

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

News Releases

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ICE assists in Haiti relief effort

As the world reaches out to help the victims of the January 12 earthquake that devastated Haiti and left more than 100,000 dead in the tiny island nation, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is contributing our expertise to the response and relief efforts.

ICE has a long history of support for disaster relief efforts, both international and domestic. In recent years, ICE personnel have responded to offer assistance following hurricane activity along the Gulf Coast, heavy flooding in Iowa and other critical incidents.



ICE's contributions to the Haiti response effort include the following:



ICE has deployed a team of agents to partner with the <u>U.S.</u>
<u>Customs and Border Protection</u> (CBP) and <u>U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services</u> (USCIS) to streamline and facilitate departures for U.S. citizens who may be in Haiti. The goal is to make their return to the United States as rapid and seamless as possible.

ICE has also temporarily suspended removals to Haiti of Haitian nationals who have been ordered removed from the United States. ICE will assist the U.S. Department of State and USCIS in

facilitating the evacuation of orphaned children who have been granted humanitarian parole to temporarily enter the United States.

- As needed, ICE agents may provide support to local law enforcement in Haiti.
- As needed, ICE is working with <u>DHS</u> partners to develop contingency response and logistical plans in the event that large numbers of Haitian citizens require shelter or relocation.

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For more information on the U.S. government's response to the Haiti situation, and for information on how you can securely donate to support the relief effort, please visit the White House "Help for Haiti" site.

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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.

ICE comprises four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities. For more information, visit www.ICE.gov. To report suspicious activity, call 1-866-347-2423.

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