

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

CHRISTOPHER R. HIXON, STAFF DIRECTOR
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June 8, 2017

The Honorable John Roth
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Drive SW, Building 410
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Inspector General Roth:

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is a vital component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), with the responsibility for identifying, arresting, and removing “aliens who represent a danger to national security or are a risk to public safety.”¹ Additionally, ICE personnel enforce a diverse array of federal statutes, to include financial crimes, money laundering, narcotics and weapons trafficking, transnational gang activity, and human trafficking.² According to ICE officials, ICE has already recorded 19 incidents of assault on ICE law enforcement personnel for this year through May 22, 2017, compared to only 24 assaults recorded during all of 2016.³ Given this increase and the potential consequences for the safety of law enforcement personnel at ICE, we write to request that you review the following:

- 1) The number of assaults ICE law enforcement personnel sustained during the course of their duty for each year since fiscal year 2010, including the locations of each assault, the type of assault, days lost to injury, and any trends that have emerged;
- 2) The methods that ICE uses to collect, compile, track, and report data on ICE law enforcement personnel injuries in the field;
- 3) Any measures DHS has taken to improve ICE law enforcement personnel safety in the field, including tactical and de-escalation training;
- 4) Measures that ICE could take to promote law enforcement personnel safety in the future;

¹ U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, *Enforcement and Removal Operations*, (<https://www.ice.gov/ero>) (Accessed May 3, 2017).

² U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, *Homeland Security Investigations*, (<https://www.ice.gov/hsi>) (Accessed May 3, 2017).

³ Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Briefing with Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Staff (May 25, 2017).

- 5) Actions taken against offenders, including how many incidents resulted in prosecution;
- 6) Initiatives, if any, that help provide a safer working environment for ICE law enforcement personnel; and
- 7) Policies that DHS should consider to improve the safety of ICE personnel during the course of their duty.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Joske Bautista on Chairman Johnson's staff at Joske_Bautista@hsgac.senate.gov and Caitlin Warner on Ranking Member McCaskill's staff at Caitlin_Warner@hsgac.senate.gov. Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
Chairman



Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable John F. Kelly
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security