



**ASHLEY MOODY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF FLORIDA**

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August 19, 2021

**MEMORANDUM TO ALL FLORIDA SHERIFFS**

**FROM:** Ashley Moody  
Attorney General

**SUBJECT:** The Biden Administration's Practices with Respect to Criminals in the Country Illegally.

As you know, immediately after taking office, the Biden Administration took steps to drastically reduce federal immigration enforcement. In two memos, issued January 20 and February 18, 2021, the Department of Homeland Security indicated that it would exempt most serious criminal offenders in the country illegally from immigration enforcement. Many of you have expressed frustration with these policies, which have resulted in dangerous criminals being released into Florida instead of being deported.

I write to you today with great news. In the attached opinion, a federal court has prohibited these reckless policies on a nationwide basis. While Florida will continue to press its own pending lawsuit—which advances the same legal theory—the injunction issued today applies in Florida.

For the safety of our communities throughout Florida, I encourage you to immediately resume coordinating with your law enforcement partners at ICE, who are now required by court order to follow federal law and cooperate with you in getting criminals in the country illegally off the streets. If you become aware of any officer of the federal government refusing to do so, please bring it to the attention of my office.