

Keri O'Brien

From: Nancy Winters <wintersnancy65@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 10:03 PM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I request that this email be added to the record for the Special Meeting

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My family and I love Key West and visit every year. However, if the city votes to enter into the 287(g) we will not be back. This agreement makes it very unsafe and different to trust the local police!

Regards

Keri O'Brien

From: WAYNE DAPSER <wayne.dapser@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:17 PM
To: Ashley Sybesma; District I; District II; District III; District IV; District V; District VI; Mayor E-Mail; Kendal Harden; City Clerk External E-Mail; PIO EMAIL
Cc: WAYNE DAPSER
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Public Commentary for July 8, 2025 Special Meeting - Request to Table 287(g) Resolution Pending Legal Clarification

Importance: High

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**Statement for Key West city commission meeting
July 8, 2025**

I am a US Naval officer with 28 years of commissioned service and am currently retired.
I am a practicing attorney for the past 40 years, the last 25 in Key West.
I represent individuals and families before the Immigration Courts, the Immigration Service, the Deportation offices and the US Department of State and Consulates. I estimate that I have represented between 5 and 7 thousand persons here in Key West.
I am considered to be one of the experts in Immigration Law in South Florida.

During my military time I defended US democracy and upheld my oath to the US Constitution.
As a lawyer I have represented individuals in upholding their rights under the Constitution and US law.
The 287 agreement that is being asked of Key West to sign puts the KWPD under the direction and supervision of ICE in the performance of Immigration enforcement duties.

The interpretation and actions by ICE of the laws of Florida and of the acts and laws of the US in border situations are direct contradiction to these laws and the actual facts.
Florida Law says that police must have reasonable suspicion of a crime in order to ask immigration related questions. ICE says they do not need to follow that law.

When a person arrives at the southern border they are legally 'outside of the US' until interviewed and approved and then issued a Parole to enter. That is a legal entry. ICE claims it is a crime and thus they can arrest someone at any time despite having pending asylum cases, court hearings scheduled or pending benefit applications. These allegations about ICE interpretations should be documented before any decision is made on the cooperation with ICE in enforcement operations.

To direct that our officers enforce and abide by orders from ICE will put our citizens not only in danger from illegal actions but also destroy the trust necessary for the protection and cooperation of all Key West citizens.

I strongly urge you NOT to sign the Agreement.

Wayne Dapser

Keri O'Brien

From: Donald Lee
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 9:22 AM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Please add this email to the public record. ICE Special Meeting

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From: Jennifer Koch <jmkochjr@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 9:09:38 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; PIO EMAIL <pio@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please add this email to the public record. ICE Special Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please add this email to the public record.

I'm a KW resident and I fully support the decision to VOID the 287g agreement. I would like to encourage the city commissioners to stick with their original decision. It was one of the RARE glimmers of hope I think a lot of us have had in many months. The courage that was shown, standing up for what you know is the RIGHT and HUMANE was heartening. Now is the time to continue to be brave and stay on the right side of history. While I understand the difficult position this puts you in, it is the job you signed up to do! There is so much media focus right now on the missing people in Texas after the flooding and families not knowing whether their loved ones are alive or dead and if they are alive where are they; well what about the people who have been RACIALLY PROFILED and KIDNAPPED and are currently UNLAWFULLY AND INHUMANELY detained in CONCENTRATION CAMPS? We've heard countless stories of the terrible conditions, unconstitutional detainment, where families and even lawyers are not being able to get in contact with their clients. This is only the beginning, and while I'm not writing because I'm worried about my safety or citizenship (YET, because I am), you MUST be able to see the writing on the wall. If we let them get away with this now, we are next, anyone of us can and will be a target, and don't you HOPE someone will stand up for you when your RIGHTS ARE BEING VIOLATED? Please stay strong and do the right thing! The country is watching and I am tired of being ashamed to be a FL resident. My husband and I are originally from Baltimore, and the MD Governor, Wes Moore, and others have been very vocal against this administration and their terrible policies. I would like to be proud of where I live and the politicians that represent my community. So please know you ARE NOT ALONE in standing for the right thing. Many members of our community support you and other politicians as well. You are not alone and there is power in standing WITH THE PEOPLE.

Thank you

Dear Mayor Henriquez and city commissioners,

I've never been more proud of our city than I was last Monday when you rightfully voided the agreement that forced local law enforcement to racially profile and detain our community members. I thank you for your courage for doing the right thing. And yet, we must continue the course. You have the privilege and duty to vote on what not only will make us safer but on what is right.

