

## Stand by Immigrants: News, Resources, and Actions - Week Ending May 30, 2026



Edited by Steve Volk (svolk@oberlin.edu)

*Oberlin Community Supporting Immigrants (OCSI) does not endorse or oppose candidates for elected office. We aim to provide information, education, and analysis regarding the U.S. immigration system.*

### **CONTACT OCSI:**

**Email:** [ocsi.general.outreach@gmail.com](mailto:ocsi.general.outreach@gmail.com)

**Website:** <https://oberlincommunitysi.org/>

**Know Your Rights:** You can't protect your rights unless you know what they are. Here's a [2-page handout](#) prepared by OCSI. If you want a comprehensive resource library of KYR information, updated for 2026, Austin Kocher provides one [here](#).

*Previous issues of this newsletter are archived [here](#).*

## OCSI Corner

**Do you need a speaker on immigration of “know your rights” for your local church, synagogue, or community group?** Contact us at the email below. We can help!

## ACTION ITEMS

Join Mijente in demanding an immediate moratorium on ICE operations during the World Cup so our immigrant communities can celebrate without having to navigate the constant threat of detention or deportation. And end the racist and xenophobic US travel bans that are shutting out fans from Haiti, Senegal and other countries from attending. Sign the petition [here](#).

**PICK THREE (No time for all the reporting? Here are three important stories from the past week that you might have overlooked):**

[Trump Administration Deported 21,000 to Places US Calls Too Dangerous to Visit](#) (Guardian, May 29, 2026): The overwhelming majority of those deported had no criminal convictions, and at least 600 were children.

[‘Modern-day Concentration Camp’: Escalating Violence Reported at Delaney Hall ICE Facility in Newark, New Jersey](#) (WHYY, May 29, 2026): Gov. Mikie Sherrill, who was denied entry to the facility this week, said Health Department inspectors were not allowed to do a full inspection.

[Delaney Hall Detention Center: A Data Profile](#) (Austin Kocher Substack, May 29, 2026): ICE insists that it needs to spend \$1 billion dollars detaining people inside Delaney Hall to protect Americans from "murderers, rapists, and pedophiles." The data tell a different story.

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Federal agents hold a protester on the ground outside Delaney Hall, where detainees are holding a hunger and labor strike in Newark, New Jersey, on 26 May ([Story here](#)).

## LOCAL AND OHIO NEWS

[Another Lawsuit Filed over Treatment of ICE Detainee at Ohio Jail](#) (Ohio Capital Journal, May 25, 2026): Racism, violence by officer against Ecuadoran man claimed.

## RESISTING, PROTESTING, AND ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE

[Catholic Bishops Oppose \\$72B for Immigration Enforcement](#) (KXAN, May 28, 2026): “As pastors, we remain troubled by how immigrants, the vast majority of whom have committed no crimes and have built equities in the country, have become targets for enforcement, with their God-given human dignity and human rights being violated on a daily basis,” they wrote to their congressional representatives and senators.

## THE COURTS AND LEGAL ACTIONS

[Supreme Court Reverses Ruling in Immigration Judges’ Free Speech Lawsuit](#) (New York Times, May 26, 2026): Immigration judges have no right to speak out on public policy, according to the Supremes.

[San Francisco Immigration Court Shuts Down after Purge of Judges, Leaving Asylum Cases in Chaos](#) (AP, May 22, 2026): The court, which had 21 judges when President Donald Trump was sworn in last year, had only two left when it closed May 1. The rest had been fired, retired or resigned amid a White House purge of federal immigration judges.

## **DETENTION WAREHOUSES AND CONCENTRATION CAMPS**

[ICE Doesn't Want the Public to See What Happens in Its Detention Centers](#) (Raul Pinto and Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, American Immigration Council, May 27, 2026): Since taking office, the Trump administration has repeatedly tried to block congressional oversight into immigration detention. On May 11, ICE issued a memo that again seeks to restrict oversight by members of Congress and their staff at ICE's detention facilities.

[Human Cages and Overflowing Toilets at \\$1m a Day: The Brutal Legacy of Ron DeSantis' 'Alligator Alcatraz' Jail](#) (Guardian, May 24, 2026): Florida's hard-right governor is trying to distance himself from the notorious detention center as public opinion sours.

## **ICE BUCKET**

[ICE Agent Arrested over Shooting of Venezuelan Man in Minnesota](#) (Guardian, May 29, 2026): Christian Castro was charged with assault and falsely reporting a crime after video emerged of non-fatal shooting in January.

[White House Launches Aliens-Themed Site to Track and Report Undocumented Immigrants](#) (NBC, May 29, 2026): The controversial site features a searchable live map for tracking arrests of undocumented immigrants and provides a tip line for reporting "suspicious aliens."

[ICE Is Spending Millions of Dollars on Iris Scanners, Expanding Its Arsenal of Tech Tools](#) (NPR, May 27, 2026): The agency awarded a \$25 million no-bid contract last week to BI2 Technologies, a company that specializes in iris scanning. The new contract is more than five times the amount of the company's last DHS contract, awarded last fall.

[Fake ICE Agents Terrorize Immigrants Amid Trump's Crackdown](#) (NBC News, March 25, 2026): A *Noticias Telemundo* investigation documented a marked increase in cases of people posing as federal agents to rob, intimidate and even injure or rape immigrants.

