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Sheriff Kincaid acts in Fairfax County's best interest, breaks with unwarranted incarceration

Actions build trust, support law enforcement, and are fiscally responsible

FAIRFAX – Sheriff Stacey Kincaid rightly terminated the Intergovernmental Services Agreement (IGSA) with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The Sheriff will no longer hold inmates past their release date unless ICE provides a court-ordered criminal detainer. Sheriff Kincaid's action builds trust with immigrant communities, supports law enforcement efforts, and is fiscally responsible.

Sheriff Kincaid is a career law enforcement professional and acutely understands the importance of relationships with communities to keep them safe. Of the 123 county and city sheriffs in the Commonwealth of Virginia, only one jurisdiction has an IGSA with ICE. Other jurisdictions have not reported an elevated safety risk for releasing inmates on the date determined by the court.

Furthermore, the Sheriff's Intelligence Unit identifies, tracks, and investigates inmates suspected of gang activity and shares this information with all appropriate law enforcement agencies. Virginia law requires all sheriffs to determine residency of individuals and allows ICE to take custody of inmates five days before their scheduled release date.

“If ICE determines that a person should be taken into custody, then ICE may do so,” said Dan Lagana, Chair of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee. “But the Sheriff won't spend Fairfax County tax-payer dollars and damage relationships with local communities, whose cooperation with law enforcement is essential, to hold inmates swept up in the Trump Administration's dragnet. Flatly put, it is the right thing to do.”

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