

Statement of Concern Regarding ICE Operations and Recruitment at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

January 27, 2025

To the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law Administration:

We, the undersigned members of the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law (“Arizona Law”) and the broader Tucson community, write to formally express our deep concerns regarding Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations at the University of Arizona, within the city of Tucson, and across the nation. We implore the administration of Arizona Law to stand with their students and commit to non-collaboration with ICE’s presence, recruitment, and unlawful actions at Arizona Law.

Our concerns are grounded in widely documented reports of ICE’s unlawful and brutal detention practices, warrantless raids, and violent targeting of peaceful protestors and bystanders across the country. ICE agents continually violate civilians’ constitutional protections against unlawful seizures, flagrantly disregard due process, and employ racial profiling as a policing tactic. ICE’s continuous use of lethal force against peaceful demonstrators has resulted in the murder of two Minneapolis residents in January alone. With augmented funding and impunity, these activities will only escalate, threatening the safety of our students and the broader community.

Many members of our University of Arizona and Tucson communities have already been detained and deported through escalated enforcement tactics. Members of our community have been the targets of warrantless raids and have faced brutal repression from ICE agents through the use of tear gas, flash grenades, and physical violence. Members of our community are facing criminal charges for legal, peaceful protest and observation. This is deeply alarming to many in our community. Congresswoman Adelita Grijalva has called ICE a “lawless agency” that is terrorizing communities across the country and operating with “no transparency, no accountability, and open disregard for basic due process.”¹

This week, the Tucson City Council unanimously supported a motion to draft an ordinance banning ICE operations on city-owned property without a warrant.² City Council members unanimously shared their opposition to ICE activity in the Tucson area, with one councilmember stating firmly, “We are not going to fall in line.”³

Now we ask that the administration of Arizona Law do the same within their purview.

Last week, members of Arizona Law’s American Constitution Society (ACS) submitted a letter raising concerns with the Career Development Office (CDO) and Interim Dean Jason Kreag regarding ICE’s recruitment of Arizona Law students via a job posting on our employment platform, CareerCAT, and participation in our public sector job fair, the Sonoran Public Sector Interview Program. Citing concerns about ICE’s current operations as stated above, ACS asked that the Arizona Law administration “stay true

¹<https://grijalva.house.gov/media/press-releases/grijalva-calls-out-ice-s-abusive-tactics-after-tucson-raid-no-transparency-no-accountability#:~:text=ICE%20has%20become%20a%20lawless.get%20clear%20answers%20and%20accountability.%E2%80%9D>

²<https://www.kold.com/2026/01/22/tucson-mayor-council-working-ban-ice-city-property/>

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to its commitment to stand against brazen violations of the rule of law” and “refuse that its resources be used to support the erosion of due process” by allowing ICE to be included in our school’s recruitment programs.⁴

In response to the letter, Interim Dean Kreag and Associate Dean Karen Kowalski met with Arizona Law students on January 20th, 2026. The Deans stated that they would not take any steps to remove the job posting nor take a stance on the University of Arizona’s collaboration with ICE more broadly, citing First Amendment concerns. Our opposition to Arizona Law’s collaboration with ICE goes beyond mere ideological difference, but rather is grounded in a material threat to student safety and concern for ICE’s widespread, documented constitutional violations.

We submit this letter in solidarity with students from across the University of Arizona campus, Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, and students throughout the country rejecting their institutions’ complicity with ICE.⁵

ACCORDINGLY, WE DEMAND THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) **Immediate removal of ICE from the Arizona Law student recruitment process.** The CDO must remove any job postings from ICE and not allow ICE to use Arizona Law platforms and resources to recruit students in the future. These demands are grounded in the expectation that the CDO would work to remove job postings from any organization or firm engaged in widely documented constitutional violations and unlawful violence against civilians. While ICE has moved to conduct all student interviews online, we believe that continuing to endorse and assist ICE’s recruitment efforts on our employment recruitment platform shows complicity with the aforementioned abuses.
- 2) **The administration of Arizona Law takes active steps to protect students against ICE.** In alignment with broader University of Arizona student demands, we urge an agreement not to invite or allow ICE attendance to any events or spaces associated with Arizona Law.⁶
- 3) **The administration of Arizona Law stands behind students who express their opposition to ICE.** Arizona Law will not tolerate retaliatory behavior made by faculty, staff, or any other member of the Arizona Law community towards students for exercising their First Amendment rights.

We respectfully ask that the Arizona Law administration provide a timely response to our demands.

Signed,
National Lawyers Guild Student Chapter at Arizona Law



⁴ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rQqCDK0u2Vv-6lAsjChII-ngqxFZvAzpD01UHbhp1WM/edit?usp=sharing>

⁵ https://www.instagram.com/p/DTyNluLks9/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRlODBiNWFIZA==

⁶ <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/protect-university-of-arizona-students-from-ice/>