



**JOINT STATEMENT BY THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND  
THE POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

Recent ICE operations across the country, in Pennsylvania and locally have prompted questions from concerned residents about Montgomery County law enforcement's collective role and responsibilities regarding ICE-related events.

First, all of Montgomery County law enforcement is dedicated to protecting our residents and visitors. We have taken an oath to support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth without consideration to a person's race, color, sex, religious creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, handicap or disability. And we plan to continue to honor our oath to all residents of Montgomery County.

Second, the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and police departments in Montgomery County do not enforce civil immigration orders; enforceable warrants must be signed by a judge. In fact, none of the police departments in Montgomery County have signed a Section 287(g) Agreement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Third, our protocol during any fatal shooting or a use of force event is for local law enforcement and the Montgomery County Detective Bureau to immediately respond to the scene. Detectives and officers work to neutralize any safety threat, provide first aid to the injured and secure the crime scene. Detectives from the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and local law enforcement will launch an investigation to determine if any Pennsylvania laws were violated and by whom. It does not matter whether the incident under investigation involves local, state or federal law enforcement. There will be a complete and independent review by an expert team of detectives and prosecutors.

Fourth, the rule of law applies equally to everyone. No one is above the law.

Finally, we are devoted to ensuring that residents are able to exercise their constitutional right to peacefully assemble and protest in order to make their voices heard. It also means that we will hold people accountable for interfering with law enforcement, and we will keep families, businesses and property safe during times of unrest.

The entire Montgomery County law enforcement community and its leaders are united in our mission and dedication to upholding the rule of law and ensuring that Montgomery County remains a safe place to live, work and enjoy life.

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**KEVIN R. STEELE**  
District Attorney of Montgomery County

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**PATRICK MOLLOY**  
Chief, Abington Township Police Department  
President, Police Chiefs Association of Montgomery County