

Judge in Minnesota Says ICE Has Violated Nearly 100 Court Orders: NYT

A federal judge said ICE had disobeyed more judicial directives this month than “some federal agencies have violated in their entire existence.”

By [Alan Feuer](#)

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The chief federal judge in Minnesota excoriated Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Wednesday, saying it had violated nearly 100 court orders stemming from its aggressive crackdown in the state and had disobeyed more judicial directives in January alone than “some federal agencies have violated in their entire existence.”

The extraordinary broadside by the judge, Patrick J. Schiltz, came in [a ruling](#) in which he temporarily rescinded [an order he had issued on Tuesday](#), summoning Todd Lyons, the acting director of ICE, to appear in front of him to explain why he should not be held in contempt for violating so many orders arising from the Trump administration’s hard-line immigration actions in Minnesota.

While Judge Schiltz, a conservative jurist appointed by President George W. Bush, let Mr. Lyons off the hook for the moment, he cautioned that he might change his mind and order him to appear again to answer questions if ICE continues to violate court orders.

“ICE is not a law unto itself,” the judge wrote. “ICE has every right to challenge the orders of this court, but, like any litigant, ICE must follow those orders unless and until they are overturned or vacated.”

Judge Schiltz attached to his ruling [a list](#) of 96 court orders from 74 different immigration cases that ICE has failed to follow since Jan. 1. He noted that his tally was “almost certainly substantially understated” because it had been “hurriedly compiled by extraordinarily busy judges.”

“This list should give pause to anyone — no matter his or her political beliefs — who cares about the rule of law,” Judge Schiltz added.

The federal courts in Minnesota have been deluged this month by legal cases filed by immigrants swept up in the administration’s dragnet. Some of the immigrants have sought to avoid being sent out of the state by federal agents, while others have complained they were wrongfully detained.

Judge Schiltz’s initial order demanding that Mr. Lyons appear in front of him on Friday arose in the case of Juan Hugo Tobay Robles, an Ecuadorean man who entered the United States illegally nearly 30 years ago and was taken into custody by immigration agents on Jan. 6. Judge Schiltz determined that ICE had detained Mr. Tobay Robles under an improper reading of federal law and two weeks ago instructed federal officials either to let him challenge his detention or release him.

After that failed to happen, the judge told Mr. Lyons to appear in front of him. But he provided a way out. He said that if Mr. Tobay Robles were quickly released, he would cancel the hearing with Mr. Lyons.

Mr. Tobay Robles was, in fact, released from ICE custody in Texas on Tuesday afternoon, his lawyer, Graham Ojala-Barbour, wrote in a letter to Judge Schiltz on Wednesday. But even though his client was free, Mr. Ojala-Barbour asked Judge Schiltz to hold a contempt proceeding with Mr. Lyons, saying the administration's "failures to comply with this court's orders" had led to "significant hardships" for the immigrants involved.

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Habeas Cases with Order Non-Compliance

Hakan K. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 25-CV-4722 (JMB/DTS) (January 24, 2026 order)

Luis L.P. v. Brott, et al., Case No. 25-CV-4741 (NEB/DJF) (January 9, 2026 order)

Ahmed A. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 25-CV-4776 (JWB/DJF) (January 6, 2026 order) Francisco E.O. v. Olson, et al., Case No. 26-CV-080 (JRT/DJF) (January 15, 2026 order) Suhaib M. v. Kristi Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-013 (JWB/DJF) (January 12, 2026 order) Alex V.Y.L. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-031 (JWB/DJF) (January 9, 2026 order) Francisco E.O. v. Olson, et al., Case No. 26-CV-080 (JRT/DJF) (January 15, 2026 order) Marlon M.M. v. Easterwood, et al., Case No. 26-CV-106 (NEB/ECW) (January 15, 2026 order) Juan T.R. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-0107 (PJS/DLM) (January 14, 2026 order)

Sharet B.G.M. v. Lyons, et al., Case No.26-CV-120 (JRT/DTS) (January 15, 2026 order) Botir B. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-130 (LMP/DJF) (January 15, 2026 order)

Lide E.G.Q. v. Executive Office for Immigration Review, et al., Case No. 26-CV-138 (JWB/JFD) (January 9, 2026 order)

Jhony A. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00146 (JMB/LIB) (January 15, 2026 order) Christopher A.F.E. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-150 (JWB/ECW) (January 14, 2026

order)

Evelin M.A. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-156 (NEB/DLM) (January 23, 2026 order)

Jose A. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-160 (NEB/EMB) (January 15, 2026 order) Pascual G. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00161 (JMB/LIB) (January 12, 2026 Order)

Santiago A.C.P. v. Todd Lyons, et al., Case No. 26-CV-164 (JWB/DTS) (January 15, 2026 order; January 19, 2026 order; January 20, 2026 order)

Andrei C. v. Lyons, et al., Case No. 26-CV-166 (SRN/ECW) (January 12, 2026 order) 1

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Oscar O.T. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-167 (JWB/JFD) (January 15, 2026 order; January 19, 2026 order; January 20, 2026 order)

Martin R. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00168 (JMB/LIB) (January 12, 2026 order; January 20, 2026 order; January 21, 2026 order)

