



## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Liza Roberson-Young, Chief Legislative Policy Advisor  
Subject: Ordinance 75-O-25, An Ordinance Amending Title 1, Chapter 22, "Welcoming City Ordinance."  
Date: December 8, 2025

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Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 75-O-25, An Ordinance Amending Title 1, Chapter 22, "Welcoming City Ordinance."

Council Action:

For Introduction and Action

Summary:

Over the past several months, Evanston and the Chicagoland area more broadly have been the target of "Operation Midway Blitz," the Trump Administration's immigration enforcement operation in Illinois. During this time, federal agents have occupied our city and endangered our community. In response, members of the council and the community have requested that the City supplement its existing policies, including the Welcoming City Ordinance, the Ice-Free Zones Resolution, our resolution condemning immigration agents' practice of conducting raids while masked and in unmarked vehicles, and resolutions on child endangerment and protected First Amendment assemblies.

Ordinance 75-O-25 would require the City to issue a weekly public report summarizing interactions with federal immigration enforcement during the preceding week, including disclosing the size of the unit; any activity or operation being conducted by the unit; the location of the unit upon initial interaction; uniform details of unit members; time and date of the initial interaction with any members of the unit; time and date of the final interaction with any members of the unit; equipment used by the unit, including any vehicle specification; and the agency name of which the unit is a part. This is information the City already collects under existing reporting policies; the Ordinance would simply require that it be made available to the public on the City's website.

Attachments:

[Ordinance 75-O-25](#)

75-O-25

**AN ORDINANCE**

**Amending Title 1, Chapter 22, “Welcoming City Ordinance”**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Evanston’s Welcoming City Ordinance prohibits the City from participating in federal civil immigration enforcement to ensure that all people in Evanston can live with respect, safety, and dignity regardless of national origin, immigration, or citizenship status; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of “Operation Midway Blitz,” federal immigration agents have maintained an increased presence in Evanston and have abducted numerous people from their jobs as landscapers, day laborers, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 31, 2025, federal immigration agents dramatically ramped up their activity in Evanston, creating chaos, detaining people for hours without cause, brandishing a weapon at protesters, and inciting fear and alarm; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Evanston have an interest in being informed about these and other federal immigration enforcement operations in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Evanston Police Department’s existing policy is for a supervisor to respond to any reported incidents involving federal immigration agents and to document the incident in a report; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Evanston has directed supervisory City staff to report any interactions with federal immigration agents to the City Manager’s Office; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Evanston finds it in the best interest of the people of Evanston to regularly update the public on interactions with federal agents by publishing information already collected under existing reporting policies;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:**

**SECTION 1.** Title 1, Chapter 22, "Welcoming City Ordinance" is hereby amended as follows:

**1-22-15. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

(A) In order to ensure compliance with this Chapter, EPD shall submit an annual report to the City Manager or designee with deidentified data relevant to compliance with this Chapter in the preceding year, which shall include:

~~(A)~~ (1) A numeric list of the notifications made by EPD to the City Manager or designee with events describing a request for assistance with the enforcement of federal civil immigration law.

~~(B)~~ (2) With regard to immigration detainers or administrative warrants received by EPD that are related to enforcement of civil immigration law:

~~1.~~ (a) The date that EPD received the immigration detainer or administrative warrant; and

~~2.~~ (b) Whether EPD transferred the individual subject to the immigration detainer or administrative warrant to a federal agency's custody and, if so, which agency.

~~(C)~~ (3) The City Manager or designee shall make such reports publicly available, including through the Internet.

(B) The City Manager or designee shall make a weekly public report on the City's website of all interactions reported to the City related to immigration enforcement, including the following data, to the extent the information is available:

- (1) Size of unit;
- (2) Activity or operation being conducted by unit;
- (3) Location of unit upon initial interaction;
- (4) Uniform details of unit members;
- (5) Time and date of initial interaction with any members of unit;
- (6) Time and date of final interaction with any members of unit;
- (7) Equipment used by unit, including any vehicle specification; and
- (8) Agency name of which unit is a part.

**SECTION 2:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3:** If any provision of this Ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid application or provision, and each invalid application of this Ordinance is severable.

**SECTION 4:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect beginning upon passage.

**SECTION 5:** The findings and recitals contained herein are declared to be prima facie evidence of the law of the City and shall be received in evidence as provided by the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the courts of the State of Illinois.

Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

Approved:

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_, 2025

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Daniel Biss, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form:

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Stephanie Mendoza, City Clerk

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Alexandra B. Ruggie, Corporation Counsel