



## Preble Street Workers United

**For Immediate Release to Labor Affiliates**

June 9, 2025

### **Preble Street Workers United Statement on ICE Raids and Arrest of SEIU-CA President David Huerta**

Over the weekend, militarily-armed ICE agents collaborated with federal and state police agencies to launch aggressive raids on the community of Los Angeles. Spurned by the violent and unlawful arrests of their immigrant neighbors, tens of thousands of everyday people took mass organizational action. The federal government has since escalated its attacks and called in the military against our own people.

At one location, David Huerta, president of SEIU California and SEIU- United Service Workers West, was injured and arrested while exercising his First Amendment right to observe and document law enforcement activity. He has been released from hospitalization and remains in federal custody.

We demand that David Huerta be freed and that ICE raids end immediately, and encourage our labor affiliates in MSEA-SEIU and the Maine AFL-CIO to join the SEIU-USSW #FreeDavidEndRaids campaign, affirming their organizational commitments to defending our immigrant neighbors.

Ethan Gammon, Vice President of PSWU, made the statement:

“In our community work, we see clearly the need to uplift all working people to better face the future together. We stand firmly in opposition to these brutal, chaotic raids by ICE and other agencies, and we demand the release of conscientious community members like David Huerta arrested in the torrent.”

Joey Berube, President of PSWU, added:

“We are proud of our union siblings for standing on the frontlines in defense of our communities. Working class immigrants are facing state violence and repression that continues to escalate beyond any facade of due process, and it is imperative that organized labor leads in solidarity with all who are oppressed. An attack on one of us is an attack on all of us.”

PSWU voted last month to sign on to a petition calling on Cumberland County Sheriff Kevin Joyce to end Cumberland County's co-operation with ICE. Organized labor in Maine can build up this pressure campaign by joining the County Commissioners meeting on June 16th at 5:30 PM to demand that the County Jail end all co-operation with ICE and terminate its contracts as a major ICE holding facility.



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## **About Preble Street Workers United:**

We are caseworkers, cooks, shelter and housing navigators, drivers, maintenance, facility, warehouse workers, and more. We are a diverse and passionate union chapter of the Maine Service Employees Association (MSEA-SEIU Local 1989) of over 100 workers working to empower the people in our community experiencing homelessness, housing, hunger, and poverty. We believe that housing is a human right, and that peoples of all communities deserve dignity.

SEIU-CA Press Release:

<https://seiuca.org/press-releases/2025/06/06/seiu-california-president-david-huerta-injured-detained-at-ice-raid-in-los-angeles/>

SEIU-USSW #FreeDavidEndRaids Campaign:

[https://actionnetwork.org/event\\_campaigns/freedavidendraids](https://actionnetwork.org/event_campaigns/freedavidendraids)

End Cumberland County's Co-Operation with ICE Petition:

<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/end-cumberland-countys-co-operation-with-ice/>