



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Human Rights



ILLINOIS ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

ARREST AND DETENTION OF DAYANNE FIGUEROA

INVESTIGATION BRIEF

April 2026



INVESTIGATION BRIEF

Arrest and Detention of Dayanne Figueroa

Date: October 10, 2025

Location: 1600 block of West Hubbard Street in Chicago, Illinois; Broadview Detention Center; federal facility in Lombard, Illinois

Estimated Number of Agents Involved: At least 6, plus additional agents at detention facilities

Categorization: Unlawful arrest; Use of force to effectuate arrest; Detention practices

INTRODUCTION

On October 10, 2025, U.S. Border Patrol agents driving a Jeep Wagoneer collided with a car driven by Chicago resident Dayanne Figueroa. Figueroa is a U.S. citizen, first-generation Mexican American, and a single mother.ⁱ She is also a Criminal Justice major and works as a paralegal.ⁱⁱ That morning, the agents pulled Figueroa from her car and arrested her. Figueroa was detained for several hours at ICE's detention center in Broadview, Illinois, and, later that day, at another federal facility in or near Lombard, Illinois. After Figueroa suffered increasingly serious medical symptoms, federal authorities contacted paramedics and ultimately released Figueroa for medical treatment at a hospital. The detailed account below is based on bystander video of the vehicle collision and Figueroa's arrest, statements by Figueroa and others to the news media, and Figueroa's written and oral testimony to a congressional public forum in December 2025.

VEHICLE COLLISION AND FORCEFUL ARREST

At around 9:00 AM on October 10, 2025, Border Patrol agents had conducted an immigration enforcement arrest near the 1600 block of West Hubbard Street in Chicago.ⁱⁱⁱ Approximately seven Border Patrol agents were at or near the scene, according to available CBP reports: Matthew Sulek, Michael Turner, Oscar Meza, Andrew Torabpour, Joseph Brennan IV, Martin Davalos, and Alexander Mills (a supervisory Border Patrol agent). Agents Mills, Torabpour, Davalos, and Brennan were reportedly assigned to conduct immigration enforcement activities in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood that day, with Agents Sulek, Meza, and Turner assigned to assist them as a "quick reaction force" (QRF).^{iv} During the arrest, two masked agents escorted the handcuffed man from the sidewalk into an unmarked red van. The arrest attracted significant attention from bystanders in the area. Several people were honking their car horns, yelling at the agents, and recording the man's arrest on video.



Image 1 Screenshot of video posted to YouTube by Fernando Figueroa ^v

One bystander, a woman in a green hat, approached the area where the agents were making the arrest, holding her phone up in an apparent effort to video record the incident. As she crossed the street, she approached another Border Patrol vehicle—an unmarked silver Jeep Wagoneer—stopped perpendicular on Hubbard Street, blocking traffic. The woman walked in front of the silver Wagoneer and hit the front car hood with her hand. The silver Wagoneer moved forward toward the woman standing in front of the vehicle and stopped again. Both the woman and another bystander yelled at the agents inside the silver Wagoneer, with the bystander telling the agents, "Yo what the f***, yeah run her over," and warning that the agents would "get a whole lawsuit, watch."^{vi}

