

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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February 24, 2026  
Start: 11:09 a.m.  
Recess: 11:34 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING  
ROOM 1

B E F O R E: Elsie Encarnación, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Alexa Avilés  
Gale A. Brewer  
Rita C. Joseph

1 COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and  
3 welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the  
4 Committee on Immigration.

5 At this time, we would like to remind  
6 everyone to silence all electronic devices.

7 Also at this point, going forward, no one  
8 is to approach the dais.

9 Chair, we're ready to begin.

10 CHAIRPERSON ENCARNACIÓN: [GAVEL] I'm  
11 calling this meeting to order.

12 Good morning, everyone. I'm Council  
13 Member Elsie Encarnación, Chair of the Committee on  
14 Immigration. I would like to begin by thanking my  
15 Colleagues who have joined us here today, Council  
16 Member Joseph, Council Member Brewer, and Council  
17 Member Avilés.

18 At today's hearing, the Committee will  
19 consider and vote on Resolution 210, sponsored by  
20 Council Member Shahana Hanif, which condemns the  
21 fatal shootings of Renee Nicole Good and Alex Jeffrey  
22 Pretti by federal immigration authorities. In  
23 December 2025, the Department of Homeland Security  
24 launched Operation Metro Surge in Minnesota. This  
25 operation, referred to as the largest immigration

2 operation ever, deployed over 3,000 masked and armed  
3 federal agents in the Twin Cities. Although the Trump  
4 Administration announced the conclusion of this  
5 operation around a week ago, the actions of federal  
6 immigration authorities have destabilized the  
7 community. Peaceful bystanders were arrested, United  
8 States citizens were detained, protesters were  
9 attacked, local policing was negatively affected, and  
10 residents were racially profiled. Tragically, the  
11 operation resulted most disturbingly in the fatal  
12 shootings of U.S. citizens and Minnesota residents  
13 Renee Good and Alex Pretti at the hands of federal  
14 immigration authorities. The federal government was  
15 quick to paint both Pretti and Good as aggressors,  
16 whose actions required self-defense from federal  
17 authorities, but video evidence has arguably  
18 disproven these claims and shown agents who acted  
19 without commonsense. The details of these shootings  
20 and reactions by the federal government are  
21 distressing, but demonstrate the trend of violence by  
22 the lack of accountability of federal immigration  
23 authorities. The federal government continues to  
24 threaten New York City with floods of agents because  
25 of our status as a sanctuary city, but we will not be

2 bullied and we will not yield to these  
3 unconstitutional threats by our federal government.  
4 The City must continue to support dedicated community  
5 partners, fund trusted immigration legal service  
6 providers, uphold our City's sanctuary status, and  
7 stand with our immigrant communities.

8 Thank you to Council Member Hanif Honey  
9 for introducing this Resolution, and thank you to the  
10 Minnesota residents for protesting these heinous  
11 actions in the freezing cold temperatures.

12 I'd also like to thank the Committee  
13 Staff for their work on this hearing, including  
14 Senior Legislative Counsel Nicole Catá; Senior  
15 Legislative Policy Analyst Rebecca Barilla; Principal  
16 Financial Analyst Navdeep Baines; and Assistant  
17 Finance Director Florentine Kabore.

18 Finally, I'd like to thank my Staff,  
19 Deputy Chief-of-Staff Stephanie Herrera; Legislative  
20 Director Adam Bernstein; and Legislative Fellow Weny  
21 Mora, and everyone working in the background to make  
22 this hearing run smoothly.

23 I recommend a yes vote and I ask... well,  
24 first before that I would like to ask if any of the  
25 Members wanted to speak on this piece of legislation?

1 COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

5

2           Okay. So, I'd like to move forward and  
3 recommend a yes vote and ask the Clerk to call the  
4 roll.

5           COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
6 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.  
7 Roll call vote, Committee on Immigration on  
8 Resolution 210.

9           Chair Encarnación.

10          CHAIRPERSON ENCARNACIÓN: I vote aye.

11          COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Avilés.

12          COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Permission to  
13 explain my vote?

14          CHAIRPERSON ENCARNACIÓN: Yes. Go ahead.

15          COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: I'd like to thank  
16 Council Member Hanif for the work on this Resolution,  
17 and 100 percent stand with the comments of the Chair  
18 in condemning, in the strongest terms, the act of  
19 this federal government. And in particular, I just  
20 want to raise up additional names of people who have  
21 been murdered by ICE, particularly Black members of  
22 our community who have been erased in their deaths.  
23 I'd like to raise up Linda Davis, Keith Porter, Jean  
24 Wilson, Brutus, and Angel Blaze, and Fud Saeed Abdul

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2 Qadir (phonetic), among those who have been killed by  
3 ICE. May they rest in power.

4 I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
6 you.

7 Brewer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye. I just  
9 want to mention that this weekend I was at a hands-  
10 off event with the Upper West Side, and they had on  
11 the Zoom people from Minnesota and Minneapolis who  
12 were part of the resistance, and I just want to  
13 congratulate them because they have stayed together,  
14 done not only big rallies but neighborhood rallies,  
15 and have a really good attitude about helping each  
16 other. It's something that we could all learn from,  
17 which was the purpose of the hands-off event at  
18 Riverside Church. So, congratulations to Minneapolis  
19 and to their efforts, and hopefully we can do the  
20 same. Thank you very much.

21 I vote aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.  
23 Joseph.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: I vote aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
3 vote of four in the affirmative, zero in the  
4 negative, and no abstentions, Resolution has been  
5 adopted by the Committee.

6 CHAIRPERSON ENCARNACIÓN: Thank you,  
7 Billy, and thank you, Colleagues.

8 That concludes today's business. This  
9 hearing is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date February 25, 2026