

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONDEMNING THE U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT RAIDS CONDUCTED ON JANUARY 26, 2025, AND AFFIRMING DEKALB COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND THE SAFETY OF ALL RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) conducted raids in several communities within DeKalb County, resulting in the detention of several individuals; and

WHEREAS, reports indicate that ICE officers attempted to enter Iglesia Fuente de Vida Church in Tucker during a religious service and arrested a parishioner outside the church premises, causing significant concern among community members; and

WHEREAS, such actions have instilled fear and instability among residents, particularly within our immigrant communities, and are contrary to the values of diversity and inclusion that DeKalb County upholds; and

WHEREAS, the Latin American Association (LAA) and other local organizations have expressed apprehension regarding the lack of prior notification about these indiscriminant raids and the subsequent impact on the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of fostering a community where all residents feel safe, valued, and included, regardless of their immigration status;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners hereby:

1. Condemns the ICE raids conducted on January 26, 2025, within DeKalb County, viewing them as actions that undermine community trust and safety.
2. Affirms its commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of all residents, emphasizing that DeKalb County is a welcoming community that celebrates diversity and inclusion.
3. Supports local organizations, such as the Latin American Association, in their efforts to educate and assist community members regarding their rights and to provide resources to families affected by immigration enforcement actions.
4. Encourages all residents to stand in solidarity with their neighbors, fostering an environment of compassion, understanding, and mutual respect.
5. Calls upon federal immigration authorities to conduct their operations with transparency, respect for individual rights, and in a manner that does not disrupt the peace and cohesion of our communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, and the members of DeKalb County's congressional delegation.