



# Brandeis University Department of Public Safety

Office of the Chief of Police

*Chief Matthew T. Rushton*



## MEMORANDUM

Dear Campus Community,

As your Chief of Public Safety, I want to address concerns regarding our department's role in federal immigration enforcement and clarify our policies to ensure a safe and inclusive environment for all.

### **Commitment to Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement**

Our primary mission is to maintain the safety and security of our campus. We are committed to:

- **Non-Detention:** We will not detain or question individuals solely based on their immigration status.
- **Non-Cooperation:** We will not collaborate with ICE in actions aimed at enforcing federal immigration laws.

### **Access to Campus Facilities**

ICE agents are not permitted to enter non-public areas of our campus, such as dormitories, offices, and classrooms, without a valid judicial warrant signed by a judge. Administrative warrants issued by ICE do not grant authorization to access these areas.

### **Protection of Personal Information**

The university requires a subpoena or a judicial warrant for the disclosure of non-public information to external law enforcement officers. To the extent federal law requires the university to provide access to records (such as through SEVIS, managed by the ISSO), the university will - unless prohibited from doing so - notify the individual whose records were accessed.

### **Legal Framework**

Our policies align with guidance from the **Massachusetts Attorney General's Office** and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's decision in *Lunn v. Commonwealth*, which prohibits law enforcement from detaining individuals solely based on federal civil immigration detainers.

**Our Commitment to You**

We understand that recent developments may cause concern within our community. Please know that our department is here to support and protect all members of our campus, regardless of immigration status. We are committed to fostering an environment where everyone feels safe and valued.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our department.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew T. Rushton".

Matthew T. Rushton  
Assistant Vice President, Public Safety/Chief of Police