



ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 4, 2025

To Members of the Columbia, SC Chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America:

It has come to my attention that your organization has a meeting planned for Saturday, February 8, with the stated goal of organizing a "mass resistance" and forming a "Community ICE Raid Response Network." While every South Carolinian has the constitutional right to peacefully assemble and advocate against government policies for which they disagree, any effort to obstruct or interfere with law enforcement will have consequences.

In recent years there has been an unprecedented amount of illegal immigration. But in 2025 there is a new Administration who is committed to deterring and removing those who entered the nation illegally, especially those who pose a risk to public safety. South Carolina remains committed to ensuring that federal immigration laws are enforced without obstruction or interference.

Recent events underscore the dangers of unlawful resistance. Just last week, during an anti-deportation protest in Greenville, a demonstrator crashed a vehicle into a crowd and injured two people. This reckless disregard for public safety will not be tolerated. We cannot (and will not) allow similar disruptions to jeopardize the safety of our communities, law enforcement officers, and innocent bystanders.

Let me be clear, those who engage in illegal activities, whether by obstructing law enforcement, interfering with investigations, or otherwise attempting to halt lawful immigration enforcement efforts will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

I urge all parties involved to respect the legal process and conduct themselves within the bounds of the law. My office will continue to work closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement to ensure the safety and security of all of South Carolinians.

Sincerely,

Alan Wilson

CC:

Sheriff Leon Lott Richland County Sheriff's Department  
Chief Chip Holbrook, Columbia City Police Department  
Solicitor Byron Gipson, Fifth Judicial Circuit