

From: Cutrell, Carissa F
Sent: Fri, 10 Jul 2020 21:07:51 +0000
To: Rocha, Richard A;Alberico, Nicole;Walls, Khaalid H;Nicholson, Elizabeth M;Gonzalez, Barbara M;Pallas, Charissa M;Daniels, Stacey M;Johnson, Michael E;Schreffler, Kaylan J;Burke, Jenny
Subject: ERO Chicago Rollout for Monday

Hi all.

Here's the ERO Chicago Citizen's Academy roll out plan for Monday. We have one outstanding media interview slated for Monday; Barbara will be speaking with the Chicago Univision affiliate. Rich, I know you mentioned you had concerns moving forward with the news release. We can reassess the plan, if necessary. Thanks, all.

ERO Chicago Citizen's Academy Rollout

Strategy and Timing

- **Monday, July 13 at 10 am EST: Press Release to website/social media hits**
- **Monday, July 13 at 11 am EST: OPE Spanish Language interview:** Local Univision's Viviana Avila will interview Barbara Gonzalez, AD for ICE's Office of Public Engagement

NEWS RELEASE

ICE offers opportunity for the public to learn more about agency's mission in Chicago

CHICAGO — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) is seeking interested stakeholders to participate in Chicago's first ERO Citizen's Academy, scheduled to begin Sept. 15.

The goal of the program is for participants to become familiar with how and why ICE carries out its mission. Modeled after other law enforcement agencies academies, including ICE's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), FBI, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and local police departments, ERO plans to directly engage and educate the public through the academy.

"The academy is a natural progression from the outreach work we have already been doing with our community," said ERO Chicago Field Office Director Robert Guadian "This is an opportunity for the community to get to know our officers, understand our mission, and see firsthand how the agency enforces the federal immigration laws enacted by Congress."

During the interactive six-day program, occurring weekly for six weeks, participants will hear directly from ERO officers and learn about ICE policies and procedures. The Citizen's Academy also affords ICE the opportunity to hear from participants, understand their perspectives and debunk myths.

The curriculum will include, but is not limited to, classroom instruction, visiting an immigration detention center, learning more about the health care ICE provides to those in its custody, and

examining ICE's role in ensuring dignity, respect and due process of an immigration case from start to finish.

ICE is inviting interested participants from a variety of stakeholder backgrounds such as community groups, state and local elected leaders, Congressional staff, consular officials, and business and religious leaders.

Space is limited. Participants must commit to complete the entire course and pass a background check. Interested applicants should email CommunityRelations.Chicago@ice.dhs.gov to receive an application. Applications must be received by Thursday, July 30.

ERO Chicago is working closely with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as other federal, state and local agencies to ensure personal health and safety during the academy. Participants will be issued Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and will be expected to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

ICE

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SUGGESTED SOCIAL MEDIA:

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- ERO Chicago to offer community members an opportunity to learn more about the agency's mission this fall (link to press release)
 - During the interactive program, participants will hear directly from ERO officers & learn about ICE policies & procedures. (1/2)
 - The Citizen's Academy also affords ICE the opportunity to hear from participants, understand their perspectives and debunk myths. (2/2)

 - The curriculum will include, but is not limited to, classroom instruction, visiting an immigration detention center, learning more about the health care ICE provides to those in its custody, & examining ICE's role in ensuring dignity, respect and due process of an immigration case from start to finish. *(this is long for a tweet, and will probably need to be split)*

If needed:

- Law enforcement orgs from the federal to local level have been hosting citizens academies for years to educate and foster good relationships within a community. (1/2)

- In a time where relationships between the public and law enforcement are being scrutinized, reports that ICE is attempting to recruit citizens to spy on their neighbors is both false and intentionally misleading. (2/2)

Q&A

Q: Are you training citizens on how to conduct immigration enforcement?

A: No, the academy is a mechanism to educate and dispel misinformation about the agency's mission. ICE ERO Citizen's Academy is modeled after other law enforcement agency academies including ICE's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), U.S. Customs and Border Protection, FBI and local police departments – all with the goal of directly engaging and educating the public.

