Senate Bill 627 (Wiener) – The “**No Secret Police Act**” requires all law enforcement officers in California, including federal agents, to visibly display their name or badge number during public operations. It prohibits concealed identities in non-emergency situations and aims to prevent masked or anonymous raids that intimidate communities.

Conclusion The County of Santa Barbara has a responsibility to uphold the dignity, safety, and constitutional rights of all residents, regardless of immigration status. While we cannot override federal authority, we can set firm limits on how our local government interacts with it. The proposed policy areas outlined above are legal, actionable, and consistent with our values—and they deserve serious consideration by the Board.

Gina Fischer

Chief of Staff

Office of 3rd District Supervisor Joan Hartmann
Barbara, CA 93101

C 805.319.0498 | E gfischer@countyofsb.org



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