Abdi W. v. Trump, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00208 (KMM/SGE) (January 21, 2026)

Adriana M.Y.M. v. David Easterwood, et al., Case No. 26-CV-213 (JWB/JFD) (January 24, 2026

order)

Estefany J.S. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-216 (JWB/SGE) (Two January 13, 2026 orders)

Martha S.S. v. Kristi Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-231 (JWB/DLM) (January 16, 2026 order; January 20, 2016 order)

Joaquin Q. L. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-233 (LMP/DTS) (January 14, 2026 order; January 21, 2026 order)

Jose L.C.C. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-244 (JWB/DTS) (January 15, 2026 order; January 19, 2026 order)

Juan R. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-252 (SRN/DTS) (January 16, 2026 order)

Jesus A.P. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-261 (PJS/EMB) (January 15, 2026 order)

Abdiqadir A. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-272 (JMB/DTS) (January 16, 2026 order)

Bashir Ali K. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-276 (LMP/DTS) (January 22, 2026 order)

Roman N. v. Donald Trump, et al., Case No. 26-CV-282 (JWB/DLM) (January 3, 2026 order; January 17, 2026 order)

Sandra C. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00283 (JMB/JFD) (January 16, 2026 order; January 21, 2026 order)

Yeylin C.R. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-296 (NEB/LIB) (January 20, 2026 order)

Liban G. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-301 (SRN/ECW) (January 15, 2026 order; January 16,

2026 order; January 20, 2026 order; January 22, 2026 order)

Joseph T.M. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-0309 (PJS/EMB) (January 22, 2026 order) 2

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Obildzhon E. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-312 (JWB/DTS) (January 17, 2026 order) Corina E. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-313 (JWB/DTS) (January 17, 2026 order) E.E. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-314 (JWB/DTS) (January 17, 2026 order)

Manolo Z. L. v. Trump, et al., Case No. 26-CV-316 (LMP/DTS) (January 15, 2026 order) William L.-C. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-317 (NEB/JFD) (January 18, 2026 order)

Diana L.-C. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-319 (NEB/JFD) (January 18, 2026 order)

Felix J.C.A. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-328 (JWB/DLM) (January 24, 2026 order)

Ihor D. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00351 (JMB/DTS) (January 20, 2026 order; January 22, 2026 order)

Francisco M. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-369 (JMB/EMB) (January 16, 2026 order; January 23, 2026 order)

Alberto C.M. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-0380 (DWF/SGE) (January 23, 2026 order)

Josue David P. A. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-396 (LMP/JFD) (January 17, 2026 order)

Nadejda P. v. Lyons, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00404 (KMM/DLM) (January 22, 2026)

Paula G. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-410 (JMB/DLM) (January 17, 2026 order; January 20, 2026 order)

Ronnie C. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-423 (JWB/JFD) (January 18, 2026 order; January 21, 2026 order)

J.B.C.O. et al., v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-0424 (JRT/DJF) (Two January 19, 2026 orders; January 25, 2026 order)

Silvestre R. C. v. Bondi, et al., No. 26-CV-436 (LMP/JFD) (January 23, 2026 order)

Darvin M. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-437 (SRN/EMB) (January 19, 2026 order)

Maria U.C.G. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-439 (JWB/LIB) (January 24, 2026 order) Abdirahman S. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00440 (JMB/DJF) (January 22, 2026 order) Enrique L. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00444 (JMB/SGE) (January 22, 2026 order)

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Fernando T. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-0445 (ECT/EMB) (January 20, 2026 order) Alexis D.A.M. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-447 (JRT/ECW) (January 20, 2026 order) Miguel D. v. Bondi, et al., 26-CV-00448 (KMM/DLM) (January 23, 2026 order)

Hector T.G. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-449 (NEB/LIB) (January 23, 2026 order) Luis S. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-454 (ECT/LIB) (January 22, 2026 order)

Sonia M.M.C. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-457 (JWB/LIB) (January 24, 2026 order) Jose A. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00480 (JMB/ECW) (January 26, 2026 order)

Ivan R. v. Pamela Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-485 (JWB/EMB) (January 21, 2026 order; January 24, 2026 order)

Yosber I.M.C. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-489 (JRT/DLM) (January 21, 2026 order) Fabian L.C. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-493 (NEB/DLM) (January 24, 2026 order)

Maria P. v. Brott, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00504 (JMB/JFD) (January 23, 2026 order)

Brayan M.O. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-517 (NEB/JFD) (January 24, 2026 order) Isidro L. v. Lyons, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00537 (JMB/DLM) (January 22, 2026 order)

Maria V.H., et al., v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-546 (JMG/DLM) (January 24, 2026 order) Elvis T. E., et al. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00561 (KMM/JFD) (January 22, 2026 order) Guled O. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-0575 (ADM/DJF) (January 23, 2026 order)

Carlos A. G. v. Bondi, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00580 (SRB-DJF) (January 23, 2026 order) Jose V. v. Easterwood, et al., Case No. 26-CV-597 (DSD/LIB) (January 25, 2026 order) Marco Q. v. Noem, et al., Case No. 26-CV-00663 (SRB-DLM) (January 26, 2026 order)