Q: Why Chicago, a sanctuary city in a sanctuary state, for the inaugural class?

A: The misunderstanding, anger and confusion of what the agency does daily nationwide and in Chicago is exactly why the academy is needed. The academy is also designed as an opportunity for ICE to hear from the community to build a bridge, or at the least, start a conversation.

Q: What do you mean by "participate in scenario-based training and exercises...including, but not limited to defensive tactics, firearms familiarization, and targeted arrests?" Will they be given guns?

A: Like other law enforcement academies, there are demonstrations on firearms, self-defense and de-escalation tactics.

ICE will not issue weapons or firearms to members of the community.

Q: Who can apply and how?

A: ERO Chicago is looking for a diverse set of influential community leaders – regardless of their stance on ICE – to apply. Participants must be able to pass a background check and commit to the full schedule. Those interested in applying can request an application by sending an email to CommunityRelations.Chicago@ice.dhs.gov.

Q: Aren't you worried about COVID-19?

A: ERO Chicago is working closely with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as other federal, state and local agencies to ensure personal health and safety during the academy. Participants will be issued Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and will be expected to adhere to social distancing guidelines. Because of these guidelines, space is limited for the first iteration of the ERO Chicago Citizen's Academy.

Q: Good use of taxpayers' dollars?

A: This is an opportunity for taxpayers to see their tax dollars at work. The academy's schedule, held during standard duty hours, was designed with current operations in mind. The

community will benefit from having a day-in-the life perspective of our officers and how and why individuals are targeted for immigration enforcement.

Q: How many have applied? How many spots available?

A: In the first week of the application window, launched July 2, we have received 20 applications. Due to limited space, the first class is expected to include 10 to 12 participants.

Q: Desired applicants?

A: Chicago ERO is looking for a diverse set of influential leaders in their communities.

Q: Can members of the media apply?

A: Members of the media are encouraged to apply as community representatives, not in their official capacity as journalists.

Already Occurred

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- **Thursday, July 2: Application letter** to Stakeholders (below)
- **Tuesday, July 7: Congressional notifications** via OCR
- **Tuesday, July 7: Statement** (below) released, along with additional information addressing misunderstandings, to various media outlets
- **Thursday, July 9 and Friday, July 10: FOD Guadian Interview:** WBEZ-NPR Chicago; **OPE officials** interview with FOX Los Angeles, Telemundo National, Telemundo Chicago, NBC affiliate, WMAQ-TV.

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Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Cutrell, Carissa F <Carissa.F.Cutrell@ice.dhs.gov>; Burke, Jenny <Jenny.Burke@ice.dhs.gov>; Alberico, Nicole <Nicole.Alberico@ice.dhs.gov>
Cc: Walls, Khaalid H <Khaalid.H.Walls@ice.dhs.gov>; Nicholson, Elizabeth M <Elizabeth.M.Nicholson@ice.dhs.gov>; Gonzalez, Barbara M <Barbara.M.Gonzalez@ice.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT NR: Chicago ICE officers to host first ERO Citizen's Academy

Hi Carissa. Good flag.

I initially thought the same too. But I'm okay with it as written using that version we cleared for ERO. Of course our goal is to have key stakeholders, especially at first. But we also do want to give members of the public (not representing any organizations) an opportunity down the road.

Please let us know on timing when you get a chance.

ICE offers opportunity for the public to learn more about agency's mission in Chicago

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The goal of the program is for participants to become familiar with how and why ICE carries out its mission. Modeled after other law enforcement agencies academies, including ICE's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), FBI, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and local police departments, ERO plans to directly engage and educate the public through the academy.

"The academy is a natural progression from the outreach work we have already been doing with our community," said ERO Chicago Field Office Director Robert Guadian "This is an opportunity for the community to get to know our officers, understand our mission, and see firsthand how the agency enforces the federal immigration laws enacted by Congress."