Cities aren't required to join 287(g) agreements with ICE and entering this agreement opens up multiple problems all which were all clearly stated last week. In addition to taking valuable time and resources from officers doing their actual job it also leads to racial profiling and lack of due process both which have been costly for Monroe County in the past. In 2018 MCSO wrongfully detained and handed over US citizen Peter Brown to ICE. The lawsuit brought by SPLC and ACLU in 2018 cost the county – the taxpayers – hundreds of thousands of dollars. Do we want to be next?

Not only should we stay strong and not voluntarily sign the 287(g) agreement I encourage you to join South Miami's lawsuit against the state. Multiple organizations from around the state have offered their pro-bono services to help us fight against this massive unconstitutional overreach.

Furthermore, I urge you to express your support for extending TPS for Haitians. When I taught in Adult Education in 2011 the majority of my students were from Haiti escaping damage from the earthquake and again from the cholera epidemic. I run into them weekly as they are embedded in our diverse community. Currently, I teach ESOL to KWHS students and have many Haitian students that have escaped gang violence. They long to feel safe and included. Unfortunately, after all they've endured they are now scared to even attend summer school. We have a duty to support and protect them.

By staying strong we have an opportunity to truly show the state of Florida and the country what it means to actually BE "One Human Family."

Thank you,
Natalia Duke
Keys Immigrant Coalition

Keri O'Brien

From: KW Immigrant Support Network <keywestis25@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 4:42 PM
To: City Clerk External E-Mail; District I; District II; District III; District IV; District V; District VI
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please add to the permanent record

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the City Clerk: Can you please add this as part of the permanent record for the meeting tomorrow?

To the Commissioners: This email was sent to us by someone who prefers to remain anonymous for fear of retribution. A member of our team will be reading their comment aloud as part of the public comment section of tomorrow's meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

-Key West Immigrant Support Network

Good evening Commissioners,

My name is _____ and, for the safety of our community, I urge you **not** to sign a 287(g) agreement. Many people tonight will speak on the morality of this issue. I will keep my comments focused on public safety, using research-based, peer-reviewed sources.

Would Key West ever sign an agreement, even under threat by the state Attorney General, that forced every police officer to work with **one hand zip-tied behind their back?**

That is exactly what 287(g) does. It shackles the very hand that builds community trust—our most powerful crime-fighting tool—and leaves the other hand fending off problems the program itself creates.

Evidence shows 287(g) makes policing **more dangerous**. A 12-year study in North Carolina found that assaults on law-enforcement officers **increased** after 287(g) was adopted, with no reduction in crime. Nationally, research reveals **no reduction** in violent crime nor property crime from 287(g) agreements.

However, there is a **rise in violent victimization of Latinos** resulting from these agreements. When residents fear that dialing 911 or talking to police could trigger deportation, they stop reporting crimes and stop serving as witnesses. Officers walk into every call with less information and more risk—one hand tied.

Approximately 2,000 non-citizens live and work in Key West; they are a vibrant part of our "One Human Family." Undermining the trust in law enforcement for 8% of our population destabilizes public safety for **everyone** and jeopardizes a key pillar of our economy.

It will create more crime, police will solve fewer crimes, and victimization of both citizens and non-citizens will increase. You sign this and you will make **ME** and everyone else in Key West, police included, less safe.

The state Attorney General is wrong about the law. Key West is not a sanctuary city. Under Florida Statute, a city only violates the law if it passes a rule that blocks cooperation with ICE, and we have passed no such rule.

Tonight you will have a choice. Protect your community or acquiesce to a schoolyard bully. Could you be removed from office? It is possible. Even so, we ask you to fight for us and not for your chair in the dais. There will be future elections. **We** will remember who fought and who cowered behind that chair.

Keri O'Brien

From: Marie Garofalo <mariecgarofalo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 10:33 AM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] HOLD THE LINE

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

Please do not reverse the decision made one week ago regarding the rescission of 287(g)!! We value and appreciate our police and want to work with them for good of the community!!!
We hope you will continue to support the efforts of the community as demonstrated last Monday June 30

Thank you!
John and Marie Garofalo

Keri O'Brien

From: Jackie Sauter <jsauter100@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2025 1:07 PM
To: Keri O'Brien; District I; District II; District III; District IV; District V; District VI; Mayor E-Mail; PIO EMAIL; Kendal Harden
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hold the Line!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We are residents, homeowners, and taxpayers in the city of Key West, and we are writing to urge you to hold the line at Tuesday's special meeting of the City Commission. **Please do NOT rescind the recently passed resolution which deputized Key West Police to voluntarily assist ICE under the 287 (g) program.**

There is nothing in Florida law that requires the City of Key West to participate in the 287 (g) program. Please do not give in to strong arm tactics by individuals threatening our city if we do not agree to participate in the cruelty and inhumanity of these unjust raids which has caused fear and terror on our island, ripping people away from their families, their work, and their community.

