

# Onondaga County Sheriff's Office Statement

“The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) has no specific policy or memorandum of understanding with ICE. The Sheriff has worked with our federal law enforcement partners for years regarding criminal investigations, such as with the FBI on a bank robbery or human trafficking and with the U.S. Marshals' Office to locate federal fugitives. The Sheriff's Office's interactions with the immigrant population almost always result from a criminal investigation or traffic violations.

Any interaction with an undocumented immigrant would align with the guidance of Attorney General Letitia James and her predecessors (which is how the Sheriff's Office has always done business). Any arrest or detainment of an undocumented immigrant would be based on a detainer or administrative warrant signed by a judge. Any sharing of information would also be aligned with the AG's Guidance”

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“The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) is committed to ensuring that all individuals, including New Americans and undocumented individuals with language barriers, are treated with respect and dignity. OCSO employs a diverse group of deputies who can connect with individuals from various cultural backgrounds, helping to bridge language and cultural gaps. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office provides access to an interpretation hotline, offering real-time translation services to assist individuals who may not speak English.

This service ensures that everyone can communicate effectively and have their voices heard, whether in routine encounters or more serious situations. OCSO strives to build trust and foster positive relationships with all members of the community, recognizing the importance of clear communication and cultural sensitivity. By providing these resources, the Sheriff's Office supports a safer, more inclusive environment for everyone in Onondaga County.”