# EXHIBIT 4

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Policy Number: 11072.4

*Office of the Director*

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security**
500 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20536

**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

May 27, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR: All ICE Employees

FROM: Todd M. Lyons
Acting Director

SUBJECT: Civil Immigration Enforcement Actions In or Near Courthouses

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Purpose

This memorandum provides guidance governing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses. The January 21, 2025, *Interim Guidance: Civil Immigration Enforcement Actions in or near Courthouses* memorandum from Acting ICE Director Caleb Vitello is superseded by this guidance.

This guidance is effective immediately and remains in effect until superseded.

Background

Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies routinely engage in enforcement activities in or near courthouses because many individuals appear in courthouses for unrelated criminal or civil violations. Individuals entering courthouses are typically screened by law enforcement personnel to search for weapons and other contraband. Accordingly, when ICE engages in civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses it can reduce safety risks to the public, targeted alien(s), and ICE officers and agents. Finally, enforcement activities in or near courthouses are often required when jurisdictions refuse to cooperate with ICE, including when such jurisdictions refuse to honor immigration detainers and transfer aliens directly to ICE custody.

Implementation

For purposes of this guidance, a civil immigration enforcement action is any action taken by an ICE officer or agent to apprehend, arrest, interview, or search an alien in connection with

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enforcement of administrative immigration violations. This policy does not apply to criminal immigration enforcement actions inside courthouses.

*Aliens Subject to Enforcement Actions*

Generally, ICE's civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses include actions against targeted aliens, including but not limited to:

- National security or public safety threats;
- Specific aliens with criminal convictions;
- Gang members;
- Aliens who have been ordered removed from the United States but have failed to depart; and/or
- Aliens who have re-entered the country illegally after being removed.

Other aliens encountered during a civil immigration enforcement action in or near a courthouse, such as family members or friends accompanying the target alien to court appearances or serving as a witness in a proceeding, may be subject to civil immigration enforcement action on a case-by-case basis considering the totality of the circumstances.[1]

*Procedures*

ICE officers or agents may conduct civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses when they have credible information that leads them to believe the targeted alien(s) is or will be present at a specific location.

Additionally, civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses should, to the extent practicable, continue to take place in non-public areas of the courthouse, be conducted in collaboration with court security staff, and utilize the court building's non-public entrances and exits. When practicable, ICE officers and agents will conduct civil immigration enforcement actions against targeted aliens discreetly to minimize their impact on court proceedings.

*Non-Criminal or Specialized Courts*

ICE officers and agents should generally avoid enforcement actions in or near courthouses, or areas within courthouses that are wholly dedicated to non-criminal proceedings (e.g., family court, small claims court). When an enforcement action in the above situations is operationally necessary, the approval of the respective Field Office Director (FOD), Special Agent in Charge (SAC), or his or her designee is required prior to conducting the enforcement action.

[1] ICE officers and agents will make enforcement determinations on a case-by-case basis in accordance with federal law and consistent with U.S. Department of Homeland Security and ICE policy.

*Responsibilities*

Each FOD or SAC, in consultation with OPLA, must ensure that all employees under their supervision comply with this policy by providing guidance to officers and agents on the approval process and procedures for civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses within their area of responsibility. This includes ensuring all civil immigration enforcement actions in or near courthouses are properly documented[2] and recorded in the applicable ICE system of record, which can be searched and validated.

As with any planned enforcement action, ICE officers and agents should exercise sound judgment when enforcing federal law and make substantial efforts to avoid unnecessarily alarming the public or disrupting court operations. ICE officers and agents will make every effort to limit their time at courthouses while conducting civil immigration enforcement actions.

No Private Right

This memorandum provides only internal ICE policy guidance, which may be modified, rescinded, or superseded at any time without notice. It is not intended to, does not, and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any party in any administrative, civil, or criminal matter. Likewise, no limitations are placed by this guidance on the otherwise lawful enforcement or litigative prerogatives of ICE.

[2] ICE officers and agents will document the physical address of planned civil immigration enforcement actions in accordance with standard procedures for completing operational plans, noting that the target address is a courthouse.