

A child rapist, murderer and ISIS terror suspect: Just some of the violent criminals being hauled from their homes and booted out of America in Trump's mass deportation flights

Jan 2025, By Natasha Anderson, Daily Mail



A child rapist, murderer and a suspected [ISIS](#) terrorist are among the violent criminals being dragged from their homes and loaded onto deportation flights as [Donald Trump](#) ramps up his crackdown on illegal immigration.

Immigration officials arrested nearly 1,000 illegal migrants on Sunday alone - capping off a week of nationwide raids that removed thousands of criminals from city streets.

The [White House](#), hailing the federal agents who are 'working tirelessly to protect our communities', highlighted what it described as 'some of the

worst' migrants to be rounded up by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) over the weekend.

A Honduran national found with cocaine, fentanyl, and a firearm was arrested following a sting in [Washington state](#), while a Jordanian national with suspected ties to the Islamic State was detained in Buffalo, New York.

ICE arrested a Mexican national with an active [INTERPOL](#) Red Notice who was wanted for murder in [Los Angeles](#), as well as a gangster from El Salvador who was wanted for aggravated homicide.

At least two convicted child rapists were taken into custody over the weekend. Federal agents also detained dozens of members of the violent Venezuelan [crime](#) gang Tren de Aragua (TdA).

The Trump Administration has quickly moved to ramp up deportations and arrest illegal migrants who pose 'public safety threats ', specifically targeting sanctuary cities such as Chicago, San Francisco and San Jose - which bar cooperation between city police and immigration agents.

Trump has been unhappy with the number of arrests so far and has directed federal immigration officials to meet higher detention quotas. He has ordered ICE to raise the arrest numbers from a few hundred a day to at least 1,200 to 1,500, the Washington Post reported Sunday.

ICE reported making a total of 593 arrests on Friday and 286 arrests on Saturday. In the 2024 federal fiscal year, it averaged around 310 per day, according to agency data.



Edgar De La Cruz-Manzo, a convicted child rapist, was arrested by ICE Seattle on Jan. 25, 2025



A Jordanian national with suspected ties to ISIS was arrested by ICE Buffalo on January 24, 2025



ICE Los Angeles arrested two migrants with active INTERPOL Red Notices on January 24, 2025, including an MS-13 gang member from El Salvador wanted for aggravated homicide



A Mexican national wanted for murder with an active INTERPOL Red Notice was arrested by ICE Los Angeles on January 24, 2025



Kevin Adith Torres-Velasquez, a Honduran national found with cocaine, fentanyl, and a firearm was arrested by ICE Seattle on Jan. 24, 2025



Convicted sex offender and Ethiopian national Yared Geremew Mekonnen was arrested in New Orleans on January 24, 2025

Top Trump administration officials, including border czar Tom Homan and the acting deputy attorney general, made 956 arrests on Sunday alone in a series of nationwide raids aimed at capturing 'potentially dangerous criminal [aliens](#)'.

ICE detained nearly 50 people in [Colorado](#) in an operation that targeted TdA drug trafficking. Agents seized drugs including cocaine, multiple handguns and cash.

Authorities from six federal agencies raided churches and schools in [Chicago](#), a sanctuary city that Homan views as the 'ground zero' of the deportation push.

Agents detained several known TdA gang members, including Edgar Rivas-Rodriguez, who was walking the streets of Chicago despite having past convictions for possession of methamphetamine and leaving the scene of an accident-causing injury.

The ICE field office in Miami revealed confirmed that three illegal migrants were arrested in [Florida](#) and two in Puerto Rico on various charges including [domestic violence](#), aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, possession of oxycodone, and more.

Among the worst to be picked up by ICE over the weekend included Cesar Augusto Polanco, 59, a Dominican Republican national who was living free in Boston despite a criminal conviction for second-degree murder.

An illegal immigrant who has been convicted of child sex [crimes](#) was arrested in Chicago by ICE agents and Homan, who were accompanied by TV psychologist Dr Phil.

Dr. Phil, best known for his daytime talk show, was shocked when the migrant - who has since been identified as Sam Seda from [Thailand](#) - told him he was 'not really' a sex offender, despite having child sex crimes convictions.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Homeland Security offices noted additional weekend operations in at least [Arizona](#), [California](#), Georgia, [Nebraska](#), [New Jersey](#) and [Texas](#).



