Sanctuary jurisdictions have laws, ordinances, regulations, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from ICE—either by refusing to or prohibiting agencies from complying with ICE detainers, denying ICE access to incarcerated aliens, or otherwise obstructing communications between local and federal immigration officers.

Sanctuary Jurisdictions Release Criminals onto the Streets

- Sanctuary jurisdictions claim that their policies will encourage immigrants to come forward and report crimes, but there is no empirical evidence that this true. Rather, these policies re-release criminals into immigrant communities.

- During a 10-week period in the spring of 2018 in Massachusetts, a sanctuary state, local jails released 238 criminal aliens from custody before ICE could act. Among those freed were murderers and rapists.

- ICE studied New York City for a three-month period, from January to April 2018, and found that police there ignored 440 detainer notices. Within that short period of time, 40 of those individuals released subsequently committed more crimes and were re-arrested.

- In February 2018, ICE officers in California were forced to conduct at-large arrests in the community because they are not allowed in county jails. The operation netted 212 aliens, 195 of whom were convicted criminals, including pedophiles.

Sources: ICE data, ICE-ERO Boston Field Office, Pew Research Center FactTank, Harvard/Harris February 2017 poll