



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on June 2, 2025

ICE, Other Feds Bag Almost 1,500 Illegals in Massachusetts Raids

It appears that far-left Democratic Massachusetts Governor Martha Healey's vow to use "every tool in the toolbox" to protect illegal aliens from deportation didn't work so well last month.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other federal agents collared nearly 1,500 illegals in the Bay State. Nearly 800 of the illegals were dangerous criminals — some with an [Interpol Red Notice](#). They included murderers, drug traffickers, and rapists and sex offenders.

Almost 300 had final orders of deportation.

Massachusetts and capital Boston are notorious sanctuaries. Healey and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu have vowed not to cooperate with ICE in removing illegals.



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ICE announced today that nearly 1,500 illegal aliens were arrested during a monthlong enforcement operation targeting transnational organized crime, gangs, and egregious illegal alien offenders throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Details at <https://t.co/UjTv4cPquC> pic.twitter.com/m39nBuQfyq

— U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (@ICEgov) [June 2, 2025](#)

The Arrests

Operation Patriot, as the month-long effort was called, was mounted by ICE, the FBI, the Coast Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, the U.S. Marshals Service, and the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service. The Drug Enforcement Administration also helped.

Agents arrested 1,461 illegals, 790 of whom had been charged with or convicted of crimes here or abroad, [ICE reported](#).

The operations targeted terror gangs — including the MS-13, Trinitarios, 18th Street, and Tren de Aragua.

"Among the alien offenders apprehended during Operation Patriot, 277 had been previously ordered removed from the United States by a Justice Department immigration judge," ICE reported. "However, they refused to comply with the removal order and remained in the country illegally."

The operation included operations in Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. Arrests netted 40 illegals, "including at least one child sex predator and a member of a violent transnational gang." The Coast Guard moved those illegals off the islands, which are enclaves of wealthy, far-left voters.



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The Criminals

The hardened criminals included:

- a Salvadoran, 55, national wanted with a Red Notice for “aggravated homicide, robbery, aggravated kidnapping and theft in El Salvador”;
- a Guatemalan sex offender, 32 charged “in Boston for five counts of indecent assault and battery on a person 14 or over and trafficking a person for sexual servitude. Another charged: raping a 10-year-old. ICE detainer on the sex fiend were not honored;
- two Honduran sex offenders: a 37-year-old Honduran arrested Fall River for rape and other crimes; a 39-year-old convicted child molester;
- a 22-year-old Colombian charged with aggravated rape. Unsurprisingly, authorities had ignored an ICE detainer and released him;
- a 45-year-old Guatemalan murderer;
- two Brazilians: a 24-year-old with a Red Notice from Brazil on murder; a 29-year-old charged with rape and possession of child porn; and,
- a Salvadoran 48, with charged of child rape.

Healey and Wu

After President Trump ended Vice President Kamala Harris’ career in national politics on November 5, 2024, [Healey said](#) Massachusetts State Police will “absolutely not” cooperate with ICE. She vowed to use “every tool in the toolbox ... to protect our citizens, to protect our residents, and protect our states, and certainly to hold the line on democracy and the rule of law.”

Likewise, far-left Mayor [Wu said](#) Boston not only will not cooperate with ICE but also find ways to obstruct its enforcement operations. After appearing at a congressional hearing in Washington, D.C., Wu promised that Boston’s unlawful sanctuary policy would continue.

“It might have been my voice speaking into the microphone that day, but it was 700,000 voices that gave Congress their answer: This is our city,” said said in her state of the city address:

No one tells Boston how to take care of our own. Not kings, and not presidents who think they are kings. Boston was born facing down bullies. In D.C., during the breaks to nurse the baby, I caught up on the scene unfolding back home: Hands joined in prayer across an interfaith circle at St. Paul’s; bright letters illuminated on the Old State House bricks; homemade signs held high among the crowds on City Hall Plaza: “We stand with immigrants,” “You belong here,” “Somos una ciudad de inmigrantes,” “Boston doesn’t back down.”

Like Frey, Wu — who has been [linked to](#) Red Chinese intelligence — [had also said the city](#) would protect illegals from deportation.

“The idea that certain local law enforcement agencies will be required, or will be expected, to participate in mass deportations of residents who have not been part of serious criminal activity just to fulfill this campaign promise, this is not something that is possible under the laws in Boston,” [she told](#) far-left Boston Public Radio.

“In places where that is not the case ... we still have other mechanisms where we can identify spaces that might be most targeted and think about protections there,” Wu told the radio station.



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Homan responds to Boston's Mayor: I suggests she read title eight, United States Code 1324 III that says, you can't harbor or conceal an illegal alien from federal law enforcement. So I hope she don't cross that line. pic.twitter.com/HUhIF3Y4r5

— Acyn (@Acyn) [November 19, 2024](#)

That imprudent promise — to impede ICE enforcement — invited a stern warning from Border Czar Tom Homan.

“She helps us or she gets the hell out of the way, because we’re going to do it,” Homan said:

There’s a clear line here, and they can’t cross that clear line. I will suggest she read Title 8, United States Code 1324 III, that says you can’t harbor or conceal an illegal alien from federal law enforcement officers....

They can not cooperate, but there are certain laws in place that they can’t cross, and I hope she doesn’t cross it.

Those vows aside, Healey might need to get Massachusetts another set of tools.



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