

Keri O'Brien

From: Kendal Harden
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:52 PM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] I request for this to be added as to the record for the special meeting on 6/30/25

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From: Monica Caceres <xxmoni09@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:44 PM
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>; Keywestis25@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I request for this to be added as to the record for the special meeting on 6/30/25

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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