

SUMMER L. LEE
12TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3812

February 11, 2026

Todd M. Lyons
Acting Director
U.S Immigration and Custom Enforcement
500 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Acting Director Lyons:

On January 20th, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents illegally detained Maklim Gomez Escalante, a resident of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District at his scheduled court appearance at the Magisterial District Court in Baldwin. According to local reports, Mr. Gomez Escalante's wife did not hear from her husband for hours and by 8pm discovered that he was located at the Northern Regional Correctional Facility in Marshall County, West Virginia, followed by a transfer to the Moshannon Valley Processing Center in Clearfield County the next day.¹

Mr. Gomez Escalante is a 35-year-old resident of Brentwood, Pennsylvania. In 2021, he emigrated with his family from El Salvador to seek asylum through the legal process. He and his family have Social Security numbers and have valid work permits that do not expire until 2030.

The four ICE agents who detained him were not in uniform and upon Mr. Gomez Escalante presenting his work permit, they snapped it in half and threw it away. Mr. Gomez Escalante does not have a criminal record nor pending charges. On February 2nd, his wife learned from a fellow inmate that he had been taken to the hospital after having stroke-like symptoms.² He has since been returned to Moshannon Valley processing Center and is experiencing partial facial paralysis.

I have questions about this specific detainment and ICE activities. I request responses to the following questions by February 17, 2026.

1. How many people have been detained in Pennsylvania's 12 Congressional District in January 20226?
 - a. What is the status of those who were detained?
 - b. What basis were they detained?
2. Why were ICE agents not in uniform and not providing appropriate identification?
3. Where is Mr. Gomez Escalante's work permit that he presented to the ICE agents?

¹ Trib Live, *ICE agents take Brentwood man, leaving family seeking answers* (February 3, 2026) (online at <https://triblive.com/local/salvadoran-family-in-brentwood-in-the-dark-as-father-languishes-in-ice-custody/>).

² Trib Live, *Brentwood man remains in ICE custody after hospital stay, 1st hearing*, (February 9, 2026) (online at <https://triblive.com/news/politics-election/brentwood-man-remains-in-ice-custody-after-hospital-stay-1st-hearing/>).

4. Why do ICE facilities charge an exorbitant amount of fees to make outgoing calls?
5. Why was Mr. Gomez Escalante denied contact with his wife after receiving medical care?
6. Why has Mr. Gomez Escalante been constantly handcuffed to his bed?
7. How many medical professionals are available in the Moshannon Valley Processing Center?
8. What kind of continued medical care is Mr. Gomez Escalante currently receiving?
9. Why have U.S House of Representatives been denied to the Moshannon Valley Processing Center?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Summer L. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Congresswoman Summer L. Lee
Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District