Austin Alvarran-Martinez, a twice-removed criminal alien from Mexico, was arrested in Marlin Falls County, Texas, on January 22. Alvarran has prior criminal convictions for cocaine trafficking and DWI. He is currently wanted for 10 counts of soliciting an unlawful purchase of a firearm and possession of a firearm by a felon



The first migrant arrested in ICE raids across Chicago on Sunday was Seda Sam, from Thailand. It was revealed that Sam was a 'convicted sex offender and internet predator'



Dr. Phil revealed that Sam was a 'convicted sex offender and internet predator'



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Among the worst of the worst to be picked up by ICE on Friday included Cesar Augusto Polanco, 59, a Dominican Republican national who was living free in Boston despite a criminal conviction for second-degree murder



The DEA Houston Division carries out a raid at home on Sunday as part of their immigration enforcement efforts

Officials carried out 'enhanced targeted operations' in Chicago 'to enforce US immigration law and preserve public safety and national security by [keeping potentially dangerous criminal aliens out of our communities](#)'.

The DEA's Chicago office posted pictures on X showing Acting Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove and Homan with agents from ATF and Customs and Border Protection.

Few details of the operation were immediately made public, including the number of arrests but sources involved told [NewsNation](#) that at least five of the detainees were TdA members.

ICE spokesman Jeff Carter said the agency 'began conducting enhanced targeted operations' Sunday in Chicago but declined other details. Spokesmen for the FBI, ATF and the DEA confirmed their involvement but didn't give other information.

But the sheer number of federal agencies involved showed Trump's willingness to use federal law enforcement beyond the Department of Homeland Security to [carry out his long-promised mass deportations](#).

Chicago residents, especially in immigrant circles, have already been on edge for months in anticipation of large-scale arrests touted by the Trump administration.

The atmosphere has been especially tense the past week as top Trump officials vowed to start immigration enforcement operations in Chicago the day after Trump's inauguration before walking back those statements.

Last week, Bove issued a memo ordering federal prosecutors to investigate state or local officials who they believe are interfering with the Trump administration's crackdown on immigration, in an apparent warning to the dozens of so-called sanctuary jurisdictions across America.



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Juan Misael Canales-Garcia, was one of several El Salvador citizens arrested, as he was found with previous convictions of robbery and kidnapping



In San Antonio, Texas, Venezuelan national Nestor Jose Mendoza-Garcia was picked up after being identified as an active member of the Tren de Aragua gang, and was found with a handgun related to an unsolved murder from November 2024



Authorities detained several known Tren de Aragua gang members, including Edgar Rivas-Rodriguez, who was walking the streets of Chicago despite past convictions for possession of methamphetamine and leaving the scene of an accident-causing injury

Chicago has some of the strongest sanctuary protections, which bar cooperation between city police and immigration agents.

Immigrant rights groups have tried to prepare for the aggressive crackdown with campaigns for immigrants to know their rights in case of an arrest. City officials have done the same, publishing similar information at public bus and train stations.

On Friday, Chicago Public Schools officials mistakenly believed ICE agents had come to a city elementary school and put out statements to that effect before learning the agents were from the Secret Service. Word of immigration agents at a school - which have long been off limits to immigration agents until Trump ended the policy last week - drew swift criticism from community groups and Gov. JB Pritzker.