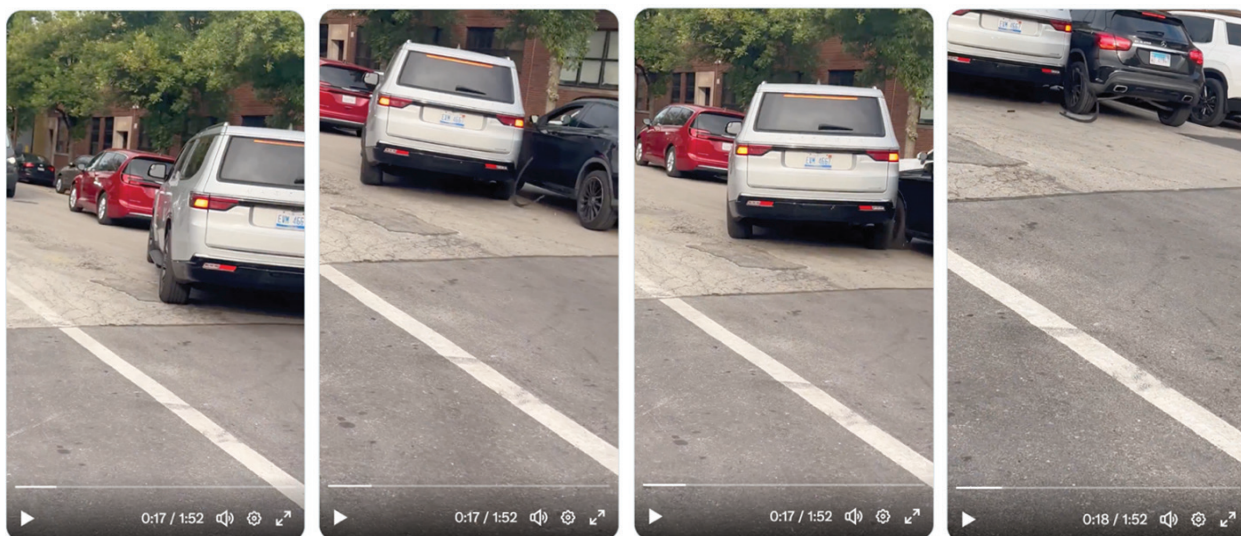


Image 2 Screenshots of video posted by Chicago Tribune^{vii}

Meanwhile, Figueroa had just dropped off her son at school and was driving through the area on her way to work.^{viii} While at the scene of the arrest, Figueroa drove her car, a black Mercedes SUV, into the right lane of the street and around the silver Wagoneer.^{ix} When the agents in the silver Wagoneer pulled away from the encounter with the woman in the green hat, however, they accelerated their vehicle into the right lane, colliding with Figueroa as she slowly drove along the right side of the Wagoneer.^x

After the collision with Figueroa's vehicle, the agents again drove the silver Wagoneer a few feet forward before stopping on the right side of the street in front of Figueroa's vehicle. Figueroa did not continue to drive her car after the collision.^{xi} Three masked agents wearing vests labeled "POLICE" stepped out of the vehicle with weapons drawn and pointed at Figueroa's vehicle.^{xii} In his incident report describing the events, Agent Matthew Sulek claimed Ms. Figueroa "rammed her vehicle into the right rear passenger side of our vehicle."^{xiii} But several bystanders began yelling things like, "Hit and run! That's a hit and run," and, "You hit her! You guys hit her!"^{xiv}

Two of the masked agents approached Figueroa in her car. They did not identify themselves.^{xv} The two agents opened her driver's side door and were joined by a third masked agent, who approached the open driver's side door and motioned for Figueroa to get out of her car. When Figueroa tried to shut her car door instead, one of the agents stepped in front of the open door with his weapon drawn to prevent its closure. The agent then holstered his weapon.^{xvi} He and another agent (who, according to available CBP reports, were Agents Torabpour and Brennan)^{xvii} then pulled Figueroa out of her car by her legs, causing her shoes to fall off,^{xviii}

as a third agent stood watch with his weapon drawn. Figueroa, who is 4 feet 11 inches tall, screamed and kicked her legs as the two agents pulled her from her car. The agents pulled Figueroa to the ground and used their knees to pin her face-down on the street and handcuff her wrists behind her back. Another agent took photos of Figueroa as she struggled with the agents. Bystanders yelled to the agents that Figueroa was just trying “to go to work!” and continued to yell that it was the agents’ vehicle that had hit Figueroa’s car.



Image 3 Screenshot of video posted by Chicago Tribune^{xx}

The agents took Figueroa, handcuffed, to the unmarked red van. They put her in the backseat of the van alongside two other handcuffed male arrestees.^{xx} The agents drove off in the silver Wagoneer and red van, leaving Figueroa’s car on the street—unlocked, windows down, keys inside, and her son’s car seat visible in the back seat.^{xxi} Bystanders called 911 to request help from local law enforcement in parking her car and finding out where she lived.^{xxii}



Image 4 Screenshot of Video from Chicago Tribune

DETENTION AT BROADVIEW AND FBI FACILITY

In later statements and testimony to Congress, Figueroa has described these events and her experience following her arrest.^{xxiii} The arresting agents drove Figueroa and the other two arrestees to the Broadview Detention Center. During that transport, agents told Figueroa that she was under arrest. Figueroa recalled that she went into a panic attack, shaking, crying, and gasping for air. The agents used cameras and phones to take photographs of her while they were in the vehicle.^{xxiv} One agent told her, “You’re a criminal. No one will help you.”^{xxv} The agents, in contrast, reported later that Figueroa used profanities against the agents transporting her and claimed that Figueroa told them, “I’m glad I’m here, I was ready for this, when I saw you guys.”^{xxvi}

