

VENTURA COUNTY TRUTH ACT FORUM

OCTOBER 29, 2024

ICE OUT OF VENTURA COUNTY, PRESENTED BY:

**MARIA SALGUERO, STAFF ATTORNEY, IMMIGRANT
LEGAL DEFENSE CENTER**

WILLIE LUBKA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BUEN VECINO





¡LA MIGRA FUERA DEL CONDADO DE VENTURA! **ICE OUT OF VENTURA COUNTY!**

ICE Out of Ventura County is a coalition of more than 20 community organizations. We recognize that immigrants are valued, integral community members in Ventura County. We believe in the right of families to stay together without the threat of being detained or deported from their loved ones.

Our coalition members are united in calling for an end to voluntary, non-obligatory collaboration in the enforcement of federal immigration laws by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.



BUEN VECINO

ACLU

Ventura Chapter



CAUSE



Central Coast Alliance United
for a Sustainable Economy



LATINX BAR ASSOCIATION



Law Office of Vanessa Frank



Bringing Our Community Together
www.sp-lth.org



Black Lawyers
of
Ventura County



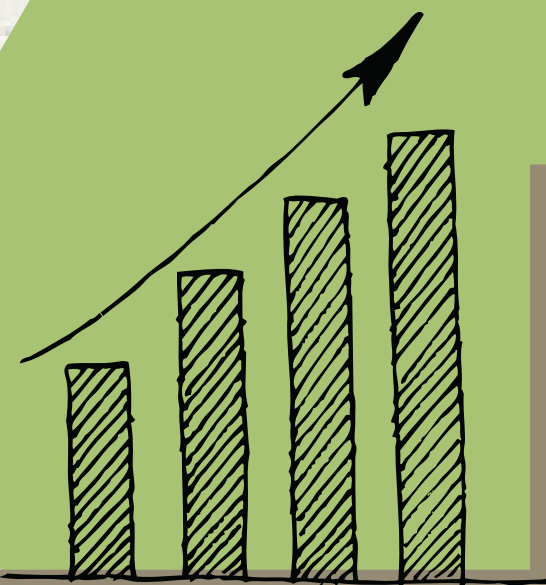
SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE



UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS IN VENTURA COUNTY

According to the study the “*Economic Impact of Undocumented Immigrants in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties*,” published in February 2023 by Dr. Jamshid Damooei at California Lutheran University, there are:

- 60,000 undocumented individuals and 23,000 children under age 18 living with undocumented parents in Ventura County.
- That’s 83,000 people, or about 10% of the county’s total population.
- More than 28% have lived here more than 20 years, 77% for more than ten years.
- Their collective economic contribution is more than \$2 billion.



LOCAL POLICE AND IMMIGRANTS

Sheriff Fryhoff:

*“To be effective, we need **trust** and cooperation between **all** residents and the deputies sworn to protect them. **We do not want the fear of immigration status to inhibit members of our communities from interacting with their deputies and/or reporting crimes.**”*

WE AGREE.

POLICE VERSUS ICE

- The Sheriff's obligation: Protect and keep us safe.
 - Provide public safety for all, regardless of status.
- ICE's obligation: To capture, detain, and deport people.
 - Causing grave harm to county families and communities.
- These roles are antithetical.



HOW OUR SHERIFF COLLUDES WITH ICE

Our Sheriff's Office continues to:

- Transfer community members to ICE
- Notify ICE of people's release dates.
- Community members are subjected to a double punishment based on where they were born.
- In 2023, based on a California AG report, Ventura County was **one of only 11** out of the 58 counties in California that handed community members over to ICE.
- The number of people transferred to ICE by our Sheriff's Office increased from 15 in 2022 to 43 in 2023.
- The Sheriff's practice of assisting in deportations is optional and not required by any law.