What's at stake here is not only the lives of people who are a part of the essential fabric of our island community, but also the reputation, future, and soul of our city. Key West is about tolerance and about One Human Family.

Please be strong. Do not be intimidated. Stand up for Key West.

We are counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Jackie and Bob Sauter

Keri O'Brien

From: Valerie Sprieser <eyw0405@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2025 8:29 PM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 287 g agreement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Keri O'Brien,

I am a 40 year resident of Key West. I am a homeowner, former business owner and now semi retired. I work part time as a front desk person for a guesthouse. I have 2 sons that were born in Key West and graduated from Key West High School.

I have seen many changes in Key West over the years, but it has always been a melting pot of many different cultures. That is the beauty of this wonderful small town that welcomes millions of tourists and is known for its hospitality throughout the world.

I thank you for the vote last week to invalidate the 287g agreement.

As you have heard, ICE raids have fractured this community. A few weeks ago, my boss asked me to cover for her. No one was going to be onsite to run the guesthouse since there was a rumor that ICE was doing a massive raid and the whole staff was staying home. These are all people who have run this guesthouse for 15 years. They are all fully documented, pay taxes and are still afraid of being picked up by ICE. This is what ICE is doing to this town. It is devastating our workforce. We do not have any other income stream other than tourism in this community. It is our bread and butter.

There are studies that show when a city has a 287g agreement with ICE, immigrants are afraid to call the police when a victim of crimes. This makes the community less safe. The Key West police has spent countless hours on community outreach and this agreement would destroy all their work over the years.

In the budget bill that was signed by congress, ICE will now have 170.7 billion to do their immigrant raids up from 4.5 billion.

This is more than the military budgets of all but 15 countries. ICE now is the largest federal law enforcement agency in the history of this nation.

I believe ICE can afford to do their work without asking the City of Key West citizens to carry the financial burden of those

officers paychecks, insurance and liability, the 287 agreement would saddle the city with.

Thank you for you service to the community!

Valerie Higbie
3212 Eagle Ave
Key West, FL.

Keri O'Brien

From: Donald Lee
Sent: Saturday, July 5, 2025 6:40 PM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Commission meeting 7-8

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From: Joy Taylor <jbt22ster@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 5, 2025 5:30:09 PM
To: District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; PIO EMAIL <pio@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Kendal Harden <kendal.harden@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commission meeting 7-8

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Greetings, Commissioner Lee. I ask that this correspondence be entered into the record for the Special Commission Meeting of July 8, 2025.

I am one of your constituents (Joy Brown Taylor, 5607 College Road #202 aka Sunset Marina Residences). I am writing to thank you for your empathetic vote to void 287(g) last week. Chief Sean Brandenburg is a good man, as were you in that same difficult role. Your choice to "vote from your heart" was applauded and appreciated.

I am hoping you will continue to support the resolution passed last week. It is a brave stance for Key West--but not an insurmountable one. The speeches of citizens came from our souls. We will continue to support the Commission's decision and each and every one of you who voted (and continues to vote) for this courageous stance.

The consulting attorneys have assured the Key West public that the City's decision last week does NOT equate to declaration of a sanctuary policy. Rather, 287(g) is a *voluntary* program which does not hinder the Key West Police Department from complying with all lawful detainee requests, from facilitating immigration status communications, and from cooperating with ICE-- *where appropriate and lawful*. The 287(g) program remains *optional* at all times.

The vote to void last week was indeed bold and a necessary response to an untenable situation. It is a reminder that we are allowed to be happy; we are allowed to celebrate our differences as the strengths that add to our community; we are proud to live in the kinder, gentler, more caring community of Key West.

I, like so many others, ask you to stand firm to our motto of One Human Family. Thank you for listening.

Joy Brown Taylor

Keri O'Brien

From: John Martini <jm@johnmartini.com>
Sent: Friday, July 4, 2025 6:08 PM
To: District I; District II; District III; District IV; District V; District VI; Mayor E-Mail
Cc: City Clerk External E-Mail
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ice

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Dear Mayor and Commissioners.

