

RESOLUTION NO. NS-27,504

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ DECLARING
NON-COOPERATION WITH U.S. IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, the recent immigration raids, described by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as part of their “Operation: Return to Sender” in the City of Santa Cruz have disrupted the lives of many City residents and brought unnecessary fear and consternation into the lives of our local immigrant community; and

WHEREAS, it is not reasonable or constitutional and it is in fact deplorable to demand identification papers of people simply because they appear to be undocumented or because they live with a person who may be undocumented; and

WHEREAS, it traumatizes families and neighbors to be accosted in the day and especially to be awakened in the middle of the night by ICE agents who show up to serve a deportation order; and

WHEREAS, it is unacceptable to rip families apart especially since many of our Santa Cruz families are of mixed immigration status including, but not limited to, citizens, permanent legal residents, and temporary residents; and

WHEREAS, the ICE agency under the Bush Administration denied that deportation orders had been served in the middle of the night when in fact various local residents reported being awakened on the night of Thursday, September 7, 2006 by ICE agents who claimed to be serving deportation orders on specific individuals; and

WHEREAS, ICE agents also took into custody other individuals living in the home for whom they did not have deportation orders; and

WHEREAS, immigrants throughout the history of Santa Cruz have made enormous social, economic, and cultural contributions to our community; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the contributions of many of these individuals who were taken into custody far outweigh any federal immigration policies that ICE agents are trying to enforce in Santa Cruz; and

WHEREAS, we hereby declare that our communitywide effort to highlight and appreciate the contributions of our immigrant community to be part of our own “Operation: Postage Paid”; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of our immigrant community, the City of Santa Cruz rejects ICE’s recent and future deportation operations in our community, and invite other local jurisdictions to adopt similar resolutions to protect immigrants who live and work in their respective communities.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Santa Cruz that it declares itself a sanctuary for immigrants who live and work in our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it shall be the policy of the City Council that, to the fullest extent possible by law, the City of Santa Cruz shall not cooperate with ICE and shall prohibit the use of City funds or resources for any Federal immigration enforcement including, but not limited to, gathering or disseminating information regarding immigration status or country of birth of individuals in the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City Council hereby declares that it shall be the intent of the City Council to work with the City's Federal legislators to have ICE conduct community education forums in 2007 regarding ICE activities, protocols, programs, and procedures.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of April, 2007, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Robinson, Mathews, Madrigal, Rotkin, Vice Mayor Coonerty; Mayor Reilly.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Porter.

DISQUALIFIED: None.

APPROVED: _____
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk