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UConn emails ICE guidance to students, says no reports of ICE on campus

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The University of Connecticut advised students on handling Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers in an email sent to students, faculty and staff on Thursday. The email said no reports or plans for ICE presence on campus have been made.

Deputy Spokesperson Michael Enright said UConn sent the official announcement in response to both national events and requests within the university community.

The email was sent alongside a link to a UConn Today article published that same Thursday. Both sources came from University Communications and focused on the steps one could take if they witness an ICE officer trying to access spaces that are not public.

Three steps were included in an outline with streamlined guidance on UConn's protocol for ICE entering non-public spaces on campus, according to UConn Today. The article said to stay calm when following the steps.

"Inform" is the first step of the protocol and says that UConn community members should request ICE officials to wait until University Safety is contacted before ICE enters any non-public space on campus.

"Call" is the second step, which directs students to the University Safety hotline at (860) 486-4800. Those calling the hotline should give their name, department and location and share that ICE is onsite.

The last step is to "escalate" by taking communication beyond the UConn Police Department and directly to a supervisor.

The steps were only supposed to be used as guidance during the event that law enforcement try to access records or enter non-public spaces like classrooms or employee offices, according to UConn Today.

The article said that it's not unusual for external law enforcement agencies to be on campus, using Connecticut State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation as examples.

"[T]his guidance is not intended to suggest that external law enforcement, including immigration officials, should be stopped and questioned if they are in public spaces on campus," the article said.

A link to a previous UConn Today Q&A from April 28, 2025, was shared in the most recent article to elaborate on what is considered a public and private space on campus.

Residence halls, faculty and staff offices, clinical care spaces and any spaces locked when not used are all defined as non-public spaces on campus, according to the Q&A. The article explained what is needed for ICE to enter these areas.

"Federal law enforcement authorities may access any area of campus if they have a judicial warrant, meaning a warrant signed by a judge, authorizing them to do so," the article said, adding that authorized campus officials or residents can also give permission. Administrative warrants do not allow entry to non-public spaces, according to UConn Today.

An internal ICE memo signed by Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons on May 12, 2025, said that immigration regulations do not require judicial warrants to forcibly enter people's homes, according to AP news. The memo has been used to train new ICE officers, who are told to follow the memo instead of written training materials.

Enright said that University Safety hasn't received any credible reports about ICE presence and campus and was not aware of any recent contact between ICE and campus officials.



Students ignite lighters at a vigil to honor the victims of ICE at Dove Tower on Feb. 4, 2026. Event organizers, as well as attendees, shared their stories and messages to the crowd. PHOTOGRAPH BY NORA MARIANO, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Trump EPA repeals landmark environmental finding, CT responds



Gases being emitted into the atmosphere and blown by the wind. On Feb. 12, the EPA repealed the endangerment finding, revoking gas emissions standards set in place to protect public health and welfare of U.S. citizens. PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

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The Environmental Protection Agency announced on Feb. 12 that it would repeal the endangerment finding, a previous EPA finding that served as the basis for much of the United States' environmental regulation.

The endangerment finding was established under the Obama administration in 2009. It declares that various greenhouse gases, such as those emitted by cars and factories, "threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations." The finding allowed the EPA to regulate emission standards for vehicles and other sectors.

EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin said in a press release that he was proud to deliver the "single largest deregulatory action in U.S. history."

"The Endangerment Finding has been the source of 16 years of consumer choice restrictions and trillions of dollars in hidden costs for Americans," Zeldin said in the press release. "Referred to by some as the 'Holy Grail' of the 'climate change religion,' the Endangerment Finding is now eliminated. The Trump EPA is strictly following the letter of the law, returning commonsense to policy, delivering consumer choice to Americans and advancing the American Dream."

Legislators and officials from Connecticut denounced the decision in a press release. Gov. Ned Lamont said repealing this finding proved the Trump administration does "not care about the impacts greenhouse gas emissions have on the health of our communities," particularly in vulnerable populations.

"This is settled science. Connecticut has a proud, bipartisan history of standing up for environmental safeguards, and we will fight this decision, just like we have done every time this administration has threatened the health and prosperity of the people of Connecticut," Lamont said. "Connecticut residents deserve clean air to breathe, and safe communities in which to live and raise a family."

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong said Trump was selling out future generations in pursuit of profit for fossil fuel companies and polluters. However, he also said "the science and the law are firmly on our side."

"The next step is now the legal fight in court and, just as we won the first round before EPA – forcing it to drop its shoddy science – we are confident we can win round two," Tong said. "We will be in this fight for as long as it takes."

Katie Dykes, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection commissioner, said repealing the finding could come at a great cost to Connecticut.

"The evidence is even clearer now than it was in 2009, greenhouse gases pollute the air and contribute significantly to poor air quality. Connecticut suffers from some of the worst air quality in the United States, and greenhouse gas emissions, including from vehicles, contribute to air pollution that exacerbates respiratory illness, resulting in tens of millions of dollars spent on related healthcare costs in our state every year," Dykes said.

Dykes also said this action

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