At Broadview, agents walked Figueroa (still without her shoes) inside the facility. Figueroa had recently undergone kidney surgery that, among other things, made it uncomfortable for her to sit at length on hard surfaces and made holding her bladder dangerous. Even though Figueroa notified agents of this recent surgery, they denied her several requests for water, medical attention, or the use the restroom.^{xxvii} At some point, a female agent took Figueroa to the restroom, which was under surveillance, and then transferred to another federal facility, which she understood to be an FBI building in Lombard, Illinois.^{xxviii} There, she was processed, interviewed by two FBI agents, and placed in a holding cell. When she reported to the agents that there was blood in her urine, they called an ambulance and released her, “pending charges,” to the paramedics.^{xxix} Figueroa was later taken to a hospital, where she received medical treatment and was sent home.^{xxx}

As a result of this incident, Figueroa experienced nerve damage to her wrists from the handcuffing. She sustained bruises and other physical injuries to her leg and wrists, a broken tooth, and an inflamed kidney. She also began to suffer from panic attacks, anxiety, and PTSD—including nightly nightmares about being kidnapped.^{xxxi}

DHS spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin later claimed that Figueroa had been “arrested for assault on a federal agent.”^{xxxii} McLaughlin additionally claimed, in a public statement on behalf of DHS that is largely belied by video of the incident, that “U.S. Border Patrol was conducting a targeted immigration enforcement arrest of two illegal aliens when an individual used her vehicle to block in agents, honking her horn. As agents were departing, the driver, a U.S. citizen, used her Mercedes Benz to ram the agent’s [sic] vehicle.”^{xxxiii} McLaughlin added that,

“In fear of public safety and of law enforcement, officers attempted to remove [Figueroa] from her vehicle. She violently resisted, kicking two agents and causing injuries.”

In their incident report, the CBP agents claimed that Figueroa “rammed her vehicle” into the agents’ vehicle and then continued “pushing” the vehicle even after the moment of collision. The report suggests at various points that Figueroa be prosecuted for assaulting, resisting, or impeding the officers in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 111, purportedly for a vehicular assault and for kicking when the agents pulled her from her vehicle.^{xxxiv}

However, the Commission has seen no credible evidence suggesting that Figueroa intentionally rammed her vehicle into the agents’ vehicle. Figueroa was never charged.^{xxxv} And several aspects of the agents’ incident report stand in contrast to bystander video and witness accounts of the incident. For instance, bystander video of the collision does not show the Wagoneer having to reverse around Figueroa’s vehicle, and it appears to show the Wagoneer striking Figueroa’s vehicle instead. The agents’ report further describes that, as agents pulled Figueroa from her car, she violently kicked them while wearing black high-heeled shoes and cut one of the agents on the hand; but video of Figueroa being extracted from her car shows that Figueroa was barefoot as agents pulled her out. Finally, the agents’ report lists “0” witnesses, despite the handful of vocal bystanders who witnessed the vehicle collision and the few bystanders who attempted to interact with the agents after the crash. These discrepancies, among others, between the agents’ reported account and the available video evidence thus raises questions about whether the federal agents intentionally used their vehicle to strike Figueroa’s vehicle, and whether they knowingly misrepresented the incident in their official report.

Commission Determinations of Misconduct

Based on the information it has gathered, the Commission has determined that there is reasonable cause to believe that federal agents should be formally investigated for possible violations of agency policy, state and federal criminal laws, and individuals’ constitutional rights. In particular, the following instances of misconduct should be investigated further:

- Federal agents may have stopped and arrested Figueroa without reasonable articulable suspicion or probable cause. Video evidence and witness accounts available to the Commission suggest that federal agents may have lacked legal authority to stop Figueroa after the vehicle collision. Such evidence shows that the agents stopped

Figueroa when their cars collided and that they then pulled Figueroa from her car and transported her to a federal facility where she was detained. There is no indication—and the agents did not claim—that Figueroa was the target of any immigration enforcement operation, and there is no separate indication of criminal activity by Figueroa. This evidence—particularly if corroborated by any radio traffic, other contemporaneous communications, or additional witness accounts—suggests that the agents' actions may have exceeded their legal authority to stop or arrest a person, as well as the constitutional principles requiring reasonable articulable suspicion to conduct a traffic stop or requiring probable cause for an arrest.

