



## **AFT New Jersey** **State Federation, AFL-CIO**

720 King Georges Road, Suite 300, Fords, NJ 08863  
732-661-9393

### **AFT New Jersey Supports the People of Minnesota in Their Protest Against ICE**

Whereas, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has expanded its geographical scope of reckless and violent operations from California to Minnesota and Maine and the many communities in between; and

Whereas, thousands of our neighbors and family members across New Jersey—along with our colleagues, our students, and others from our communities—have been detained, and some have become untraceable in the detention system; and

Whereas, many AFT New Jersey members are living with the fear, anxiety, and rage that stem from being targeted themselves; and

Whereas, Black and brown people and multiple immigrant and refugee communities have historically been targeted by centralized power, most recently embodied by ICE agents in New Jersey, as well as throughout the U.S.; and

Whereas, ICE raids in our streets are an escalation of the institutionalized suppression of civil rights that BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and disabled people have experienced for decades; and

Whereas, the people across the country are fighting back against the same cruel deployments that are endangering families and communities; and

Whereas, on January 7, 2026, Renee Nicole Good was killed by an ICE agent while peacefully observing ICE action in her neighborhood and attempting to vacate the area, a neighborhood only a few blocks away from where George Floyd was also killed by militarized law enforcement; and

Whereas, the lawful and peaceful protest of the people of Minneapolis has been met by increasing violence by ICE officers, including pepper spraying peaceful protestors, passersby, and an African-American family, injuring their five-year-old child; and

Whereas, on January 24, 2026, Alex J. Pretti was an ICU nurse and a member of American Federation of Government Employees Local 3669 who, like Renee Nicole Good was a U.S. citizen with no criminal record, was killed by federal agents while protecting another observer recording federal agent's actions; and



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Whereas, our Minnesota union siblings are fighting back and resisting the authoritarian regime taking hold of their state, by calling for a statewide action ([https://minneapolisunions.org/system/files/2026-01/press\\_release\\_-\\_january\\_16\\_2026.pdf?ref=paydayreport.com](https://minneapolisunions.org/system/files/2026-01/press_release_-_january_16_2026.pdf?ref=paydayreport.com)); and

Therefore, be it resolved that the AFTNJ will provide financial and other assistance to our community and labor partners in Minnesota and other impacted communities as the need arises as they resist the authoritarian actions happening in this country; and

Therefore, be it resolved that AFTNJ will continue to prepare our local unions and members to respond to the authoritarian acts here and across the nation with training on legal observing, peaceful non-violent demonstrations, and immigration rights and protection trainings; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the AFTNJ will continue to stand against militarized policing within our communities in this country, including ICE, and will continue to fight for our collective civil rights, and for the social and racial justice that every person deserves.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that AFTNJ calls for the abolishment of ICE in its current form; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that AFTNJ calls on Congress to replace ICE with immigration enforcement mechanisms that:

- Prioritize human rights and due process
- End family separations and detention of children
- Respect the sanctity of schools and other sensitive locations
- Emphasize community-based alternatives to detention
- Address immigration through a framework of justice and humanitarian values

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that AFTNJ demands immediate reforms including:

- Prohibition of ICE enforcement actions at or near schools
- Cessation of workplace raids that terrorize communities
- Release of individuals detained solely for civil immigration violations
- Protection of unaccompanied minors and families seeking asylum



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFTNJ will:

Educate members about immigrant students' rights and "Know Your Rights" resources  
Advocate for policies that protect students and families from immigration enforcement in educational settings  
Support comprehensive immigration reform that provides pathways to citizenship  
Collaborate with immigrant rights organizations and allied unions on this issue

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to:

The American Federation of Teachers national office  
New Jersey's congressional delegation  
The Governor of New Jersey  
The New Jersey State Legislature  
Allied labor unions and civil rights organizations

Approved by the Delegate Assembly on 1/26/26