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City Attorney Zach Klein issues statement following reports of federal law enforcement engaged in active operations in Columbus

Offers support to immigrant families, reiterates CPD's long-standing policy not to assist feds in civil operations

COLUMBUS, OH— Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today issued a statement on reports that federal law enforcement officials, including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers, are currently engaged in active operations within the city.

“I am aware of reports that federal law enforcement officials, including ICE, are currently engaged in active operations in Columbus. I know this causes alarm and concern. Please know that the Columbus Division of Police is not involved in these sorts of immigration enforcement activities. CPD’s role is public safety, not immigration enforcement. Our officers do not inquire about immigration status when folks call for help and do not aid federal immigration operations, as has been the case under this and every other presidential administration.

“If anyone witnesses concerning activity, do not intervene directly or put yourself at risk. If the action is criminal in nature, always trust that you can call Columbus Police. They will respond. Additionally, sharing accurate information and looking out for one another is one of the most powerful ways our community can respond.

“Lastly, we know many of our immigrant families, friends and neighbors are feeling anxious and afraid. You are all valued members of our city, and we’re fully committed to your safety. Know that leaders at City Hall have your back and continue to monitor the situation on the ground.”

For more information and links to available resources, visit www.columbus.gov/allofus

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