VICENTE SARMIENTO



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July 15, 2025

Judge Maame Ewusi-Mensah Frimpong U.S. District Court for Central California

RE: ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' EX PARTE APPLICATIONS FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REGARDING PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION [ECF NOS. 38, 45]

Case No.: 2:25-cv-05605-MEMF-SP

Honorable Judge Frimpong,

I represent the Second District on the Orange County Board of Supervisors, which includes the City of Santa Ana, and portions of the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove, Orange, and Tustin. My district is the heart of Orange County, comprised of hard-working immigrant communities from around the world, including vibrant Latino, Vietnamese, and Arabic communities.

Our residents have been directly affected by the government's immigration enforcement efforts and the unconstitutional and terror tactics that are being used on our streets, including the use of roving immigration sweeps that target individuals based only on their race, skin tone, accented speech, and the nature of their employment.

Individuals involved in sweeps, many of whom are U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, or hold valid legal status, are frequently interrogated without probable cause or even reasonable suspicion of any legal violation. These actions are conducted with no regard for individual rights and outside the bounds of lawful constitutional enforcement.

Such individuals are often denied due process, mistreated in custody, and frequently denied access to legal counsel. These practices are in direct violation of fundamental constitutional protections and long-standing legal norms designed to prevent abuse of government power.

Federal agencies have been directed to meet arbitrary detention quotas and carry out warrantless public enforcement actions, creating a pathway to the indiscriminate arrest of day laborers, agricultural workers, and factory workers. These practices fail to identify credible threats or enforce immigration laws effectively; instead, they disproportionately target minority and working-class communities based on broad and unjustified assumptions.

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These actions are causing irreparable harm to the individuals directly affected and to our communities at large. The constitutional rights of all residents are undermined when government agencies operate without transparency, accountability, or legal justification.

Under the well-established standard for a preliminary injunction, the facts here more than satisfy the four-part test. First, the plaintiffs are likely to succeed on the merits, as the enforcement tactics in question clearly violate Fourth and Fifth Amendment protections. Second, the communities I represent, and many others like them, are experiencing irreparable harm through continued rights violations, family separations, and systemic fear. Third, the balance of equities weighs heavily in favor of halting these unconstitutional actions; any asserted interest in aggressive immigration enforcement cannot justify tactics that discard legal protections and disproportionately harm lawful residents. Finally, an injunction clearly serves the public interest, as it upholds constitutional values, protects vulnerable communities, and reinforces trust in public institutions.

I respectfully urge the Court to issue a permanent injunction barring the defendant federal agencies from continuing immigration enforcement practices that violate the constitutional rights of working-class and minority communities.

Sincerely,

Vicente Sarmiento

Supervisor, Second District

Orange County Board of Supervisors