

March 7, 2025

via email to: <u>k.bizortolbert@dallas.gov</u>

Kimberly Bizor Tolbert via City Manager Dallas City Hall 1500 Marilla Street, Room 4EN Dallas, Texas 75201

Michael T. Igo Interim Chief of Police Dallas Police Headquarters 1400 Botham Jean Blvd. Dallas, Texas 75215

RE: State and federal immigration laws / request for Public Information Act records.

Dear Ms. Tolbert / Chief Igo:

Texas Government Code § 752.053 states in part that "a local entity or campus police department may not:

- (1) adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy under which the entity or department prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws;
- (2) as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws; or
- (3) for an entity that is a law enforcement agency or for a department, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, intentionally violate Article 2A.060, Code of Criminal Procedure."

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 2A.060 provides that a law enforcement agency that has custody of a person subject to an immigration detainer request issued by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall comply with, honor, and fulfill any request made in the detainer request provided by the federal government.

Texas Government Code § 752.056, waives sovereign immunity and states that if a local entity or campus police department is found by a court of law as having intentionally violated Section 752.053, they shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$1,500 for the first violation and not less than \$25,000 and not more than \$25,500 for each subsequent violation (with each day of a continuing violation, constituting a separate violation).

It has been reported that Interim Chief Michael Igo has stated that "[t]he Dallas Police Department is not assisting any federal agency on detaining people that are either documented or undocumented in the City of Dallas." Our office is concerned that Chief Igo's statement may reflect a policy of the City of Dallas or the Dallas Police Department to not comply with state law. Therefore, this office requests that it be provided with the following documents within 10 business days of receipt of this letter, pursuant to Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code:

- All existing or currently effective, operational policies and training materials related to compliance with the requirements of state and federal immigration laws including those that relate to Texas Government Code § 752.053 and Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 2A.060;
- Any materials or communications, (dated within the last 12 months) including emails, between employees of the City of Dallas and/or the Dallas Police Department employees regarding enforcement policies or procedures concerning state or federal immigration laws and federal detainer requests;
- Any materials or communications, (dated within the last 12 months) including emails, between employees of the City of Dallas and/or the Dallas Police Department employees whereby there was a declination, decision or discussion relating to the Dallas Police Department having custody of a person subject to an immigration detainer request issued by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, but the Dallas Police Department did not comply with, honor, and fulfill a detainer request made by the federal government regarding such person in custody;
- Any materials or communications, including emails, as well as prepared press conference remarks, that served as the authority for, basis for, related to, or commented upon, any comment or statement made by Chief Igo (in calendar year 2025) to the effect that the City of Dallas or the Dallas Police Department would not assist any federal agency on detaining people that are undocumented in the City of Dallas.

We also request that you provide our office with a written response to this letter, to reflect your commitment to adhering to the enforcement of our state and federal immigration laws. Thank you.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Ernest C. Garcia</u> Ernest C. Garcia Chief, Administrative Law Division P.O. Box 12548, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711-2548 Telephone: (512) 936-0804 Facsimile: (512) 320-0167 <u>ernest.garcia@oag.texas.gov</u>

cc: Ms. Tammy L. Palomino via email: City Attorney tammy.palomino@dallas.gov openrecords@dallas.gov