



Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Keybo Taylor

Chief Cleophas Atwater

February 18, 2025

Caleb Vitello, Acting Atlanta Field Office Director
ICE Atlanta Field Office
180 Ted Turner Dr. SW Suite 522
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Compliance with the Laken Riley Act, Georgia Law, and Federal Immigration Requirements

Acting Director Vitello:

The Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office is committed to full compliance with all federal and state laws regarding immigration enforcement. Pursuant to the Laken Riley Act and other applicable statutes, our office has established clear procedures to ensure the lawful detention, identification, and transfer of individuals subject to immigration enforcement actions.

Under Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 42-4-14), our office is required to determine the immigration status of any person confined in the county jail who is unable to provide proof of lawful presence in the United States. If an individual is determined to be unlawfully present, we notify the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as required. Additionally, in compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373 and 8 U.S.C. § 1644, the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office will not prohibit or restrict the sharing of information regarding an individual's immigration status with federal authorities.

Our office will detain any individual subject to a valid detainer. Federal agents will have the opportunity to assume custody within the time allotted by law. If no federal agent takes custody of the individual in a timely manner, the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office will endeavor to transport the subject to the nearest federal immigration detention facility and release them into ICE custody.

Our office will comply with the Secure Communities program by submitting all arrestee fingerprint records to federal databases, thereby allowing ICE to identify individuals subject to immigration enforcement. Additionally, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-80-23, we do not and will not adopt or enforce any policies restricting cooperation with federal immigration authorities.

If your office has any specific procedural requirements regarding detainees, transfers, or reporting obligations, we are willing to coordinate with your agency to facilitate an efficient process. To that end, our office restates our previous request to enter into a memorandum of understanding with your agency for mutual assistance, but not to enter into a 287(g) relationship.

I would appreciate a written response with your insights.

Sincerely,

Keybo Taylor, Sheriff