Thank you for your brave and righteous stand the other night. You are on the right side of history. The state recently overturned our cruise ship referendum to placate powerful interests that did not have Key West's best interests in mind. And now we have the state once again coming after us. We seemed powerless in response to the cruise ship story and put up really no struggle. But now we have the opportunity to take a principled stand and refuse to be further abused by the exceedingly ugly face of Florida politics.. These people are building tents in the everglades just to show their disregard for any human decency. We know Florida summers and hurricanes and we know that this is subhuman behavior on behalf of an out of control white house/ state house.. Let's search for good outside counsel and find a way to carry this fight forward. I think taking on this fight for decency and justice will be a good thing for Key West, it will cement the idea universally that this island is not to be trifled with and will stand up for what is right and just. Let us stay on the right side of history and not be bullied again. Remember the road block the all powerful federal government put up years ago and took down again after the underdog Conch Republic laid out its brilliant campaign and emerged victorious.

Best and thank you,
John Martini

Keri O'Brien

From: Monica Haskell
Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2025 10:22 AM
To: P Pratt; Keri O'Brien
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Please Stand Strong-Defend "One Human Family"

Thank you. I'm forwarding to clerk to add to the agenda packet for 7/8/25.

Monica Haskell
District 1 City Commissioner
City of Key West
1300 White Street
cel: 305-304-5635
monica.haskell@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

From: P Pratt <pratt02769@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 6, 2025 4:42 AM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District IV <districtIV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; PIO EMAIL <pio@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Kendal Harden <kendal.harden@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Stand Strong-Defend "One Human Family"

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I request that this email be added to the record for the July 8 Special meeting.

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I'm writing as a concerned resident and proud supporter of Key West's core values — especially the one that has defined our island for decades: **"One Human Family."**

Your recent vote to void the 287(g) agreement with ICE was a powerful affirmation of that principle. It sent a clear message that Key West does not turn its back on its neighbors, nor does it allow fear to override compassion.

I urge you: **do not give in to political pressure from the Governor or Attorney General.** Our community's safety and dignity are best protected when local leaders make decisions based on local needs — not partisan agendas in Tallahassee.

I believe safety and compassion aren't opposites. Key West has always chosen to lead with humanity — and that's exactly what this is about. One Human Family doesn't mean lawlessness; it means treating people with dignity while letting local officials decide what's best for our community.

We've trusted local leaders to handle hurricanes, housing, and everything in between — why shouldn't we trust them to decide what policing looks like here? This is about home rule and human decency. We don't need Tallahassee telling us how to be good neighbors.

“One Human Family” means we care for each other, regardless of immigration status, background, or politics. Upholding that ideal in the face of threats is **not just brave — it's necessary.**

Please continue to lead with courage, and know that many of us stand with you. Let Key West remain a place where humanity comes first.

Respectfully yours,

Patricia Pratt

District 1 Constituent

Keri O'Brien

From: mmfelger@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:35 PM
To: Keri O'Brien; District I; District II; District III; District IV; District V; District VI; Mayor E-Mail; PIO EMAIL; Kendal Harden; Keri O'Brien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hold the Line!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please stand strong against government overreach and protect our Island Home & members of our Community!

In hopes for humanity,

Mary Felger
Key West Resident since 1998

Keri O'Brien

From: Kendal Harden
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:43 PM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]

Kendal Lyn Harden, Esq.
Interim City Attorney
City of Key West | City Attorney's Office
1300 White Street
Key West, FL 33040
Phone: 305-809-3777
Kendal.Harden@cityofkeywest-fl.gov



From: Monica Caceres <xxmoni09@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 1:56 PM
To: District I <districtI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District II <districtII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District III <districtIII@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District V <districtV@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; District VI <districtVI@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mayor E-Mail <mayor@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; PIO EMAIL <pio@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Kendal Harden <kendal.harden@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Keywestis25@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

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I hope you are having a great day, and I hope besides our local issues, you are informed and have been watching what's been going on in real time in DC...

WE PRESS ON!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
-Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
(D-NY)

And if you are still watching. They are literally making a mockery of what this bill is going to do. To children. To veterans. To the disabled (my sons Medicaid for his type 1 diabetes) To the minorities. To the

poor. To the afflicted. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! Stand on the right side of history. You DO have a voice. You DO have a say.

This is just the beginning. Denaturalization and birthright citizenship is next. Have anyone in your family who got married and got citizenship through that? Gone.

In case you need an overview of what that means exactly:

Who Can Be Affected by Denaturalization?



Applies To:

1. Naturalized Citizens Only

- Anyone who obtained U.S. citizenship through the naturalization process (not by birth).

