

—Slug:.....COMM-0850.opin.view.davidson  
—Contributor.....Janice Stockman and Judy Davidson  
—Contributor email.....judydavidson3d@gmail.com  
—For section.....Voices/Viewpoint  
—Format.....Opinions  
—Dateline.....  
—Article Number:.....42989

[REDACTED]

**Notes from editor (not for publication):**

[REDACTED]

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

#####BEGIN HED#####

1 What if ICE comes to Brattleboro?

#####END HED#####

#####BEGIN SUBHED#####

2 Some guidelines for 'protestors who are observing an ICE  
3 detention or a neighborhood search and want to remain  
4 nonviolent and don't want to be arrested'

#####END SUBHED#####

5 TEXT BODY:

#####BEGIN TEXT#####

6 UP UNTIL NOW, protests here in Brattleboro have been  
7 peaceful and nonviolent — and even joyful because of the music  
8 and singing provided by Dan DeWalt's Resistance Band and  
9 Becky Gruber's Good Trouble Chorus.

10           However, if ICE comes to town and tries to deport  
11       immigrants, the atmosphere will likely change quickly and  
12       dramatically.

13           We are writing this because we are not only committed  
14       to standing up for, and with, our new neighbors, but also because  
15       we are concerned about the potential for people to get hurt or  
16       killed. We are community members working with local activist  
17       groups but write this as two individuals speaking for ourselves  
18       who are concerned about everyone's safety.

19           Here are some guidelines for protestors who are  
20       observing an ICE detention or a neighborhood search and want to  
21       remain nonviolent and don't want to be arrested.

- 22       • Stay at a physical distance of about 8 feet from ICE.
- 23       • Avoid screaming, spitting, swearing, or rushing agents.
- 24       • Don't touch ICE vehicles or police cars. These

25       behaviors can escalate ICE to use even more aggressive behavior.

26       We want to support the person being detained, not make ICE  
27       treat them more violently or cause us to be arrested.

- 28       • Yell loudly to the detainee, ask their name, and remind  
29       them and fellow bystanders that the detainee has the right to  
30       remain silent and the right to call a lawyer. You can use the  
31       emergency number of Vermont Migrant Justice (802-881-7229) to  
32       let them know a person is being detained and give information  
33       on where the person is being detained, when it took place, and a  
34       description of what is happening.

35       • Make sure your phone is fully charged when you leave  
36       home. You are allowed to use your phone to film and document  
37       the behavior of ICE; however, be sure to be at a distance, and  
38       turn off facial and fingerprint authentication, which give ICE  
39       access to your phone if it is confiscated. Use a passcode instead.

40       You don't want your phone confiscated by ICE as they have  
41       software that can open your phone and mine your data.

42       • You can use a whistle to let people know that ICE is  
43       close by or detaining someone. Blow three short whistles when

44 ICE is in the area or three long whistles when there is an active  
45 detention.

46 • Wear an N95 mask or other face protection.  
47 • Avoid wearing necklaces, long hair, or scarves that ICE  
48 could use to pull you or drag you.  
49 • Avoid wearing products that use petroleum jelly or  
50 other oils that can trap the chemicals in tear gas.  
51 • Write the name of a trusted person to call or a lawyer's  
52 name on your arm in case you are arrested.

53 \* \* \*

54 WE FEEL IT'S important that if you want to be part of a  
55 rapid response to ICE in Brattleboro that you get training in being  
56 a constitutional observer to exercise your rights safely.

57 • The [American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\)](#)  
58 [presentation](#) is highly recommended.  
59 • The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)'s [Know](#)  
60 [Your Rights](#) page offers important resources.  
61 • [Vermont Migrant Justice](#) and [The Root Social Justice](#)  
62 [Center](#) have done trainings in Vermont and are coordinating  
63 ready response teams and are local resources.  
64 • [The Handbook for Constitutional Observers](#). A  
65 constitutional observer is one who observes and documents law  
66 enforcement interactions, informs individuals about civil rights  
67 and due process, and shares support resources. This manual from  
68 the Immigrant Defense Network tells you how.

#####END TEXT#####

BIO/COATTAIL:

#####BEGIN BIO/COATTAIL#####

69 **JANICE STOCKMAN AND JUDY DAVIDSON** are  
70 members of several Brattleboro groups committed to standing up  
71 for the civil rights of our immigrants and refugees and protesting  
72 the violent tactics of ICE.

#####END BIO/COATTAIL#####

LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

#####BEGIN MAXISSUE#####

73

0

#####END MAXISSUE#####

LINKS:

#####BEGIN LINKS#####

74

#####END LINKS#####

VIDEO:

#####BEGIN VIDEO#####

75

#####END VIDEO#####

LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

#####BEGIN LOGLINE#####

76

#####END LOGLINE#####