



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on October 31, 2025

Noem Tells Pritzker ICE, CBP Won't Stand Down During Halloween Weekend

In a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and other officials two days ago, far-left Democratic Governor J.B. Pritzker of Illinois asked — in the name of Chicago's children — to let illegal aliens in the Windy City run wild this Halloween weekend.

Noem's answer: Forget it. The crackdown will continue.

Pritzker requested the hiatus in enforcement because Border Patrol agents, he wrote, deployed tear gas during a Halloween parade for kids. That wasn't the whole story, of course.



AP Images
Kristi Noem

Julio Rosas

@Julio_Rosas11 · Follow

DHS Sec. Noem says there will be no pause on immigration enforcement operations in the Chicago area after Gov. Pritzker asked for a break for the Halloween weekend:

"The fact Gov. Pritzker is asking for that is shameful...We want to make sure that people are safe."

Watch on X

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HOMELAND SECURITY SECY. NOEM & INDIANA OFFICIALS DISCUSS RECENT ICE RAIDS IN NW INDIANA

10:00 AM · Oct 30, 2025

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Tear Gas Parade?

Pritzker pointed to an ABC News report that described what went on, with the usual input from a "resident."

"On Saturday, Border Patrol agents converged on the Old Irving Park neighborhood on the city's Northwest Side to conduct an immigration enforcement raid. Neighborhood residents claimed the agents interrupted a children's Halloween parade and allegedly deployed tear gas without warning on residents trying to intervene," the [network reported](#):



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Video footage that was verified by ABC News showed agents deploying tear gas and tackling and arresting several people, including U.S. citizens, outside homes decked out in Halloween decorations.

Then came the voice of the “resident,” one Carlos Rodriguez, whose immigration status ABC did not disclose.

[ABC continued:](#)

In one video confirmed by ABC News, resident Carlos Rodriguez is heard yelling at agents, “You’re scaring our children to death.”

“Unbelievable. Never thought this would happen in my neighborhood — scaring our children to death, thinking this is a cool thing to do,” Rodriguez said in the video.

To its credit, ABC included a statement of Homeland Security (DHS) spokesman Tricia McLaughlin. She explained why the agents deployed the tear gas: A hostile crowd confronted the agents, a commonplace scene in Chicago, while they arrested a “criminal illegal alien from Mexico, who has previously been arrested for assault.”

Pritzker’s Letter

Noting that incident, Pritzker’s missive to Noem segued into “aggressive operations in residential neighborhoods and near schools, parks, and places of worship — reportedly deploying chemical agents and detaining individuals indiscriminately.”

Pritzker claimed federal agents are deliberately targeting “Black and Brown people, including U.S. citizens and those who have not been charged with crimes.”

He asked Noem, acting Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Chief Todd Lyons, and Rodney Scott, head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), to cease operations “that could endanger or harm perfectly innocent children in our communities during this Halloween weekend.”

“Illinois children should not be robbed of their innocence,” Pritzker closed:

Let them enjoy a time-honored American tradition safely and peacefully. Please let children be children for one holiday, free from intimidation and fear.

[Pritzker Letter to DHS, ICE, and CBP 10.29.2025Download](#)

Noem: No Way

Asked about the request at a news conference, Noem was ready with an answer.

“No we’re absolutely not willing to put on pause any work that we will do to keep communities safe,” Noem replied:

The fact that Governor Pritzker is asking for that is shameful, and I think unfortunate that he doesn’t recognize how important the work is that we do to make sure we’re bringing criminals to justice and getting them off our streets, especially when we’re going to send all



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of our kiddos out on the streets and going to events and enjoying the holiday season. We want to make sure that they're safe. And if you see, even up here we have individuals that we picked up off the streets with our ICE officers and CBP officers, that have assault against a child, child pedophiles, rapes. Those individuals don't deserve to be on our streets, and we're certainly not gonna let our kids be victimized by them.

