



**kenneth
mejia**
LA CITY CONTROLLER

TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

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We are horrified by the federal government laying siege to our beloved City and terrorizing members of our community in coordinated and widespread ICE raids today. These raids are cruel, tear families apart, and are an affront to who we are as a city. Attacking and corralling community members from local hardware stores and warehouses is just another instance of dehumanizing immigrant workers. The City of Los Angeles is built by immigrants. LA is stronger, better, and a true testament of our principles when we welcome and care for our immigrant neighbors.

The City of LA's Sanctuary City Ordinance prohibits City resources from being used to aid federal immigration enforcement. However, today, the City witnessed through videos and media coverage Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) officers within the vicinity of ICE raids. LAPD's presence raises serious questions about whether we are abiding by our City's mandate as a Sanctuary City and is a cause for concern and confusion regarding LAPD's role.

I have begun communications with LAPD leadership to determine the reason behind LAPD's presence at today's raids. A preliminary explanation offered by LAPD is that LAPD is deployed to calls for help regardless of who is requesting their assistance, e.g. ICE, another agency or a member of the public. While we await formal answers to our community's questions, my Office will be assessing the impact that today's activities have had on our city resources and your tax dollars.

As City Controller, we will be formally requesting information from the LAPD to determine the financial impact these ICE raids have had in using City resources, such as the LAPD's involvement and response to the resulting demonstrations.

Kenneth Mejia

KENNETH MEJIA, CPA
City Controller