ISSUES WITH POLICE & ICE COLLABORATING



- Results in the separation of families & intergenerational trauma.
- Fosters distrust between immigrant communities & local law enforcement.
- Needlessly expends taxpayer dollars on immigration enforcement.
- Exposes the county to liability, risking costly settlements for violations.
- Imposes extreme racial disparities in the application of police policy.
- Ignores research of the benefits of separating LE from immigration.
- *Our biggest concern: The Sheriff's complete dismissal, denial, disregard, & lack of accountability for all of these concerns.*



CONTRADICTIONS

<u>VCSO's 7 Pillars of Policing</u>	<u>Contradictions</u>
Pillar 3 - Using Evidence Based Policing	Pillar 3 - Sheriff has no evidence that collaborating with ICE makes us safer
Pillar 4 - Community Partnered Policing	Pillar 4 - Sheriff ignores & dismisses community concerns.
Pillar 5 - Engaging Stakeholders	Pillar 5 - Has not taken community concerns into account
Pillar 7 - Improving outcomes for all	Pillar 7 - Current policy causes worse outcomes for one specific population.





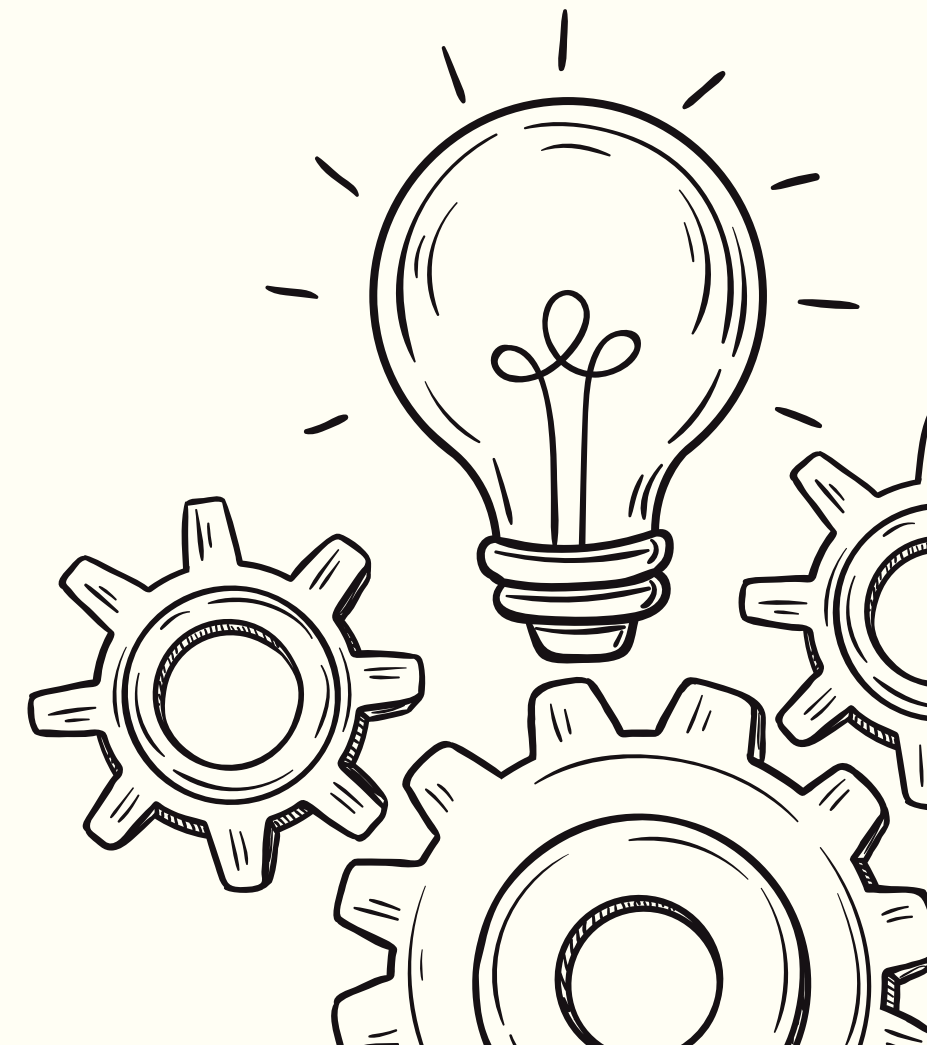
RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations to the Sheriff:

- Use data & evidence to guide policy
 - Not political considerations.
- END collaboration with ICE: Stop responding to release date notifications and transfer requests.

Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors:

- Hold any future TRUTH Act Forums in the evening to allow for community participation.
- Require VSCO to report the costs to the county of department's ongoing optional ICE engagement.



QUESTIONS?



contact@iceoutofvc.org

THANK YOU

