

Key, Lori

From: Alissa Charvonias <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 1:01 PM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: Written Comment for the TRUTH Forum

As a Ventura county resident, the safety of our community is paramount to me. However, our safety should not be predicated on whether or not we have citizenship. The Sheriff's office purports to serve and protect our community, which is directly threatened by ICE. Federal immigration law has led to an unjust system of criminalization and deportation. Deporting individuals, often those who have been here for years and have families here, after they serve their time can often serve as an unjust death sentence, depending on how and to where they are deported. Deportations to unsafe countries threaten the lives of our community members and destabilize the families and communities they leave behind, which often reinforces a cycle of poverty, violence, and fear. This is not what the Sheriff's department claims to represent, but it is what ICE proudly represents.

I ask you, on behalf of our community and families in the county, to stop all transfers to and cooperation with ICE, an agency which has taken great pride in overtly cruel policies to discourage individuals from seeking safety in the U.S., a country many want to consider great. We will be great when we are a place of safety and concern rather than cruelty and misunderstanding of the connections between deportation, destabilization, and negative community outcomes.

Alissa Charvonias

Howard University
she/her pronouns
PhD Student, Clinical Psychology