Immigration and Customs Enforcement

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| **U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement** |
| **Abbreviation** | ICE |
| ICE is a component of the United States Department of Homeland Security |
| Badge of a Homeland Security Investigations special agent |
| Flag of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement |
| **Motto** | "Protecting National Security and Upholding Public Safety" |
| **Agency overview** |
| **Formed** | March 1, 2003; 13 years ago |
| **Preceding agencies** | * Criminal investigation resources of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service
* Investigative and intelligence resources of the United States Customs Service
 |
| **Employees** | 19,330+ (2014) |
| **Annual budget** | $5.34 billion (2014) |
| **Legal personality** | Governmental: Government agency |
| **Jurisdictional structure** |
| **Federal agency** | United States |
| **Constituting instrument** | Homeland Security Act of 2002 |
| **General nature** | * Federal law enforcement
* Civilian agency
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| **Operational structure** |
| **Headquarters** | Washington, D.C. |
| **Agency executives** | * Sarah R. Saldana, Director of ICE
* Daniel Ragsdale, Deputy Director of ICE
* Peter Edge, Executive Associate Director for Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)
* Thomas Homan, Executive Associate Director for Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO)
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| **Parent agency** | U.S. Department of Homeland Security |
| **Website** |
| ice.gov |

**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement** (**ICE**) is an American federal law enforcement agency under the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), responsible for identifying, investigating, and dismantling vulnerabilities regarding the nation's border, economic, transportation, and infrastructure security. ICE has two primary components: Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO). Headquartered in Washington, D.C., ICE is charged with the investigation and enforcement of over 400 federal statutes within the United States, and maintains attachés at major U.S. embassies overseas.

ICE is led by a Director who is appointed at the sub-Cabinet level by the President of the United States, confirmed by the Senate, and reports directly to the Secretary of Homeland Security. ICE is the second largest criminal investigative agency in the U.S. government, following the FBI.

History

ICE headquarters building in Washington, D.C.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was formed pursuant to the Homeland Security Act of 2002 following the events of September 11, 2001. With the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security the functions and jurisdictions of several border and revenue enforcement agencies were combined and consolidated into U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Consequently, ICE is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, and the second largest contributor to the nation's Joint Terrorism Task Force.

The agencies that were either moved entirely or merged in part into ICE included the investigative and intelligence resources of the United States Customs Service, the criminal investigative, detention and deportation resources of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Federal Protective Service. The Federal Protective Service was later transferred from ICE to the National Protection and Programs Directorate effective October 28, 2009. At one point, the Federal Air Marshals Service was moved from the Transportation Security Administration to ICE, but was eventually moved back to the TSA.[