

ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Ad Hoc Committee for Immigrant and Refugee Rights



The State of Immigrant and Refugee Rights in Alameda County

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Presentation Overview

- I Brief history of the Ad Hoc Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- II Findings of the report
- III Recommendations for county agencies and departments to improve safe access to services
- IV Break for questions and discussion
- V Overview of the recommendations to the Board of Supervisors
- VI Questions and discussion of the recommendations to the Board

The Ad Hoc Committee for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

- Created in December 2016
- Assess the work of county agencies with regards to immigrant and refugee rights
- Hear from immigrant and refugee communities
- Meetings held from February 2017 to July 2018
- Know Your Rights trainings and legal consults funded by the San Francisco Foundation



Additional Review of County Efforts

- Agency policies, over 10,000 documents
- Procedures for interactions with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Interviews with key agency staff and directors
- Make recommendations to the agencies and to the Board

The State of Immigrant and Refugee Rights in Alameda County

Final Report of the Alameda County
Ad Hoc Committee on Immigrant
and Refugee Rights

December 20, 2021

Commissioned by the Office of Alameda County Supervisor Richard Valle



Findings

- Communication with Immigrant and Refugee Communities
- Communication with county agency staff
- Training
- Convening multi-agency task forces and a “system of care”
- Extended services and benefits
- Funded immigrant and refugee serving community based organizations



Findings



- Engaged in policy advocacy work benefiting immigrants and refugees
- Passed its own immigrant and refugee supporting policies and implemented anti-deportation laws

Areas for Improvement for all agencies

- Amend grievance and appeal procedures
- Revise non-discrimination materials to prohibit discrimination on the basis of immigration status





Recommendations for the Office of Education

- Support Districts in minimizing interactions between law enforcement and undocumented students in schools
- Expand mental health, social health, and emotional support services to Mam, Farsi, and Arabic-speaking immigrant youth
- Support each district in hiring an immigration legal point person



Recommendations for the Health Care Services Agency

- Behavioral Health Care Department – Update handbooks to reflect new Medi-cal eligibility for all undocumented youth under 21
- Public Health Department – create policies to implement the California Values Act (SB54), monitor utilization of services



Recommendations for the Probation Department

- Create a comprehensive scenarios training for the department's "Immigration Issues" policy 290.



Recommendations for the Sheriff's Office

- Discontinue providing ICE with release information, transferring custody of inmates to ICE
- Disallow ICE to interview inmates
- Provide notifications to inmates upon receiving them without delay and prior to responding to ICE
- Provide "movement logs" to County Counsel, the County Administrator, and the Board of Supervisors



Recommendations for the Sheriff's Office

- Track the number of arrests ICE makes on ACSO property of individuals released to the public
- Assess the legality of a potential ICE California Public Records Act (CPRA) request
- Modify ACSO policy to limit records disclosure to ICE where legally allowed.



Recommendations for the Sheriff's Office

- Remove ACSO policy language that allows for immigration status inquiries in certain circumstances
- Consult County Counsel about the legality of sharing personal information with the federal government through the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) reimbursement application process.



Recommendations for the Social Services Agency

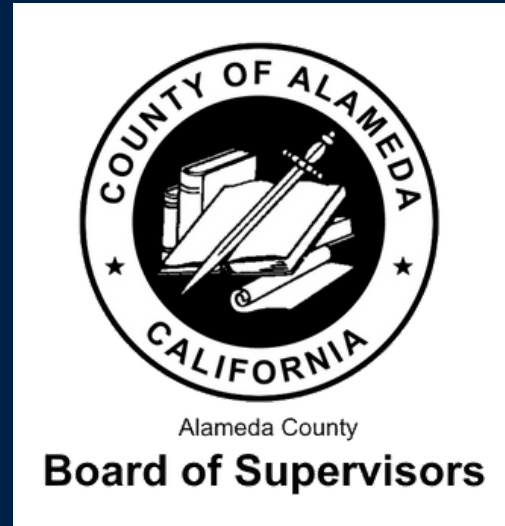
- Screen Permanent Residence Under the Color of Law (PRUCOL) applicants for whether they have arrest warrants
- Inform them of potential immigration consequences of applying for PRUCOL
- Provide immigration legal services information to denied applicants
- Monitor PRUCOL denials
- Follow up with denied applicants

