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California Attorneys for Criminal Justice

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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SACRAMENTO, CA — The California Attorneys for Criminal Justice (CACJ), a statewide association of criminal defense attorneys in private practice and working in public defender offices, strenuously objects to recent events in which ICE agents stalked a Fresno County courthouse searching for individuals to take into federal custody. These detentions took place without a judicial hearing.

The irresponsible behavior of ICE agents, acting pursuant to the Trump administration's revised enforcement policies, is irresponsible and undermines the integrity of our judicial system. We call on ICE to immediately terminate these courthouse practices. CACJ intends to work with judicial leaders, legislators, and community groups to end this practice. The government should not use the courts as a trap for the vulnerable who come there seeking Justice.

CACJ supports Senate Bill 183. This bill would prohibit federal immigration enforcement agents, officers, or personnel from entering courthouses and other state property, to perform surveillance, effectuate an arrest, or question an individual therein, without a valid federal warrant.

Steven Rease, President
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice

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California Attorneys for Criminal Justice membership includes both attorneys and associated professionals throughout California and in other states. Through its membership, CACJ continues to be the only statewide association of its kind in the country. CACJ works to defend the rights of persons as guaranteed by the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of California and other applicable law, preserve due process and equal protection of the law for the benefit of all persons, enhance the ability of its members to discharge their professional responsibilities through educational programs, publications and mutual assistance, and protect and foster the independence of the criminal defense lawyer and to improve the quality of the administration of criminal law.