



**OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
CHLOE EUDALY**

**Statement from Commissioner Chloe Eudaly on Immigration & Customs Enforcement Facility
4310 SW Macadam**

PORTLAND, OREGON, July 23, 2018 - In the backdrop of incessant attacks on immigrant communities, the Trump administration unveiled a “zero-tolerance” policy of ripping children away from families seeking refuge from violence and persecution. These violations of basic human and constitutional rights horrified and enraged us all, and I thank Senator Merkley for shedding light on this issue. Once family separation and the atrocities of federal immigration policy were recognized, Portland organizers came together in resistance and occupied the Southwest Macadam Immigration & Customs Enforcement facility.

The camp was organized, peaceful, and successfully sparked a nationwide effort bringing attention to the despicable actions of the federal administration. The protesters were collaborative, respectful of the neighborhood, and I proudly stood with them and over 180 elected officials to call for the abolition of ICE. My office has since been in daily communication with the camp as we provided assistance where we could, including material support and liaising between the Department of Homeland Security and Portland protesters. I called for time on the City Council agenda to hear from protesters and the New Portlander Policy Commission. I also investigated legal recourse to revoke ICE’s Conditional Use permit, which regrettably is simply not an option at this time.

I want to acknowledge that the fight for the abolition of ICE has long been waged by immigrant activists in the Portland community, and throughout the country. We will not achieve this objective without coordination, coalition building, and strategic policy actions. This afternoon, Abolish ICE PDX, led by affected community members, announced their decision to leave the camp in pursuit of the long-term goal of abolition. I appreciate and agree with their assessment that occupation is a strong tactic but not a long-term strategy. I will continue to fight for the abolishment of ICE with regional, state-level, and national partners.

I am concerned about the safety, public health, and sustainability of continued occupation. With those concerns in mind, as of today, my office is disengaging from the camp. It is my hope that protesters will follow the lead of our impacted community members and voluntarily leave with the intention of moving forward with the next chapter of this protest.

My team has spoken with Abolish ICE PDX and we have committed to finding the organization a new forum for continued activism and policy development. I will fight for continued and increased legal defense funding, for the defeat of ballot Measure 105, and additional policy initiatives developed through collaboration with Abolish ICE PDX, the New Portlanders Policy Commission, and our many community partners.