- Federal agents used force when stopping Figueroa and when pulling her from her vehicle. Witness accounts and video evidence indicate that it was the agents who hit Figueroa's car, by accelerating into the right lane of traffic where Figueroa was driving. Additional investigation is warranted to determine whether the agents intentionally caused that car crash. In addition, witness accounts and video evidence show that the agents used force to pull Figueroa from her vehicle, even though the evidence does not show a basis for the agents to stop Figueroa in the first place. Such uses of force may have contravened DHS policy and violated the Fourth Amendment's guarantee against excessive force amounting to an unreasonable seizure.
- Federal agents produced narratives for official incident reports that contained material inaccuracies about the encounter with Figueroa. Those narratives includes statements from the federal agents involved describing that Figueroa "used her vehicle to block the agents," "rammed her vehicle" into the Wagoneer, and then pushed the Wagoneer with her car. Video evidence and witness accounts raise questions about the accuracy of these accounts. There is no witness description or video that shows Figueroa blocked the agents' vehicle. In addition, witnesses described, and bystander video shows, that it was the agents' vehicle that hit Figueroa's car. These inconsistencies suggest that the agents may have falsified the narratives in their report in order to improperly justify stopping, using force against, and arresting Figueroa.

- Federal agents ignored Figueroa's requests for medical treatment or delayed providing medical attention to Figueroa while she was detained in federal custody. Figueroa's account of her treatment during her detention, both at Broadview Detention Center and at the federal facility in Lombard, suggests that federal agents may have unreasonably restricted her medical care. Figueroa explicitly informed agents involved in her detention about her recent kidney surgery and the resulting risks of prolonged sitting or holding her bladder. Yet the agents seemed to largely ignore those concerns until after Figueroa reported blood in her urine. These facts, particularly if corroborated by additional witness accounts, booking paperwork, reports from responding paramedics, and other documentation from Figueroa's time at the Broadview or Lombard facilities, would suggest possible violations of Figueroa's constitutional rights, stemming from the agents' duty to provide reasonable medical care.

Endnotes

- i Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, "Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights," December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf.
- ii Laura Rodriguez Presa, *Chicago Woman Dragged Out of Her Car After Colliding with ICE Demands Accountability*, Chicago Tribune (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/11/03/chicago-woman-collision-ice-accountability/>; Senator Richard Blumenthal, *Unchecked Authority: Examining the Trump Administration's Extrajudicial Immigration Detentions of U.S. Citizens*, United States Senate, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations 25 (Dec. 9, 2025), https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- iii CBP E-STAR Incident Report #25734 at 7-11, *Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, Doc. 337-7 (N.D.III. Jan. 29, 2026), <https://loevyandloevy.wetransfer.com/previews/f908c445fb2d67a7b165394649656fb820260202024618/47f5f0?itemId=bf5af952e157d6c02f5b3c7a1992910520260202024710>.
- iv CBP E-STAR Incident Report #25734 at 7-11, *Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, Doc. 337-7 (N.D.III. Jan. 29, 2026), <https://loevyandloevy.wetransfer.com/previews/f908c445fb2d67a7b165394649656fb820260202024618/47f5f0?itemId=bf5af952e157d6c02f5b3c7a1992910520260202024710>.
- v Fernando Figueroa (@Furnand0h) YouTube (Oct 10, 2025): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0euW_3vqKZW.
- vi Fernando Figueroa (@Furnand0h) YouTube (Oct 10, 2025): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0euW_3vqKZW.
- vii Chicago Tribune (@chicagotribune), X (Nov. 4, 2025, 10:15 AM): <https://x.com/chicagotribune/status/1985742776022225103>.
- viii Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, "Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights," December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf; Billal Rahman, *US Citizen Dragged From Car by Border Patrol in Chicago*, Newsweek (Oct. 23, 2025, 07:36 AM), <https://www.newsweek.com/us-citizen-dragged-car-border-patrol-chicago-10924948>; Laura Rodriguez Presa, *Chicago Woman Dragged Out of Her Car After Colliding with ICE Demands Accountability*, Chicago Tribune (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/11/03/chicago-woman-collision-ice-accountability/>.
- ix Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- x Fernando Figueroa (@Furnand0h) YouTube (Oct 10, 2025): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0euW_3vqKZW; Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, "Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights," December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf.
- xi Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xii Daniel T. Hogan (@nagohtnad), Instagram (Oct. 10, 2025), <https://www.instagram.com/p/DPpJFqGgYq/>.

