

# NYC TRUST ACT

## Protecting Immigrant New Yorkers and Building Trust

We are fighting for NYC Trust Act (Int 214, Council Member Hanif) in the New York City Council!

### The Problem

New York City has laws in place to limit agencies from sharing information with federal immigration officers under many circumstances. We fought for this to protect New Yorkers from racial profiling and abuses of power, and to foster trust between immigrant communities and local agencies. However, city agencies - especially **the New York Police Department (NYPD) and the Department of Corrections (DOC) - have violated these laws**, resulting in grave harm to immigrants for whom detention and deportation can be very difficult to stop. Yet, there is no way to hold city agencies accountable for infringing on the rights of immigrant New Yorkers!

### City - ICE Collusion Exposed

In February of 2023, the Council detainer oversight hearing revealed that DOC had been overtly colluding with ICE to transfer immigrants from DOC to ICE custody in violation of our laws. Communications obtained through a FOIL request unequivocally showed **clear violations and extreme anti-immigrant sentiment** within the agency with email communications to ICE from the Department of Corrections using the hashtag #teamsendthemback. We have continued to see instances of collusion with blatant disregard for our local laws by city agencies.

### The Solution

Our existing sanctuary protections need to be enforced if we are to have meaningful trust between immigrant communities and government actors. **NYC Trust Act will create a "private right of action" - which allows a private person to take legal action to enforce their rights** - so that people wronged by violations of these laws can seek justice in court, including the payment of money. Immigrant New Yorkers and their communities suffer long-term harm when New York City agencies ignore and misinterpret local detainer laws. This bill would make sure that DOC, NYPD and all city agencies be held accountable when this happens, ensure compliance, and prevent family separation of immigrant New Yorkers.