

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 8, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

On September 25, 2025, members of the Oregon congressional delegation visited the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in downtown Portland on S. Macadam Avenue. The facility tour and meeting with ICE staff was very informative. Today we write to follow up on several items that were discussed during the visit. We remain extremely concerned about due process violations by ICE staff and attorneys.

The Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right to due process, regardless of immigration status, and the Immigration and Nationality Act outlines the right to counsel in any removal proceedings.¹ Due process is a cornerstone of American democracy that is currently being eroded. When a person's rights are violated, the result can be wrongful deportations.

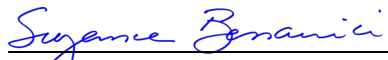
Community organizations are reporting that some immigrants are being denied access to counsel at the Macadam facility. During our meeting at the ICE facility, we repeatedly asked for clarification about why individuals in detention have been denied access to counsel and were not provided with an adequate response. Because of the scale of immigration enforcement operations in Oregon and the lack of transparency around DHS and ICE procedures under the current Trump administration, we demand answers to the following questions:

1. What pre-representation support is allowed at the Macadam facility?
 - a. Do you allow attorneys to enter the Macadam facility to conduct pre-representational interviews?
 - b. Do you ever deny attorneys access to the facility to conduct pre-representational interviews? If so, under what circumstances and what authority?
2. The U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to due process and the law allows the right to an attorney. On what grounds are you denying counsel to individuals in custody?
3. What is the protocol staff follow when someone in ICE custody at the Macadam facility requests a lawyer?
4. What options are available for individuals seeking virtual immigration hearings? Are these ever granted? If not, on what grounds are those requests denied?
5. How long do removal proceeding hearings typically last?
6. Which personnel are allowed into immigration hearings (ICE staff, DOJ staff, attorneys, etc.)?

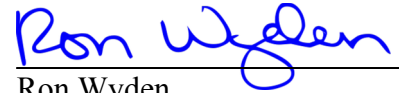
Thank you for your attention to this letter and we look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

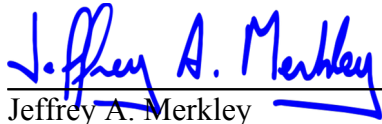
¹ 8 U.S.C. § 1362



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress