



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2025

### **California Public Defenders Association Condemns ICE Raids, State Violence Against Protesters, and Stands in Solidarity with SEIU and Community Defenders**

**SACRAMENTO, CA** — The California Public Defenders Association (CPDA) strongly condemns the recent actions by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including the violent and unlawful apprehension of individuals in our neighborhoods. These state-sponsored raids are part of a broader war on migrants — our neighbors, clients, and family members — who are integral to the fabric of our communities. These actions represent a stark violation of civil liberties, an abuse of federal power, and a betrayal of California's commitment to immigrant rights and sanctuary values.

Defenders across the state are already seeing the devastating human consequences of these actions: children left without parents, long-term residents torn from their communities, and legal residents wrongly swept up in mass enforcement. These are not isolated cases—they are evidence of systemic harm.

We commend those who have taken courageous, protected action to stand up for their neighbors and to resist illegal and immoral government operations. This includes not only community members and legal advocates, but labor leaders and frontline workers.

CPDA stands shoulder to shoulder with SEIU and with their President David Huerta, whose unwavering support for immigrant and working-class communities mirrors our daily fight for justice. We work alongside SEIU members every day in our offices, courthouses, jails, and communities across California — united in the struggle for dignity and safety for all.

As the statewide voice for attorneys who represent people accused of crimes, CPDA also denounces the use of violence and intimidation by law enforcement against protesters. Peaceful protest is a right enshrined in both the U.S. Constitution and the California Constitution. The state has no authority to brutalize those who speak out for justice.

"This moment demands moral clarity," said CPDA Board President **Tracie Olson**. "We will not stand by while ICE terrorizes our communities, or while law enforcement attacks the people who dare to oppose it. CPDA is proud to defend those who defend others — in the streets, in the courts, and in the halls of power."

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