



Homeland
Security

June 30, 2025

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

Thank you for your May 23, 2025 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I share your desire to protect the safety of law enforcement and uphold public safety for every person when interacting with law enforcement.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) does not have a face-covering policy; use of face coverings is at the discretion of each law enforcement officer. Given increasing incidents of doxing, threats, and violence against law enforcement—including a 500 percent increase in assaults against ICE law enforcement officers—face coverings serve as a reasonable protective measure.

Regarding identification, ICE officers may initially identify themselves as “police” during encounters. This is a universally recognized term for law enforcement and is important because our personnel often interact with individuals who speak languages other than English. Additionally, the term “police” is common among other federal law enforcement agencies. ICE officers will typically, although not always, display badges and wear vests, jackets, or other clothing with markings such as “POLICE” or “ICE.”

Thank you again for your letter. Senator Kaine, who cosigned your letter, will receive a separate identical response. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the DHS Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 447-5890.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristi Noem", written over a horizontal line.

Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security