

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 14, 2019

Mr. Ronald D. Vitiello
Deputy Director and
Senior Official Performing the Duties of Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Deputy Director Vitiello:

We are greatly concerned about reports that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is systematically tracking peaceful, constitutionally protected gatherings organized by groups or individuals opposing President Trump's policies and are writing to request information about this disturbing and possibly unlawful practice.

On March 6, 2019, The Nation reported that ICE developed a document entitled "Anti-Trump Protest Spreadsheet 07/31/2018" listing specific information about public gatherings and rallies in New York City from July 31 through August 17, 2018. The list includes events related to immigration reform, racial unity, and gun safety, strongly suggesting ICE targeted only progressive gatherings or individuals who oppose the Trump Administration's policies on these issues. The document even included an event organized by a Member of Congress.

The spreadsheet raises important questions about ICE's possible misuse of authority and requires oversight to ensure that Americans' legal and constitutional rights are protected. Therefore, we request the following information by March 21, 2019:

- (1) A copy of the "Anti-Trump Protest Spreadsheet 07/31/2018" and any other text accompanying the document.
- (2) An explanation of the criteria ICE used to select gatherings or rallies for inclusion on the spreadsheet.
- (3) The name of the individual who authorized creation of the spreadsheet.
- (4) Copies of any other spreadsheets or lists ICE compiled or used to track demonstrations, rallies, or public gatherings in the last two years.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security



Kathleen M. Rice
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Border Security,
Facilitation, and Operations



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress