

After another anti-ICE school walkout, Los Angeles students confront federal thugs

John Andrews
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On Friday thousands of high school students walked out of Los Angeles-area schools to protest ICE's Gestapo tactics, participating in another national "day of action." Those who gathered outside the federal jail in downtown Los Angeles heroically stood up against an attack with gas and batons by federal agents.

Helicopter video by local television stations show demonstrators standing their ground near the U.S. Metropolitan Detention Center, many obviously teenagers, some shoving back and throwing objects at the federal thugs in self-defense.

As described by the Department of Homeland Security, "A group of about 200-300 rioters and agitators gathered outside the ICE building in Los Angeles [sic]. They threw objects, including rocks, at law enforcement. One ICE officer was hit in the head with a rock thrown and was injured," adding, that two Federal Protective Services officers were injured as well, "one in the hospital with a concussion and the other with a cut over his eye. The rioters remain at large.

"Assaulting federal law enforcement is a felony and a federal crime," according to the DHS statement. "Secretary [Kristi] Noem has been clear: Anyone who assaults or obstructs law enforcement will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Law and order will prevail."

The Los Angeles City Fire Department claims it dispatched paramedics to transport a federal agent to a hospital at 1:34 p.m., but as of this writing no further details of an injury to a federal official has been released.

As usual, there have been no reports regarding the injuries invariably sustained by demonstrators. Over the past eight months, Los Angeles protesters have lost eyes and testicles, among other life-altering injuries

ignored by the authorities.

Also, despite the plethora of video recordings, no arrests have been made. Supposedly the "suspects who attacked the federal agents blended into the march."

In a related retaliatory action, Ricardo Lopez, a history teacher at the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Charter Synergy Quantum Academy in South Los Angeles, was fired for opening a locked gate to allow students, who were then risking injury by climbing over gates and fences, to join the walkout, a move school administrators labeled insubordination. Already almost a thousand signatures have been collected demanding Lopez's reinstatement. To date the United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) bureaucracy has issued no statement in support of the victimized teacher.

There is every reason to believe the federal agents' alleged injuries were fabricated or grossly exaggerated, and that the only victims of Friday's violence are among the students.

ICE and its federal enablers have been caught in lies repeatedly. Last week certain charges were dropped against Ashleigh Brown, who was accused of interference when Jonathon Redondo-Rosales was beaten and gassed at a Los Angeles anti-ICE demonstration last August. Video recordings demonstrated that the alleged victim, Federal Protective Service Officer Zachary Conte, had lied about being punched by Redondo-Rosales, and then federal prosecutors covered up the three criminal convictions that were on Conte's record when he was hired in 2022—during the Biden administration.

To date, there have been plea bargains in only 23 of the approximately 100 cases filed against Los Angeles anti-ICE protesters, as compared to a national average of about 90 percent of criminal cases being resolved by

a plea. Coincidentally, the same number, 23, have been dismissed outright, an extraordinarily high number for federal criminal filings, which traditionally are made carefully after extensive investigation and have dismissal rates far below 10 percent.

All six anti-ICE Los Angeles demonstrators who have refused to plead guilty and therefore face federal juries for assaulting federal agents—risking the imposition of much more severe sentences—have been acquitted, the most recent being Isaias Lopez, a professional photographer, on February 6.

When reaching the first Los Angeles anti-ICE not-guilty verdict last September, the jury rejected the sworn testimony of Border Patrol Sector Chief Gregory Bovino that he personally saw Brayan Ramos-Brito strike a Border Patrol agent during a June protest in Los Angeles.

The string of courtroom defeats is unprecedented for the Los Angeles U.S. Attorney’s office, which lost only five criminal jury trials in all of 2024.

Los Angeles Federal Public Defender Cuauhtémoc Ortega explained that the anti-ICE protest cases “should not have been brought,” adding, “The evidence doesn’t support a conviction, and we took them to trial not just because our clients wanted to vindicate their rights, but because we wanted to vindicate their rights as well.”

Fascist White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller, who grew up in nearby Santa Monica, posted on X that all the Trump administration’s recent legal defeats in Los Angeles are the result of “mass judge and jury nullification, deep in blue territory, of slam-dunk assault cases against federal law enforcement.”

Miller is, of course, lying. Assault cases brought against anti-ICE demonstrators have collapsed throughout the nation. A *Los Angeles Times* study published last December showed that more than twice as many had resulted in dismissals or acquittals than convictions.

Most recent, last week the Department of Justice dismissed the criminal charges against Venezuelan immigrants Alfredo Alejandro Aljorna and Julio Cesar Sosa-Celis, who was shot in the leg by an ICE agent in Minneapolis.

DHS Secretary Noem accused both of “attempted murder of federal law enforcement,” supposedly with a snow shovel and broom handle. Federal prosecutors

admitting filing “false statements” by the ICE agents, which were exposed after a review of video evidence.



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