Questions and Discussion



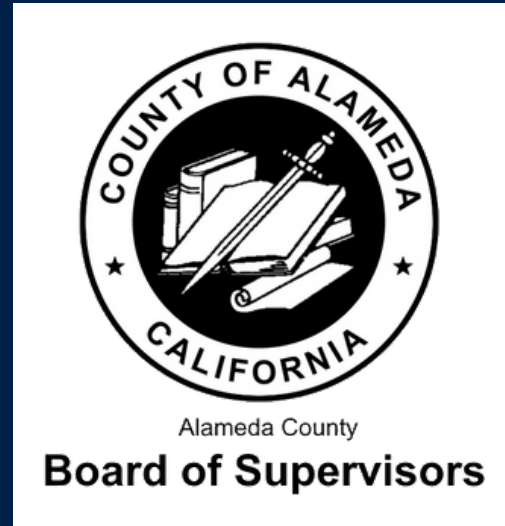
Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors





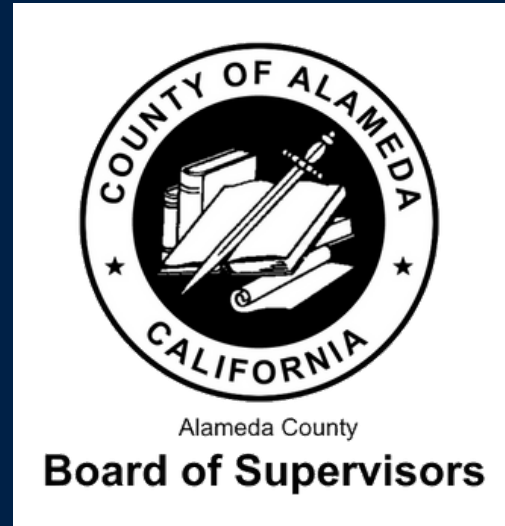
Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

1. Pass a county-wide ordinance disallowing the use of county resources for immigration enforcement assistance and information sharing with ICE
2. Investigate the jail release process for people targeted by ICE



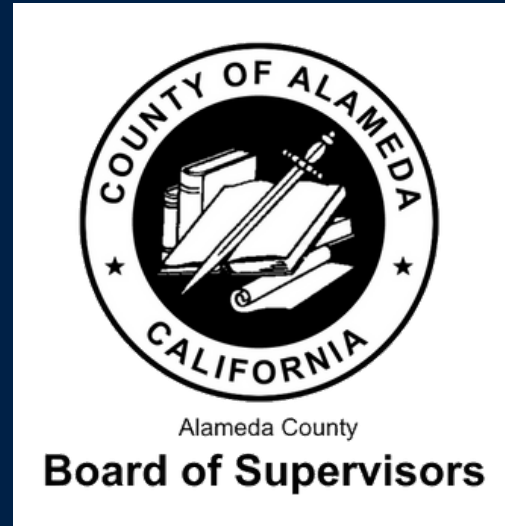
Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

3. Fund an additional 1.5FTE for the Public Defender's Immigration Representation Unit to extend its Padilla attorney from part-time to full time and to create a full-time position for the Unit's federal impact litigation attorney
4. Expand funding for immigration legal advice provided by local immigration legal organizations



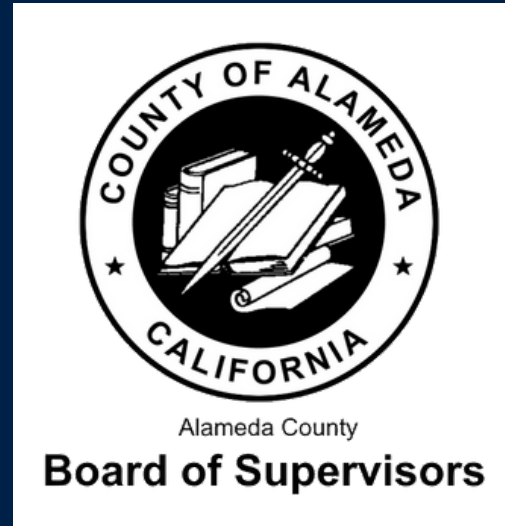
Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

5. Increase earmarked funding for the District Attorney to provide victims services outreach and investigations in private community settings with immigrant victims of crimes



Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

6. Create an Alameda County Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs
 - Support the Board and County Agencies on immigrant issues
 - Education, training, providing informational resources
 - Drafting immigrant related policies
 - Monitor immigrant and refugee access to services
 - Outreach
 - Central point of information for immigrant and refugee communities



Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

7. Identify needed re-entry services for immigrants and refugees after they have been released from immigration detention
8. Review contracts to identify vendors that assist ICE and replace those contracts with vendors that do not provide this assistance
9. Advocate for pro-immigrant and refugee state and federal policy
10. Undertake a public messaging campaign

Questions and Discussion of the Recommendations to the Board

