

Response to the Adams County Democratic Committee's Statement on ICE and CBP - March 2026

The Adams County Democratic Committee's March 2026 statement is nothing more than the latest tantrum from Democrats who despise the rule of law, American sovereignty, and the clear mandate the American people delivered to President Donald J. Trump. You lost. Badly. Trump was elected — again — precisely because voters rejected the open-borders chaos, crime, and taxpayer-funded invasion you and your allies enabled for four years under Biden-Harris. Your call to “end the chaos” by defunding and hamstringing ICE is Orwellian nonsense. The real chaos was the millions of illegal aliens pouring across the border, bringing fentanyl, MS-13 gang members, terrorists, and violent criminals into our communities while Democrats cheered “abolish ICE” and turned sanctuary cities into magnets for lawlessness.

ICE and CBP are not “adrift” from their mission — they are finally returning to it. Their founding purpose is to enforce federal immigration law, secure the border, and remove people who have no legal right to be here. President Trump ran explicitly on the largest deportation operation in American history, and the American people voted for it. Supporting ICE is supporting the rule of law. Your hysterical claims of “racial profiling,” “mistaken identity,” “kidnappings under color of law,” and “denying due process” are the same tired smears Democrats have used for years to protect illegal aliens at the expense of American citizens. Illegal aliens are not U.S. citizens. They are not entitled to remain in the country indefinitely while they clog the courts and drain public resources. Deportation proceedings are administrative enforcement actions, not criminal trials. Every lawful tool — including partnerships authorized by Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act — is exactly what the law provides for and what the voters demanded. These programs help local law enforcement identify criminal aliens who have already been arrested for other offenses. Far from “eroding public trust” or making local police's jobs harder, they make communities safer by removing the very people who prey on citizens. The real threat to Pennsylvania families, including those right here in Adams County is the illegal aliens you shield — the ones committing crimes, working off the books, and overwhelming schools, hospitals, and housing.

Your assertion that increased funding for ICE comes “at the detriment of other law enforcement agencies” is a lie. The Biden-era border catastrophe cost taxpayers hundreds of billions in welfare, healthcare, education, and emergency services. Restoring border security and interior enforcement is the fiscally responsible choice. Pennsylvania citizens and lawful residents — the ones you claim to care about — are the ones footing the bill for your open-borders ideology.

We reject your demand to “curtail ICE activity in Pennsylvania.” Governor Shapiro and the Democratic legislature have no authority to nullify federal immigration law, and any attempt to do so is an assault on the Constitution. Americans elected Trump to restore order. That means full funding for ICE and CBP, nationwide expansion of 287(g) agreements, ending sanctuary policies, and removing the millions who entered illegally — with expedience, especially those criminal illegal aliens, gang members, and national security threats.

The American people have spoken. The Democrats' era of weaponizing government to protect illegal aliens while demonizing the men and women of ICE is over. We stand with President Trump, with ICE, with law enforcement, and with the sovereign right of the United States to control its own borders. Deportations will continue. The border will be secured. And Pennsylvania — like every other state — will no longer be forced to subsidize the invasion you call “compassion.”

The voters have already delivered their verdict. It's time you accepted it.

Charlotte Shaffer, Chair
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