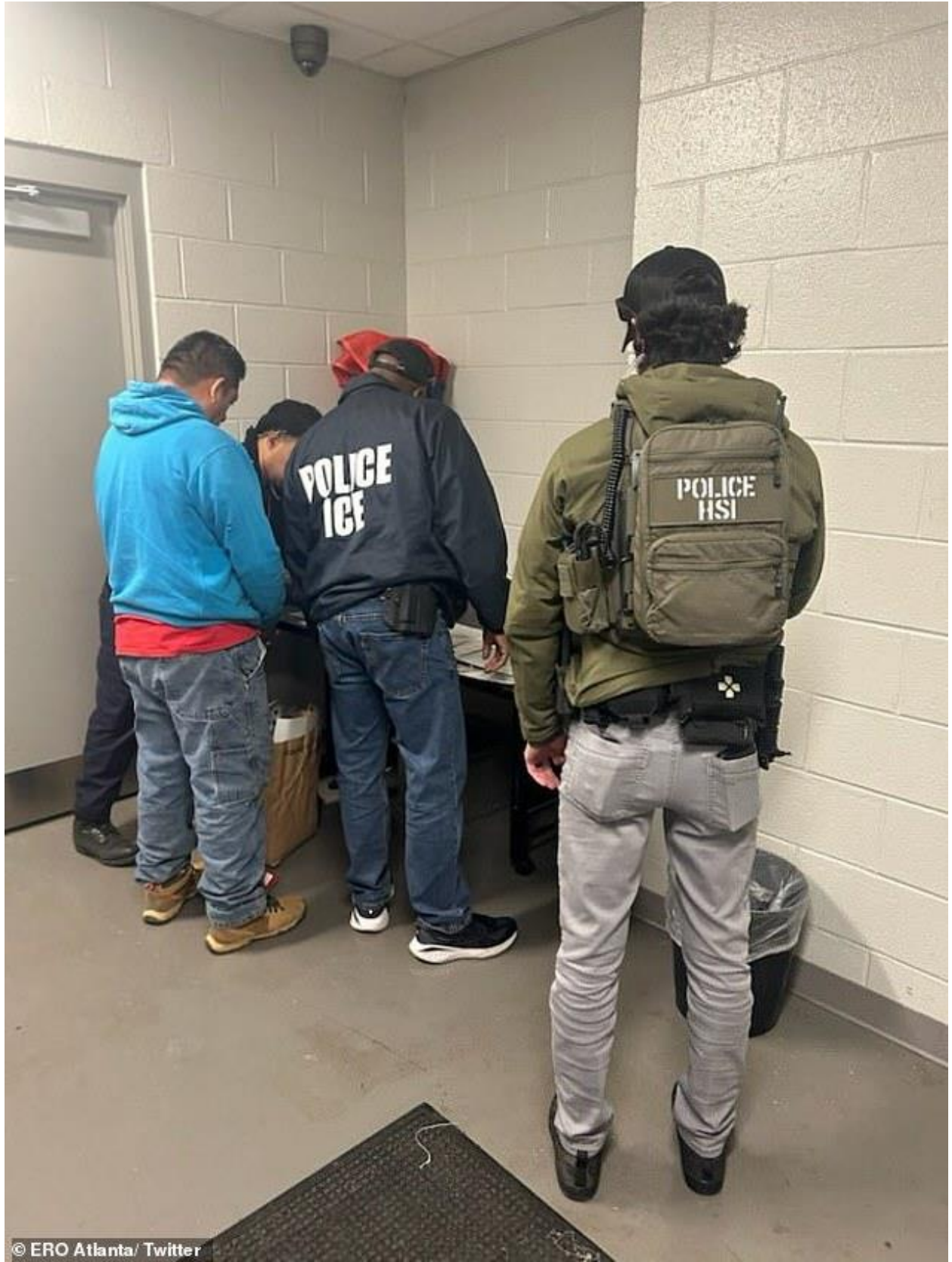
The Democratic governor, a frequent Trump critic, questioned the aggressive approach of the operations and the chilling effect for others, particularly for law-abiding immigrants who have been in the country for years.

'We need to get rid of the violent criminals. But we also need to protect people, at least the residents of Illinois and all across the nation, who are just doing what we hope that immigrants will do,' Pritzker said Sunday on CNN's 'State of the Union.'

On Saturday, several Chicago-based immigrant rights groups filed a lawsuit against ICE, seeking an injunction prohibiting certain types of immigration raids in Chicago.

'Immigrant communities who have called Chicago their home for decades are scared,' said Antonio Gutierrez from Organized Communities Against

Deportation, one of the plaintiffs. 'We refuse to live in fear and will fight any attempts to roll back the work we've done to keep families together.'



Homeland Security and ICE agents arrested 'criminal aliens that threaten our communities' in Atlanta, Georgia on Sunday



Homeland Security, Enforcement and Removal Operations agents and the Justice Department arrested at least illegal aliens in Florida on Sunday, according to officials in Miami

San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan's office confirmed that ICE conducted a raid in the California city on Sunday, although he did not disclose details about the operation.

'I sincerely hope that ICE remains focused on enforcement actions related to violent and serious criminals harming our city,' Mahan told KRON-TV. 'Not neighbors who are contributing and law-abiding members of our community.'

The Los Angeles Division of the DEA confirmed that it 'participated in an operation' on Sunday, aiding other federal agencies in their 'immigration enforcement efforts'.

ICE agents in Newark, New Jersey raided a seafood store and detained three people, including a US military veteran on Thursday, the mayor confirmed.

Mayor Andre Sayegh, of nearby Patterson, NJ, said agents were also carrying out raids in his city - although he was not as supportive of the efforts of other leaders whose cities were raided over the weekend.

