

Name: Patricia

Address: Brunswick

Good morning,

During these difficult months watching human beings around our nation dragged from their work places, out of their homes/cars, away from their children, while others' whereabouts still remain unknown and yes, even some murdered, I have been reminded of my family's immigration history. Immigration is a shared history for American families- a history that makes us proud. Even if you don't know your ancestors' immigration history, you've got one unless you are of 100% indigenous descent. Heck, our communities are built around our ancestors; we learn their dances, bake their breads and even hold parades and heritage festivals all throughout the year to celebrate them.

Yet, here we are in the United States of America in 2026 watching this immigration enforcement nightmare unfold, specifically this current Administration's iteration of ICE, utilizing "ambush" style tactics undermining the rule of law, eroding public trust, and creating a climate of fear.

We all know immigrants were not always welcomed with open arms. We also know that it was never just one immigrant population nor just one time in our history in which immigrants were targeted. Becoming a citizen is neither a quick nor easy process, exacerbated now by this administration changing the rules and deeming over one and a half million once protected immigrants to what they call "illegal." Scapegoating the immigrants of our nation is not the solution. It never has been no matter how many times our government tries to sell the sordid tale that immigrants or members of any marginalized community of people are the reason for the hardships we face as a society.

I have been told that signing a resolution of this sort is not necessary because the Sheriff has not and likely will not present a contract with ICE as it pertains to this presented resolution. But what does inaction do for our community? The fears of

our neighbors are real. The targeting of immigrants is real. The harassment of citizens based on the color of their skin or their ethnicity is real. Inaction begets inaction. So, I am compelled to stand here before you today using my voice and imploring leaders of our community to document and vocalize their support of all the targeted and marginalized members of our community. Our leaders standing up and saying that they will not support unconstitutional, illegal and inhumane tactics being utilized against any immigrant is also saying that they will not support those tactics against any of us!

Let me be clear, I am not negating the need for immigration enforcement; however, I am calling for legal and humane enforcement which follows the Constitution of the United States of America. Supporting a racially motivated ethnic cleansing of specific cultures of people within our nation, either by being active contributors or passive bystanders, is unacceptable by a nation of descendants of ancestral immigrants who could have been served this very same fate.

So, I leave this with you for your consideration— what are you, as a body of locally elected officials and/or as individuals, willing to do for the love of our community to help families fear less?

I appreciate your time. Thank you