



Homeland Security

June 4, 2026

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Thompson:

Thank you for your November 12, 2025 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) law enforcement personnel identify themselves in a professional and responsible manner during encounters with the public. ICE law enforcement personnel may initially identify themselves as “police” during an encounter because it is the universally recognized term for law enforcement, and our officers and agents routinely interact with individuals from around the world.

ICE officers and agents are required to identify themselves as immigration officers as soon as it is practical and safe to do so. The law enforcement arena is often dangerous and being able to immediately identify oneself as law enforcement may be a life-or-death issue. ICE officers and agents will generally display badges and wear vests, jackets, or other clothing with markings, such as “POLICE,” “ICE,” or both.

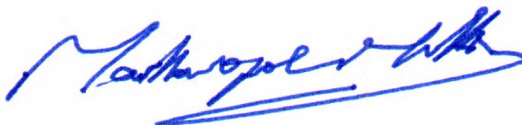
Over the course of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and FY 2026, ICE law enforcement personnel and their families have been subjected to targeting and doxing. Documented incidents of assaults and threats against personnel conducting immigration enforcement operations have significantly increased. It is DHS’s priority to protect the safety and security of its workforce and law enforcement personnel. Consequently, to protect the safety of our workforce, ICE does not discourage personnel from wearing protective face coverings during operations.

ICE would be happy to accommodate your briefing request; please contact the ICE Office of Congressional Relations at CongresstoICE@ice.dhs.gov to schedule a briefing.

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
Page 2

Thank you again for your letter. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the DHS Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 447-5809.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Markwayne Mullin", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Markwayne Mullin
Secretary of Homeland Security