MAYOR REX RICHARDSON
CITY OF LONG BEACH

October 19, 2026

VIA EMAIL AND FORMAL COMPLAINT SUBMISSION

Office of Inspector General U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Subject: Formal Complaint and Demand for Independent Investigation Into Ice Use of Force and Enforcement Operations in Long Beach

To the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General:

I am formally requesting an immediate, independent investigation into the conduct of federal immigration enforcement agents involved in an October 17, 2026, incident in Long Beach that resulted in injuries to resident Ricardo Gonzalez, as well as the broader federal enforcement operation during which this incident occurred.

I am outraged by the reported treatment of Mr. Gonzalez. A federal badge is not a license to brutalize people, disregard their constitutional rights, or deny medical assistance to someone in need. No one is above the law, including the agents entrusted with enforcing it.

According to information received by the City, Mr. Gonzalez contacted the Long Beach Police Department seeking assistance during a confrontation with federal immigration agents near 56th Street and Elm Avenue. During the encounter, he reportedly was subjected to repeated Taser use, forcibly restrained, and sustained significant injuries. Federal agents reportedly failed to provide medical assistance. Long Beach police officers and firefighters subsequently ensured that he received emergency medical care.

These circumstances raise serious concerns not only about the treatment of one resident, but also about the conduct, supervision, and accountability of federal immigration enforcement operations in our community.

I am demanding an independent investigation that answers the questions outlined in the attached addendum.

I further demand the immediate preservation of all relevant evidence, including body-camera recordings, Taser activation records, operational plans, dispatch communications, incident reports, surveillance footage, agent identification and assignment records, and communications among participating agents and supervisors.

An investigation alone is not sufficient**. I am calling on DHS and ICE leadership to immediately**

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remove the agents involved from all field enforcement duties pending an independent investigation. Allowing agents facing serious allegations of excessive force and failure to provide medical assistance to continue conducting enforcement operations without appropriate review raises unacceptable public safety concerns.

The people of Long Beach also deserve a public accounting of what happened. I am requesting that DHS publicly release a summary of its investigative findings, including any substantiated violations, corrective actions, and disciplinary measures, to the fullest extent permitted by law. Accountability cannot end with an internal investigation whose findings are never shared with the affected community.

I request written acknowledgment of this complaint within 48 hours, including confirmation that relevant evidence has been preserved and identification of the office responsible for the investigation. Within seven days, I request a written response regarding interim personnel actions, the scope of the investigation, any referrals for independent civil rights review, and the process for providing ongoing updates and public findings.

When a resident calls the police for help and ends up injured during an encounter with federal agents, something has gone terribly wrong. Our Long Beach first responders answered that call and ensured the resident received medical attention. We expect federal agents operating in our community to meet their legal obligations and uphold the same basic respect for human life.

Federal immigration enforcement does not place anyone above the Constitution. Our residents deserve safety, dignity, and equal protection under the law. We are demanding answers, accountability, and action.

Please direct written correspondence to mayor@longbeach.gov.

Sincerely,

Rex Richardson Mayor, City of Long Beach

CC: U.S. Representative Robert Garcia
U.S. Representative Nanette Barragán
U.S. Senator Alex Padilla
U.S. Senator Adam Schiff

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Addendum A

Contact/Detention/Arrest

1. What was nature of the contact with Mr. Gonzalez? Was contact consensual, or was he detained or arrested?

2. If Mr. Gonzalez was detained or arrested, what specific actions by Mr. Gonzalez prompted federal agents to detain or arrest Mr. Gonzalez?

3. Was the detention and/or arrest of Mr. Gonzalez consistent with applicable federal and departmental policies? Why or why not?

4. Was the detention and/or arrest of Mr. Gonzalez legal under the Fourth Amendment? Why or why not?

Use of Force

5. What force was used by federal agents against Mr. Gonzalez?

6. Was each use of force conducted in a manner consistent with applicable federal and departmental policies? Why or why not?

7. Did any use of force violate the Fourth Amendment? Why or why not?

8. Was Mr. Gonzalez struck by a vehicle operated by a federal officer? Was this an intended use of force or an accident? If it was a use of force, what facts and circumstances allegedly justify this use of force?

9. Was Mr. Gonzalez tased? How many times? What facts and circumstances allegedly justify this use of force?

10. Was Mr. Gonzalez forcibly restrained? What specific force was used to restrain him? What facts and circumstances allegedly justify this use of force?

Medical Treatment

11. Did any federal officer request medical assistance or treatment for Mr. Gonzalez? What facts and circumstances led to the request for medical attention? When was medical attention requested?

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12. Did any federal officer provide medical assistance to Mr. Gonzalez? Why or why not?

13. Are the federal officers involved in this incident trained to provide emergency medical assistance?

14. Are the federal officers involved in this incident equipped to provide emergency medical assistance? What equipment or resources do they have to provide that assistance?

Identification of Officers

15. Which agents and supervisors participated in, authorized, or oversaw the actions? Were required reporting procedures followed, and did supervisors take appropriate action?

Civil Rights

16. Were Mr. Gonzalez's civil rights violated? Did racial profiling, perceived immigration status, retaliation, or other improper considerations influence the agents' conduct?

Enforcement Operation

17. What was the purpose and scope of the broader enforcement operation? Who authorized the October 17 operation in Long Beach? What were its objectives, operational directives, and supervisory controls?

18. Were other residents stopped, detained, subjected to force, or targeted?

19. Did the operation comply with applicable laws, policies, constitutional protections, and court orders?

Accountability

20. What accountability measures will be taken? What administrative, disciplinary, or legal consequences will follow if misconduct is substantiated?

21. Will potential civil rights violations or criminal misconduct be referred to the Department of Justice or other appropriate authorities?