

5 **A RESOLUTION**  
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7 Affirming Milwaukee County's Dedication to Justice, Safety, and Access at the  
8 Milwaukee County Courthouse Complex  
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11 WHEREAS, every day, Milwaukee County residents come to the Milwaukee  
12 County Courthouse Complex to access essential services, seek justice through our  
13 legal system, and engage with elected representatives; and  
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15 WHEREAS, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported on April 4, 2025, that U.S.  
16 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents arrested two people in the  
17 hallways of the Milwaukee County Courthouse and the Safety Building; and  
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19 WHEREAS, the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States  
20 Constitution, along with Section 7 of the Wisconsin Constitution, guarantee all persons  
21 the right to a fair trial and due process of law; and  
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23 WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statutes § [59.17\(2\)\(b\)3.](#) and [59.52\(6\)\(b\)](#) provide  
24 the County Executive authority to "make all orders concerning county property," with the  
25 general exception of park lands, to "protect the interests of the county;" and  
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27 WHEREAS, Chief Judge Carl Ashley released a statement, "[Allowing ICE  
28 agents to operate within the Courthouse Complex] undermines the principles of justice,  
29 fairness, and equality before the law, and ultimately jeopardizes the rights of individuals  
30 seeking to navigate the legal process;" and  
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32 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley stated, "An attack on  
33 this safe, community-serving space undermines public trust, breeds fear among citizens  
34 and staff, and disrupts the due process essential to our courts;" and  
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36 WHEREAS, all Milwaukee County residents, regardless of citizenship or  
37 immigration status, are affected by mass deportation efforts and anti-  
38 immigrant/immigration policies; and  
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40 WHEREAS, all Milwaukee County residents should know their rights and  
41 understand appropriate actions to take during an encounter with entities serving as  
42 immigration authorities; and  
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WHEREAS, uplifting safe and legal processes, along with educating Milwaukee County residents about their rights is consistent with Milwaukee County's vision to be the healthiest County in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General Services, at its meeting of April 15, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-295 (vote 4-0-1); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County stands firm in its opposition to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operating outside the limits of the law in and around the Milwaukee County Courthouse Complex; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General Services, at its meeting of April 15, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-295 (vote \*-\*); now, therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County requests the Office of the County Executive, the Chief Judge of the First Judicial District, and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office—within their respective jurisdictions and authorities—to cooperate with one another, in conjunction with the Office of Corporation Counsel and other relevant parties, to ensure access to services and safeguard every individual's constitutional right to due process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County supports efforts to educate its residents on their rights and the appropriate actions to take during encounters with immigration authorities, including—but not limited to—the dissemination of educational materials throughout the Courthouse Complex; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon adoption, the County Clerk is authorized and requested to deliver a copy of this resolution to the Office of the County Executive, the Chief Judge of the First Judicial District, and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office.

04/15/25

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