## **EMERGING POLICY AND THREATS TO IMMIGRANTS**

## **Targeting Children**

### **Detention and Deportation and Death**

[Delaney Hall Detention Center, NJ](#) (Heather Cox Richardson, Substack, May 27, 2026): In February 2025 the administration signed a 15-year, \$1 billion contract with the GEO Group, which operates private prisons, to expand the Delaney Hall facility dramatically as an ICE prison. New Jersey officials have argued in federal court that GEO Group does not have the required permits to operate the expanded facility, yet the facility opened about a year ago.

### **Authoritarianism, Lawlessness, Racism, Stupidity, and Cruelty**

[Trump Administration Targets Attorneys Who File Fraudulent Asylum Claims](#) (Ohio Capital Journal, May 28, 2026): In its latest effort to narrow pathways to immigration to the United States, the Trump administration says it will crack down on attorneys who file fraudulent asylum claims for their clients.

[Trump Again Disparages Somali Immigrants: ‘They’re All Crooks’](#) (NBC News, May 27, 2026): The president went on the rant about Somali immigrants and Somalia-born Rep. Ilhan Omar during his Cabinet meeting.

[Pregnant Woman from Ghana Detained with Child at Dulles Airport, ACLU Says](#) (Washington Post, May 27, 2026): The pair had arrived seeking medical treatment and have been in a windowless room for more than a week, according to their lawyers. [Update: [Woman and her son will return to Ghana after being detained for over a week at Dulles.](#)]

[Truck Drivers Say Racism Behind Trump Administration’s License Restrictions on Immigrants](#) (Guardian, May 26, 2026): Rule prevents many immigrant truckers from renewing driver’s license – even if they’ve driven legally for years.

[New Jersey Gov. Sherrill Denied Access to North Jersey Immigration Detention Center as Hunger Strike Enters Fourth Day](#) (WHYY, May 25, 2026): About 300 protesters demanded to see the governor as they called attention to conditions inside of Delaney Hall in Newark.

### **Attacks on All Immigrants**

[Trump Administration Begins Making New Requests of Green-Card Applicants](#) (Washington Post, May 27, 2026): People who apply for permanent residency at immigration offices in the U.S. are being asked why they did not return to their home

countries first under new guidance. Another method to shut down legal immigration. [Update, maybe? [Actually, Most Immigrants Won't Need to Leave US to Get Green Cards](#) (New York Times, May 29, 2026): But details remained scant after officials said last week that, with “extraordinary” exceptions, people seeking permanent residency must first leave the country.]

[US Planning to Halt Immigration at ‘Sanctuary City’ Airports](#) (DW.com, May 27, 2026): Trump administration considers plans to halt immigration and customs processing at airports in Democratic Party-run cities right when millions of foreign tourists are set to arrive for the World Cup.

[Confusion and Worry after Abrupt Change to Green Card Process](#) (New York Times, May 24, 2026): Immigrants and their advocates and lawyers are trying to interpret a new Trump administration rule that requires people to be in their native country to apply for a green card.

[Trump Is Setting His Sights on Restricting Legal Immigration](#) (New York Times, May 23, 2026): After a year focused on immigrants here illegally, the Trump administration is now making it harder for legal migrants to stay in the country. It is a risky pivot.

## **IMMIGRATION AND THE ECONOMY**

[Rock-Bottom Immigration Rates Leave Mark on U.S. Economy](#) (Courtenay Brown, Axios, May 29, 2026): President Trump's immigration crackdown is causing one of the sharpest slowdowns in U.S. population growth in decades. Economists are beginning to tally the effects, with some warning that the damage will stick around.

[U.S. Tourism Drops 5.5 Percent Amid High Inflation and Immigration Crackdowns](#) (NY Sun, May 26, 2026): The head of the global tourism council warns that America is losing its reputation for hospitality to China.

## **BY THE NUMBERS**

## **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

[Abolishing ICE Is a Start](#) (Whitney Curry Wimbish, American Prospect, May 28, 2026): The seeds of an authoritarian state will still be there unless the United States reckons with its own fascist past and how that relates to Stephen Miller's vision for the future.

[Policy Brief: USCIS's New Policy Weaponizes Discretion to Make It Harder to Get a Green Card](#) (American Immigration Lawyers Association, May 28, 2026): On May 21, USCIS issued a new policy memo asserting that adjustment of status is an exceptional form of relief. This policy brief explains how this new policy raises significant legal, policy, and practical concerns and leaves applicants, their families, and their employers uncertain of the future.

[The Trump Administration's Assault on Immigrants Degrades the Rule of Law](#) (Center for American Progress, May 28, 2026): By repeatedly breaking the law and resisting accountability—infringing on constitutional rights, disregarding statutory limits imposed by Congress, and defying binding court orders—the Trump administration is degrading the rule of law.

[Brain Drain Afflicts DOJ Unit Defending Trump on Immigration](#) (Celine Castronuovo, Bloomberg Law, May 28, 2026): The Justice Department office defending President Donald Trump's immigration agenda has lost roughly a third of its attorneys over the past year, threatening its ability to fend off challenges to the administration's deportation policies.

[What Stephen Miller Gets Wrong about Debt, Deficits and Immigration](#) (CNBC, May 27, 2026): Are illegal immigrants to blame for the federal deficit? If so, the government's investigators haven't seen it.