



## **FAQ Sheet - Federal Immigration Enforcement**

**February 2026**

The City of River Falls has received several questions regarding federal immigration enforcement activities in the city. This handout provides a summary of policies and practices that relate to those questions. River Falls Police Department takes community concerns seriously. If additional questions remain, contact the non-emergency number at 715-425-0909.

**1. Is RFPD cooperating with or assisting Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency operations?**

RFPD does not proactively assist in civil immigration enforcement. Additionally, federal agencies are not required to notify local law enforcement of operations planned in or near the city and they typically choose not to.

**2. Does the City of River Falls allow Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency staff to use any government resources, technology, or buildings?**

No standing agreement exists allowing the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency to use City facilities or technology. Any request would require administrative review, legal vetting, and compliance with Wisconsin law.

**3. What specific processes are in place to handle immigration law enforcement related matters?**

- Criminal Enforcement Only: Officers enforce local ordinance, Wisconsin criminal statutes, and traffic laws pursuant to Wis. Stat. Chapters 346 (Traffic Regulations) and 968 (Arrest procedures).
- Detainer Requests: Lawful judicial warrants or detainers consistent with Wis. Stat. § 66.0513 (cooperation with federal immigration authorities), are reviewed with legal counsel and acted upon in compliance with state law.
- Absent criminal violations or judicial warrants, officers do not detain individuals solely based on suspected immigration status.
- Any Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency contact is routed through supervisory staff. Individual officers may not independently coordinate enforcement actions.

**4. What action is the City Council taking in response to Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency activities?**

As municipal governments cannot prohibit federal agents from operating lawfully within their jurisdiction, no formal ordinance, resolution, or budgetary action regarding federal law enforcement activities has been taken.



**5. Do RFPD officers have the right to request proof of citizenship?**

Officers may request identification during lawful stops (Wis. Stat. § 968.24 – Temporary questioning). However:

- There is no general authority to demand proof of citizenship absent relevance to a criminal investigation.
- Any inquiry must be tied to a lawful investigative purpose and comply with constitutional standards.

**6. How does RFPD verify the identity of masked individuals claiming to be law enforcement?**

- Officers respond directly to assess reports of law enforcement impersonation.
- Credentials may be verified through known federal agency contacts.
- Impersonation is investigated under applicable Wisconsin criminal statutes.

**7. Are there plans for an Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency detention center in River Falls?**

The City is not aware of any plans for an Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency detention facility within the city.

**Summary**

In summary, the River Falls Police Department:

- Complies with Wisconsin law, including Wis. Stat. § 66.0513.
- Honors judicial warrants.
- Does not independently conduct civil immigration enforcement.
- Prioritizes public safety and constitutional rights.
- Enforces state criminal law, local ordinances, not federal civil immigration law.

RFPD will continue to investigate and respond to concerns of public safety following all applicable laws, while employing high standards of practice and judgement. Residents can be assured that any person who is fearful for their imminent safety may call 911 to report concerning activity in the city. The department remains committed to constitutional, professional, and compassionate policing.