- xiii CBP E-STAR Incident Report #25734 at 8, *Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, Doc. 337-7 (N.D.III. Jan. 29, 2026), <https://loevyandloevy.wetransfer.com/previews/f908c445fb2d67a7b165394649656fb820260202024618/47f5f0?itemId=bf5af952e157d6c02f5b3c7a1992910520260202024710>.
- xiv Fernando Figueroa (@Furnand0h) YouTube (Oct 10, 2025): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0euW_3vqKZw.
- xv Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, “Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights,” December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf; Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf; Laura Rodriguez Pesa, *Chicago Woman Dragged Out of Her Car After Colliding with ICE Demands Accountability*, Chicago Tribune (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/11/03/chicago-woman-collision-ice-accountability/>.
- xvi Fernando Figueroa (@Furnand0h) YouTube (Oct 10, 2025): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0euW_3vqKZw.
- xvii CBP E-STAR Incident Report #25734 at 11-12, *Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, Doc. 337-7 (N.D.III. Jan. 29, 2026), <https://loevyandloevy.wetransfer.com/previews/f908c445fb2d67a7b165394649656fb820260202024618/47f5f0?itemId=bf5af952e157d6c02f5b3c7a1992910520260202024710>.
- xviii Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xix Chicago Tribune (@chicagotribune), X (Nov. 4, 2025, 10:15 AM): <https://x.com/chicagotribune/status/1985742776022225103>.
- xx Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, “Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights,” December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf;
- xxi Edith Olmsted, *Federal Agents Crash into Woman’s Car, Drag Her Out by Her Legs*, The New Republic (Nov. 3, 2025, 11:35 AM), <https://newrepublic.com/post/202593/federal-agents-immigration-crash-car-drag-woman-by-legs>; Daniel T. Hogan (@nagohtnad), Instagram (Oct. 10, 2025), <https://www.instagram.com/p/DPpJFqGgFYq/>; Laura Rodriguez Pesa, *Chicago Woman Dragged Out of Her Car After Colliding with ICE Demands Accountability*, Chicago Tribune (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/11/03/chicago-woman-collision-ice-accountability/>.
- xxii Daniel T. Hogan (@nagohtnad), Instagram (Oct. 10, 2025), <https://www.instagram.com/p/DPpJFqGgFYq/>.
- xxiii Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, “Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights,” December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf.
- xxiv Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, “Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights,” December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf.
- xxv Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xxvi CBP E-STAR Incident Report #25734 at 12, *Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, Doc. 337-7 (N.D.III. Jan. 29, 2026), <https://loevyandloevy.wetransfer.com/previews/f908c445fb2d67a7b165394649656fb820260202024618/47f5f0?itemId=bf5af952e157d6c02f5b3c7a1992910520260202024710>.
- xxvii Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, “Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights,” December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf; Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xxviii Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xxix Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xxx Laura Rodriguez Pesa, *Chicago Woman Dragged Out of Her Car After Colliding with ICE Demands Accountability*, Chicago Tribune (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/11/03/chicago-woman-collision-ice-accountability/>.
- xxxi Dayanne Figueroa, Bicameral Spotlight Forum Testimony, “Our Values at Stake: DHS Overreach and Violations of U.S. Citizen Rights,” December 9, 2025, https://www.durbin.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/dayanne_figueroa_testimony.pdf; Blumenthal Report: https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf.
- xxxii Michael Loria, “Terrified”: Video of Masked Agents Hauling Woman from Car Renews Outrage in Chicago, USA Today (Nov. 4, 2025), <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2025/11/04/chicago-woman-us-citizen-detained-by-immigration-agents/87074841007/>.
- xxxiii Michael Loria, “Terrified”: Video of Masked Agents Hauling Woman from Car Renews Outrage in Chicago, USA Today (Nov. 4, 2025), <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2025/11/04/chicago-woman-us-citizen-detained-by-immigration-agents/87074841007/>.
- xxxiv CBP E-STAR Incident Report #25734 at 7-12, *Chicago Headline Club v. Noem*, Doc. 337-7 (N.D.III. Jan. 29, 2026), <https://loevyandloevy.wetransfer.com/previews/f908c445fb2d67a7b165394649656fb820260202024618/47f5f0?itemId=bf5af952e157d6c02f5b3c7a1992910520260202024710>.
- xxxv Laura Rodriguez Pesa, *Chicago Woman Dragged Out of Her Car After Colliding with ICE Demands Accountability*, Chicago Tribune (Nov. 3, 2025), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/2025/11/03/chicago-woman-collision-ice-accountability/>.

