

Board Statement on ICE Activity in the Community

The Board of Palatine Library District Trustees stands with our community members impacted by recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activity. We do not condone ICE's actions that disrupt our community and harm our community.

Palatine Library District strives to provide a welcoming space for everyone and a safe environment. As Trustees, we want to proclaim that the Library is a refuge from the threats of the outside world, but we cannot. The Library is a public space, and we cannot keep ICE agents from entering the parking lot and the Library.

Once the Library is aware of an ICE presence, staff will follow established guidelines to contact leadership and security to monitor and handle the situation. Palatine Library does not assist or collaborate with ICE agents except when required to comply with a valid judicial warrant signed by a judge, as mandated by law.

The importance of privacy and access to information remains in effect at the Library. Everyone is welcome at the Library. The Library does not require a member's immigration status to register for a Library card or use services. All Library records are confidential. In addition, Library staff have created lists of immigration resources to help our community navigate these difficult times, which are provided below.

The vision of the Palatine Library District is to inspire connection, curiosity, and joy. Current ICE actions are antithetical to that vision: disconnecting us, and creating misery among many of our family, friends, and neighbors. As elected stewards of the Library, we will continue to support and work toward a welcoming space and safe environment for all.