During the interactive six-day program, occurring weekly for six weeks, participants will hear directly from ERO officers and learn about ICE policies and procedures. The Citizen's Academy also affords ICE the opportunity to hear from participants, understand their perspectives and debunk myths.

~~The goal of the program is for participants to become familiar with ICE. Participants will have the opportunity to experience a "day in the life" of sworn law enforcement officers and how they conduct immigration arrests.—~~

The curriculum will include, but is not limited to, classroom instruction, visiting an immigration detention center, learning more about the health care ICE provides to those in its custody, and examining ICE's role in ensuring dignity, respect and due process of an immigration case from start to finish.

ICE is inviting interested participants from a variety of stakeholder backgrounds such as community groups, state and local elected leaders, Congressional staff, consular officials, and business and religious leaders.

Space is limited. Participants must commit to complete the entire course and pass a background check. Interested applicants should email CommunityRelations.Chicago@ice.dhs.gov to receive an application. Applications must be received by Thursday, July 30.

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Thank you,
Richard Rocha
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Subject: RE: DRAFT NR: Chicago ICE officers to host first ERO Citizen's Academy

Hi folks.

One flag on this, when we launched the HSI Citizen's Academy, the field offices were adamant that they did not want an open call to the public for academy participants. Instead, they relied on existing community relationships to invite individuals to participate in the inaugural academies. Jenny, I noticed you changed the lead on the news release to focus on this. If everyone else is good with this, I am, but wanted to point that out. Thanks, all.

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Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2020 5:23 PM

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Subject: RE: DRAFT NR: Chicago ICE officers to host first ERO Citizen's Academy

Edits attached.

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Subject: RE: DRAFT NR: Chicago ICE officers to host first ERO Citizen's Academy

Hi Nicole.

I made some edits to the news release. Jenny may have additional comments. I've included the doc with tracked changes here.

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To: Burke, Jenny (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@ice.dhs.gov>; Cutrell, Carissa F (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@ice.dhs.gov>
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Subject: DRAFT NR: Chicago ICE officers to host first ERO Citizen's Academy

Hello.

Here's how the news release is shaping up to be (attached and pasted below). CHI FOD approves. It has not gone through Issue Paper Chain

Please review/edit.

Thank you!

Nicole

ISSUE: Press release announcing Chicago ERO's Citizen Academy. There has been immense interest, from both the media and advocates. Most media has been interested in general information; however, some national outlets and advocates have claimed ICE is training private citizens to make immigration arrests. Others call to halt the academy.

Chicago ICE officers to host first ERO Citizen's Academy

CHICAGO — U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) announces its inaugural Citizens Academy, scheduled to begin Sept. 15.

Modeled after other law enforcement agencies academies, including ICE's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), FBI, and local police departments, ICE ERO's academy's goal is to directly engage and educate the public.

"The Academy is a natural progression from the outreach work we have already been doing with our community," said Field Office Director Robert Guadian, ERO Chicago, "Our community meetings are only a few hours long but this is a six-week opportunity for the community to get to know our officers and understand our mission."

During the interactive six-day program, occurring weekly for six weeks, students will hear directly from ICE officers and be able to ask questions about ICE policies and procedures. Conversely, the Citizens Academy affords ICE the opportunity to hear from participants and learn from their perspectives and debunk myths.

The goal of the program is for participants to become familiar with how ICE enforces the federal immigration laws enacted by Congress. Participants will have the opportunity to get a "day-in-the-life" perspective of sworn law enforcement officers and their work behind every immigration arrest.

The curriculum will include, but is not limited to, classroom instruction, visiting an immigration detention center, learning more about the health care ICE provides to those in its custody, and examining ICE's role in ensuring dignity, respect and due process of an immigration case from start to finish.

ICE is inviting interested participants from a variety of stakeholder backgrounds such as community groups, state and local elected leaders, Congressional staff, consular officials and business and religious leaders.

Space is limited and participants must be able to commit to the complete course and pass a background check. Interested applicants should email CommunityRelations.Chicago@ice.dhs.gov to receive an application. Applications must be received by Thursday, July 30.

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Nicole Alberico

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