



## **Kent County Board of Commissioner's Office Sheriff's Department ICE Contract Facts**

- The ICE contract with the Sheriff's Department falls solely under the Sheriff's jurisdiction as defined under Michigan law. The County Commission does not have the legal authority to end the contract or direct the Sheriff to do so.
- In 2017, the Kent County Correctional Facility processed 23,455 inmates. ICE was involved in less than 0.8 percent – or 185 – of those cases.
- The Sheriff's Department does not arrest people because of their immigration status.
- The ICE contract addresses two important operational practices:
  - It provides reimbursement for housing ICE detainees. Similar reimbursement agreements exist with all other law enforcement agencies who house inmates at the county jail.
  - It limits the length of stay of an ICE detainee to 72 hours. This allows the Sheriff to effectively anticipate staffing needs and avoids the prolonged housing of ICE detainees.
- The contract has no impact on who is arrested by Sheriff's deputies or other local law enforcement officials.
- Like all other law enforcement agencies in the nation, the booking process in Kent County requires arrest information be entered into a computer system that is connected to federal agencies such as the FBI, Homeland Security and ICE. ICE sends a detainee request form to the Sheriff when it wants an inmate held. There is no proactive outreach by the Sheriff's Department to federal agencies.
- The Sheriff's Department is not separating families – it is enforcing the laws it is sworn to uphold.
- If an individual is arrested for committing a crime, he or she will be separated from their relatives while the case is adjudicated.