Noem repeated the answer on Fox News. Agents, she vowed, will hit the streets in "full force."



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Sandra Smith: "[Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker] has asked you specifically to pause immigration enforcement in [Chicago] so he says that kids can safely celebrate Halloween. Do you have any plans to alter activity on that day?"

DHS Secretary Kristi Noem: "No, we're going to be out [Show more](#)



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JB Pritzker

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We know Kristi Noem must love Halloween because she always dresses in law enforcement costumes, but what is truly shameful is that she refuses to agree that we shouldn't tear gas children **trick or** treating.



Aaron Rupar

 @atrupar ·

Q: Gov. Pritzker has asked for Operation Midway Blitz to be paused for the holiday weekend. Are you willing to do that?

NOEM: No, we're absolutely not willing to put on pause any work we will do to keep communities safe. The fact Gov. Pritzker is asking for that is shameful.



11:50 AM · Oct 30, 2025

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Pritzker prevaricated in reply on X:

We know Kristi Noem must love Halloween because she always dresses in law enforcement costumes, but what is truly shameful is that she refuses to agree that we shouldn't tear gas children trick or treating.



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Attack on ICE

Federal agents have not tear gassed children while trick-or-treating. But they did deploy tear gas on October 23, when far-left rioters attacked Border Patrol agents during an enforcement operation.

As [The New American reported](#) yesterday, DHS released a video in which drone and bodycam footage shows exactly what occurred.

The drone view shows gang members boxing in a Border Patrol vehicle then running down an alley to change license plates and retrieve “high-powered weapons.”

Other footage recorded deranged scatological ranting at the agents from a woman who said their daughters would be raped. Video of a rooftop at the scene showed an individual watching the riot, or perhaps signaling rioters. One rioter threw a “liquid object” at agents.

Rioters also “shot at agents with commercial artillery shell fireworks,” DHS reported on X:

A Border Patrol transport van carrying illegal aliens attempting to get to the safety of the perimeter was then attacked. Border Patrol agents were able to secure the van and get it into the perimeter. The mob of rioters grew more hostile and violent, advancing toward agents and began throwing rocks and other objects at agents, including one that struck Chief Greg Bovino in the head.



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VIDEO EVIDENCE.

On October 23, Border Patrol Agents conducted enforcement operations near 27th and Whipple Ave. A large crowd of 75- 100 rioters surrounded law enforcement who set up a perimeter after agents were boxed in by a large box truck. Rioters then shot at agents with [Show more](#)



Block Club Chicago @BlockClubCHI

Border Patrol boss Greg Bovino tear-gassed a crowd in Chicago's Little Village neighborhood, violating a judge's order, attorneys said.
blockclubchi.co/42V0Apd



7:56 AM · Oct 28, 2025



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Pritzker's Attacks on ICE

Aside [from repeatedly](#) calling federal immigration agents ["Nazis" and "Gestapo,"](#) Pritzker is threatening to prosecute them for enforcing the law.

Earlier this month, [he told Fox32](#) in Chicago that vengeance was ahead:

The tables will turn one day. These people should recognize that maybe they're not gonna get prosecuted today, although we're looking at doing that, but they may get prosecuted after the Trump administration because the statute of limitations would not have run out.



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Bill Melugin ✓

@BillMelugin_ · [Follow](#)



NEW: DHS tells [@FoxNews](#) that new data reveals violent/death threats against ICE surged a staggering 8,000% in fiscal year 2025 compared to fiscal year 2024.

One recent threat in TX (attached) involved an illegal alien offering \$10,000 bounties per each murdered ICE agent. He [Show more](#)



6:23 PM · Oct 29, 2025



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To no avail, DHS has repeatedly asked Pritzker and other top Democrats, [who also call](#) ICE agents



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Nazis and terrorists, to stop the hateful rhetoric, which is likely driving the massive increase in assault on officers.

McLaughlin told Fox News that threats against agents and their families have increased 8,000 percent.



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