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Evict ICE Renames 250 Delaware Ave “Montante Detention Center,” Eight Arrested by BPD at Chippewa and Delaware

Buffalo, NY — On Saturday, September 26th, Evict ICE from 250 Delaware, backed by more than 5,000 Buffalo residents who have signed a petition supporting the campaign to evict ICE from 250 Delaware, symbolically renamed the building the “Montante Detention Center.”

The ceremony was intended to call attention to the Montante family’s continued profiteering from deportation, as well as ICE’s continued presence on the building’s seventh and eighth floors. Uniland touts the building as emblematic of Buffalo’s so-called resurgence; for many families, however, it represents pain, trauma, and, from the campaign’s perspective, domestic terrorism.

Immediately following the renaming ceremony, campaign supporters entered the street at Delaware Avenue and Chippewa Street, in front of the building, joining more than 100 Buffalonians in occupying the intersection. Evict ICE held the intersection for nearly two hours before eight people were arrested by the Buffalo Police Department (BPD).

The eight arrestees issued the following statement:

“Today, we invite the people of WNY to join us in taking action to end the ICE occupation of Buffalo. In 2026 alone, ICE has abducted almost 3,000 people in upstate New York, most of whom have active immigration cases and no criminal record. All ICE abductions and other covert actions in our region are planned at 250 Delaware Ave in Buffalo, where DHS pays Uniland Development \$2 million per year to rent space for their field office.

“Uniland Development is owned by the Montantes, a local family of corporate landlords. The people of Buffalo will not allow mass deportation profiteers to hide any longer. We are renaming the ‘Delaware North’ building to reflect its owners’ abuse and greed: Montante Detention Center. There can be no more business as usual at 250 Delaware Ave until the Montantes EVICT ICE.”

Coalition member Justice for Migrant Families Executive Director Jennifer

Connor said: “In a time when we are seeing great harm being committed against our neighbors, we applaud the bold action of those who put themselves on the line tonight to stop this harm. The Montante family and Uniland need to end their relationship with ICE and their kidnappings of our immigrant neighbors. Until then, our community cannot rest.”

One of the arrestees said: “I find it ironic that the BPD arrested us for ‘disorderly conduct’ for a peaceful protest, when ICE agents are allowed to brutalize and abduct our neighbors every day.”

“We have had enough of cowardly ICE agents committing acts of terror in our streets. If what it takes to make change is to put myself at risk, then that’s a risk I’m willing to take. I stand with all victims of state violence and will not sit idly by while my neighbors, community members, and friends are under attack by ICE and the federal government,” said Evict ICE supporter Brandon Buchannan.

“As an English instructor at the University at Buffalo, I want my students with undocumented friends and family to know that their teachers will not stay silent in the face of ICE terror. If UB’s administrators will not stand in support of their students and neighbors, faculty will,” **Joey Sechrist, one of the eight people arrested, said.**

Evict ICE from 250 Delaware is a coalition campaign demanding accountability from the corporate landlords profiting from ICE’s occupation of downtown Buffalo. The campaign is calling on the Montante family, of Uniland Development, and the building’s owners to refuse to renew DHS/ICE’s lease when it expires March 31, 2027. Through direct action, political education, and civic engagement, a broad coalition of labor, civil rights and immigrant rights organizations, locally owned businesses, elected leaders, and Buffalo residents is organizing to make that demand heard.

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