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Story by Lia Lando • 10 min • [3 min read](#)

([NewsNation](#)) — New York City Mayor [Zohran Mamdani](#) renewed calls to abolish [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement](#) following an incident in which a man was shot during an arrest while a child was in the vehicle.

Mamdani said the city will investigate the shooting as he compares ICE's tactics to terrorism, and the Trump administration is firing back.



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The mayor's comments come after an ICE agent shot 38-year-old Oscar Beland.



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Just hours after the shooting, Mamdani condemned ICE and demanded an end to its enforcement operations in New York City.

"We know that ICE is rotten to its core," Mamdani said. "[The] shooting is only further devastating confirmation of what we have long known, which is that ICE operates with impunity, that they sow chaos and terror across our country, that they have killed far more of our neighbors than they could ever have claimed to save."

## DHS slams Mamdani's response to ICE shooting

The Department of Homeland Security said officers were doing their job by removing a dangerous criminal out of the community.

Federal officials defended the operation, saying Belgal weaponized his vehicle during the incident. Officials said Belgal accelerated at a high rate of speed, hit two of their cars, and was allegedly heading toward police when he was shot.



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Officials also said Belgal is a dangerous criminal who was in the U.S. illegally, has a lengthy criminal record and is tied to a gang.

According to the New York Police Department, Belgal was previously convicted of fourth-degree grand larceny and was sentenced to five years of probation in April 2025. Police also said he was arrested in 2025 on a criminal sale of a controlled substance charge. That case is still pending.

### [Oscar Bergal remains in NYC-area custody as Trump defends ICE shooting](#)

DHS said Belgal also has a history of arrests involving assault, robbery, drug possession and weapons possession. Federal authorities also allege he has associations with the Trinitarios gang — which they link to violent crime.

Homeland Security Secretary [Markwayne Mullin](#) pushed back Mamdani's call to abolish the agency, saying federal officers are needed to enforce immigration law and arrest people accused of crimes.

"Mayor, if you abolish ICE, who's going to take the criminals off the streets of your own town? Who's going to take the murderers and thieves and the gang bangers?" Mullin said.



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The FBI and federal authorities are investigating the shooting.

## What happened to Oscar Belgal?

Federal officials said agents were attempting to arrest Belgal when he refused to exit his vehicle.

They said an ICE agent fired seven rounds, striking Belgal in the neck. Still, the circumstances leading up to the shooting, including whether the use of force was justified, are under investigation.

The Trump administration is taking direct aim at New York's sanctuary-city policies. Federal officials said the NYPD and local policies had previously arrested

Belgal, making it more difficult for federal authorities to carry out immigration enforcement.

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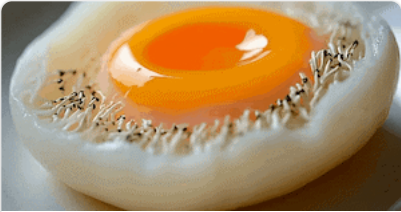
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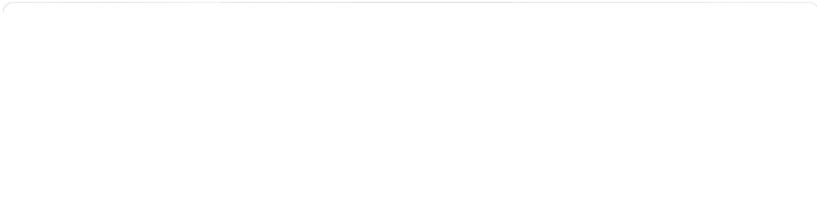


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