



Township of South Orange Village

Office of the Village President

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To Members of the South Orange Community:

Earlier this week, several news outlets began reporting on raids that would be undertaken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This followed a tweet by President Trump on Monday, June 17, 2019 stating “millions” of undocumented immigrants will be removed from the United States “next week.”

Many concerned residents have asked what this will mean for our community. While I cannot speculate as to whether South Orange will be directly impacted by measures undertaken by the federal government, I can reassure you that local law enforcement will not be cooperating unless legally compelled to do so.

Specifically, Resolution 2017-27, adopted by the Board of Trustees on February 13, 2017, states:

“...The Village hereby adopts and announces a clear policy, consistent with the Village’s existing and historic practices, that the South Orange Police Department has not and will not enforce federal immigration law nor help facilitate ICE deportations, except where legally required to do so. The Village and the Police Department will not enter into any contracts, agreements or arrangements, including “287(g) agreements” or Intergovernmental Service Agreements with the federal government that deputize local law enforcement officers to act as immigration agents or use local facilities to house immigrants in deportation proceedings.”

“... The Township of South Orange, including its departments, employees and officials shall not expend Village funds or resources to enforce Federal Immigration Laws unless required by Federal or State statutes, regulations, court decisions or directives and guidelines of the New Jersey Attorney General.”

At this time, there has been no correspondence from the federal government to local law enforcement. Chief Kyle Kroll has assured the Board of Trustees that he will keep us informed and has reinforced to all supervisors the Village’s clearly defined policies as stated above.

Additionally, “Know Your Rights” resources are available at www.njimmigrantjustice.org.

Sincerely,

Sheena Collum
Village President

Cc: South Orange Board of Trustees
Adam Loehner, Village Administrator
Kyle Kroll, Chief of Police