

URGENT ACTION

STOP TARGETING IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT CRITICS

After federal immigration agents fatally shot two individuals in Minnesota, David Streever emailed Todd Lyons, then-Acting Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on 26 January to express his outrage. In June, immigration agents went to Streever's home in New York (while he was abroad) to issue a "warning notice" that he may have "threatened" Lyons. Streever's case is among a growing list of individuals whose criticism of immigration enforcement is met with formal notices from the government, including administrative subpoenas. These actions threaten their right to freedom of expression. The government should cease targeting and intimidating immigration enforcement critics.

TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER

Department of Homeland Security
Attn: Secretary Markwayne Mullin
Washington, DC 20528
Email: dhssecretary@hq.dhs.gov

Dear Secretary Mullin,

*I am writing to urge you to cease intimidation tactics against **David Streever**, including revoking the warning notice issued against him. As you may be aware, on 23 June 2026, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) agents arrived at David Streever's home in New York to issue a "warning notice" claiming that he may have "threatened" then-Acting Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Todd Lyons and in doing so may have violated federal law.*

I find this warning notice troubling and a threat to freedom of expression, especially as it solely relates to an email Mr. Streever sent in January 2026 following the fatal shootings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti by ICE and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents in Minnesota. In the email, he communicated his outrage and grave concern over the agencies' violent tactics.

Mr. Streever was abroad at the time the officials attempted to issue the warning notice. It was therefore also distressing to learn that, upon his return to the USA, an HSI agent tracked his whereabouts to the hotel where he was staying for the night and left a business card. As I am sure you would agree, this raises privacy concerns.

I find it alarming that this is not an isolated incident. Multiple news outlets, members of Congress, and non-governmental organizations have also reported that some who speak out against ICE's abuses have been issued a warning notice or administrative subpoena for their online activism.

These are intimidation tactics to silence dissent and prevent the spread of information. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), ratified by the USA, protects everyone's right to freely express their opinions without interference and to be free from arbitrary and unlawful interference with respect to their privacy.

I urge you to revoke the warning notice against Mr. Streever and protect his right to freely express his opinions without interference, cease the issuance of and revoke warning notices and administrative subpoenas against those peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression; and respect the rights to privacy and freedom of expression for all.

Sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In December 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) launched “Operation Metro Surge” in Minnesota, which deployed more than 4,000 federal agents to the area targeting Minnesotans of Somali descent and other racialized immigrants. President Trump previously called those of Somali descent “garbage” that “are completely taking over the once great State of Minnesota.” This operation resulted in numerous human rights violations including widespread racial profiling, arbitrary detention, unlawful surveillance, repression of protests and excessive use of force, including lethal force against three individuals.

Videos of immigration agents engaging in violent and fatal interactions were widely circulated and shared across the media. Outraged by the actions of the government, New York state resident, David Streever emailed the then-Acting director of ICE, Todd Lyons, on 26 January to express his sentiment. The email, titled “What’s next”, compares Lyons to a Nazi war criminal and states that Lyon’s protection of those who killed Renee Good and Alex Pretti would give him a sense of “shame” that will “torment” him until his “last day on Earth.”

Five months later, HSI agents came to Streever’s home while he was out of the United States and gave his wife a notice addressed to Streever stating that he “may be in violation of federal law” due to the email he sent. The warning notice alluded to his email as threatening and that it is “unlawful” to “impede, intimidate, and/or interfere with a federal official...due to the performance of their duties.” Upon his return to the United States, federal agents tracked his movements to his hotel in New York City where he stayed for one night after arriving at the airport. An agent left his card at the hotel front desk with instructions for Streever to call him. Since receiving the warning notice, Streever is afraid to speak out against the government for fear of escalated retaliation.

Streever’s “warning notice” is part of a wider [pattern](#) by DHS to quell dissenting voices, including by [issuing](#) administrative subpoenas to technology companies, including social media companies and email service providers. These administrative subpoenas [request](#) background and biographical information of online users who criticize the government’s immigration enforcement actions and tactics. The US government’s issuance of administrative subpoenas and [warning notices](#) raise significant concerns regarding interference with the right to freedom of expression through intimidation and the right to privacy as protected by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which the USA has signed and ratified. Amnesty International is concerned that these formal notices are an attempt to intimidate and silence individuals who are exercising their right to freedom of expression to express concerns about human rights abuses committed during ICE enforcement operations.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English. You can also write in your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: 1 February 2027

Please check with the Amnesty office in your country if you wish to send appeals after the deadline.

NAME AND PRONOUN: David Streever, he/him