2.

3. Green Card Holders or Immigrants Before Citizenship

- Not denaturalization per se, but their path to citizenship can be blocked or revoked before approval.

4.

You will be complicit to that.

But you STILL have a choice.

I'd like you also point you to this important document (that we will LITERALLY be celebrating TOMORROW) I'd like to SPECIFICALLY point you to the area where it speaks to King George III, specifically this line:

- He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance...

Here's the full text:

The Declaration of Independence (1776)

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.—Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government.

The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world:

[Here follows a list of 27 grievances against King George III, including:]

- He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.
- He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance...
- He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly...
- He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone...
- He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures...
- For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury...

[And many others.]

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us...

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

👤 Signed by:

John Hancock (President of the Congress), followed by 56 other delegates from the 13 colonies, including:

- Thomas Jefferson
- Benjamin Franklin
- John Adams
- Samuel Adams
- Roger Sherman
- Robert Livingston
- and others.

Thank you for your time and service, I truly hope you do the right thing and know we stand beside you if you do. I hope you have an amazing 4th of July, May God Bless America and May God Bless Key West

🙏❤️ us

Monica Caceres

-A mom who just wants her kids to grow up in a loving world

On Monday, June 30, 2025, Monica Caceres <xxmoni09@gmail.com> wrote:

I request for this to be added to the record for the special meeting on 6/30/2025

Hello All,

My name is Monica and I am writing in today as a concerned citizen, I am highly concerned for the sacredness, magic and One Human Family presence that our little island once held and you could feel (and smell) as soon as you stepped off of a plane or drove down into the Keys. I haven't just lived here my whole life, I GREW up here. This is my home, this is the island that shaped me into the woman I am today. As many times as I've moved away and resided elsewhere, in all of the craziness away from here, I always felt assured that I could come back to my home, to my safe space of an island. Unfortunately, that is no longer the case. I am a US citizen and even here on my little island, I know I can be profiled at any moment by ICE and have been carrying my passport around with me for this reason. I have a type 1 diabetic kid and the fear of being profiled and stopped because of how I look or where I was born is truly insane. And clearly, it's not just me. I'm sure you will get many letters of people and businesses where their folks, who have documentation or are already in the legal process, have been stopped and/or detained. And if you do nothing, you are just as complicit. If you do nothing, what was the point of running and having constituents who depend on your moral and ethical principles?

We understand ICE is here. We understand there are certain requirements that need to be adhered to. We are not asking to break any laws. We are asking that you:

- Pass a resolution affirming that city resources—including staff, vehicles, equipment, and facilities—will not be used to assist ICE unless required by law.
- Designate city spaces such as schools, clinics, libraries, and food distribution sites as “safe zones” where immigration enforcement is not permitted unless accompanied by a judicial warrant.
- Create a public communication protocol so that residents are notified when ICE is actively operating in the community—just like we do with hurricanes, road closures, or threats to public safety.
- Fund a legal aid referral hotline or partner with pro bono immigration attorneys and nonprofits to help residents understand their rights and receive support.
- Train city employees and local police on how to respond lawfully but neutrally to ICE requests—clarifying when cooperation is mandatory vs. when they can respectfully decline.
- Issue a public statement urging ICE to respect constitutional rights and refrain from targeting peaceful families, sick children, and legal residents, especially at courthouses, schools, and places of worship

These actions do not violate SB 168. They do not make Key West a sanctuary city. They make us a constitutional city—a community that leads with law and love. If you say you care, this is how you prove it.

To Commissioners Kaufman and Haskell, Key West truly thanks you, from the bottom of our hearts! ❤️🙏

To Commissioner Lee, you may not know exactly who I am from this letter, but know I've known you for the majority of my life. I've known you to be a person of love and fairness and equality. I've known you to be the Chief who built community and public trust, you were of the city and for the city. So I ask you, would you have entered into this VOLUNTARY agreement, harming the beautiful city you worked so hard to protect? And if the answer is no, I ask that you help get us back to what you built.

To City Manager Barroso, again, you may also not know exactly who I am, but I've known you and your family for majority of my life as well. We go to the same church, we've had communions and confirmations at St. Mary's together, here on our little island. I know you love this community just as much as I do, the real Conch community and the real love that is our island. Of you, I ask this: my children and your children and grandchildren will grow up on this island, what kind of island are you choosing for them to grow up in?

You do have a choice and a say.

Thank you all for reading this and I hope you choose to do the right things and make the right choices.

Monica Caceres

-A mom who just wants her kids to grow up in a loving world