'We are genuinely concerned,' Mayor Sayegh told PIX11. 'We are a welcoming city. Quite frankly, there has to be an appropriate procedure. If they have a warrant, we understand. If they don't, people have to know their rights.'



At least 50 illegal immigrants have been arrested during a raid on a Venezuelan Tren de Aragua gang party in Colorado on Sunday



© DEA Rocky Mountain Field Division

The early morning raid was conducted alongside officers from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)



© DEA Rocky Mountain Field Division

Drug Enforcement Administration officials found at least 49 people inside a makeshift nightclub in Adams County on Sunday morning - 41 of which were undocumented migrants



Donald Trump's crackdown on immigration has ramped up with federal agents arresting nearly 1,000 illegal migrants in one day

The DEA also posted pictures Sunday on social media of an operation at a location in the Denver area, where roughly 50 people were taken into custody.

Jonathan Pullen, special agent in charge for the DEA Rocky Mountain field division, said the Colorado operation targeted drug trafficking by the TdA.

He said about 100 agents and officers, including from the DEA, ICE, ATF and Homeland Security Investigations, carried out a federal search warrant for drug trafficking around 5am Sunday at a location where TdA members were having a party.

ICE detained nearly 50 people and transported them on a bus to one of its processing centers in nearby Aurora, Pullen said. As of Sunday afternoon, about 40 people remained in ICE custody, he said.

'They ran all of the information while they were on scene and they determined, ICE determined, that they were here illegally or they had some other violation in the immigration system, and they detained and arrested them,' Pullen said.

A 'handful' of US citizens were also at the site, Pullen added.

Agents seized drugs including cocaine, multiple handguns and cash, Pullen said, adding that the investigation started under the Biden administration and is continuing under the Trump administration.

The DEA and ICE have been cooperating for decades and there was nothing new about the two agencies coordinating, he said.

A Trump executive order paves the way for criminal organizations such as TdA to be named 'foreign terrorist organizations.'

Armed members of the Venezuelan gang were caught on video entering an Aurora apartment complex unit last summer in footage that [drew Trump's attention during the presidential campaign](#).



© HSI Newark/ Twitter

Homeland Security and ICE agents conducted enhanced targeted operations throughout the state of New Jersey on Sunday to 'enforce immigration law and preserve public safety and national security by keeping potentially dangerous criminal aliens out of our communities'



A DEA officer is seen carrying out an immigration enforcement raid in the Houston, Texas area on Sunday. The DEA was accompanied by the DOJ and other federal law enforcement partners

ICE said it made 956 arrests nationwide on Sunday and 286 on Saturday. While some of the operations may not have been unusual, ICE averaged 311 daily arrests in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30.

Bove said he observed immigration agents from the DHS along with agents from the [FBI](#), DEA and the Bureau of [Alcohol](#), Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

He didn't offer details on the operation, which came days after DHS expanded immigration authority to agencies in the Department of Justice, including the DEA and ATF.

'We will support everyone at the federal, state, and local levels who joins this critical mission to take back our communities,' Bove said in a statement.

'We will use all available tools to address obstruction and other unlawful impediments to our efforts to protect the homeland. Most importantly, we will not rest until the work is done.'

Trump - who during his campaign said that immigrants were 'poisoning the blood' of the United States - took office with promises to round up and swiftly deport undocumented people.

While some countries including Guatemala have accepted military deportation flights, Trump had faced resistance from Colombia President Gustavo Petro, a former guerrilla elected in 2022 as Colombia's first left-wing leader.



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A plane carrying 88 migrants deported from the US landed in Brazil on Saturday. Brazil 's government expressed outrage on Saturday over the 'degrading' treatment of the deportees, alleging the US has displayed a 'flagrant disregard' for their rights



Footage captured at Eduardo Gomes International Airport in Manaus, Brazil on Saturday shows how the migrants were handcuffed and tied at the feet, with some even having been hooded



Trump's deportation threats have put him on a potential collision course with governments in Latin America, the original home of most of America's estimated 11 million undocumented migrants.

Brazil, which is also led by a left-wing president, voiced outrage over treatment by the Trump administration of dozens of Brazilian migrants deported back to their country on Friday.

The migrants, who were deported under a bilateral agreement predating Trump's return, were handcuffed on the flight, in what Brazil called 'flagrant disregard' for their basic rights.

While previous US administrations also routinely carried out deportations, the Trump administration has begun using military aircraft, with at least one landing in Guatemala this week.

