THE SPECIFIC ROLE AND IMPACT OF THE EPD IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL CIVIL IMMIGRATION LAW BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS-ICE-ERO) WITH THE <u>SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM</u>

EVERETT POLICE	ISSUE
DEPARTMENT	DATE:10/17/2018
POLICY & PROCEDURE NO.	
1.23b	EFFECTIVE
MASSACHUSETTS POLICE ACCREDITATION STANDARDS	DATE: 10/17/2018
REFERENCED: : MPAC Standards 1.2.7, 42.2.8(a);	
General Orders 2008-38 (7/17/08); 2013-05; 2015-01; 2017-01	REVISION
Presidential Executive Order No 13768 (1/25/17)	DATE:
<u>New Detainer Form (I-247A)</u>	
<u>Commonwealth v Lunn 477 Mass. 517</u> (2017)	

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Everett Police Department recognizes and values the diversity of the community it serves. Many of its residents have emigrated to this community from other countries and some may not be citizens or legal residents of the United States. The City and the Everett Police Department are committed to promoting safety and providing proactive community policing services to all who live, work or visit our community. In furtherance of the adherence to the department's community policing philosophy, all community members and general stakeholders should know that they are encouraged to seek and obtain police assistance and protection regardless of their specific immigration and/or documentation status without fear of status checks.

The Everett Police Department relies upon the cooperation of all persons located in the city of Everett including citizens, legal residents as well as those without a specific documentation

status, to achieve our important goals of protecting life and property, investigating and preventing crime as well as resolving recurring neighborhood issues. Assistance from the many various immigrant populations is especially important when an immigrant, whether documented or not, is the victim or witness to a serious crime including the intimate partner issue of domestic violence. It is absolutely essential that these victims do not feel apprehensive or intimidated in any way in coming forward with the requisite information and general firsthand knowledge to aid in investigating a particular crime and holding those responsible accountable to our criminal justice system. This type of essential mutual trust and spirit of cooperation is absolutely crucial in preventing and solving crime incidents, as well as maintaining public order, safety and security in the entire community.

We fully realize that federal civil immigration enforcement or perceived enforcement by the Everett Police Department could have a "*chilling effect*" in our local immigrant community and could limit cooperation with police by members of the community at large. As stated, we depend on the cooperation of all of our residents and stakeholders including immigrants, legal and undocumented, in solving all sorts of crimes and in the maintenance of public order. Without assurances that they will not be subjected to an immigration investigation and possible deportation, many immigrants with critical information would not come forward, even when heinous crimes are committed against them and/or their families.¹ Because many families with undocumented family members also include legal immigrant members, this would drive a potential wedge between the Everett Police and huge portions of the legal immigrant community as well.

We as duly sworn police officers are responsible for providing effective police services to everyone in the City of Everett in an equal, fair, and just manner. The Everett Police Department is concerned primarily for the safety and welfare of all individuals found within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Everett. Thus, detection of criminal behavior is of primary interest and concern in dealing with any individual suspected of violating the law. Race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, occupation, immigration status or any other arbitrary characteristic pertaining to any specific individual have absolutely no bearing on any decision for a Everett Police Officer to effectuate a stop or detention of an individual or have any impact whatsoever on the decision to make a lawful arrest for a violation of a criminal law.

The specific immigration status of an individual or group of individuals in and of itself, is not and shall not be a matter of local police concern or subsequent enforcement action by the EPD unless there exists through reliable and credible information a potential threat to public safety and/or national security. It is incumbent upon all officers and employees of the Everett Police Department to make an unyielding personal commitment to equal enforcement of the law and equal service to the public regardless of immigration-documentation status. Confidence in this valued commitment will not only protect an individual's rights and freedoms from being adversely affected but shall also increase the public's confidence and trust in the police

¹ <u>Note</u>: The U-Visa protection provides a specific avenue through which immigrant crime victims and witnesses who cooperate with law enforcement can obtain temporary lawful immigration status and protection against deportation. See policy link: <u>U-Visa Policy No.2.06</u>

department's effectiveness and efficiency in protecting and serving the members of the entire City of Everett community.

II. DHS renews ICE Secure Communities Program ("S-Comm") via Presidential Executive Order 13768

1. Procedural Background:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts officially became part of what was previously known as the Federal <u>Secure Communities Program</u> on <u>May</u> <u>15th, 2012</u>. The Federal Program was operational nationwide until it was ordered discontinued on November 20th, 2014 by then Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and replaced by what was known as the *Priority Enforcement Program* ("PEP") which was in effect from January 1st of 2015 – January 25th of 2017 which allowed for a more focused approached regarding enforcement priorities for those undocumented individuals who were either previously convicted of any felony, 3 or more serious misdemeanors or were considered recent border crossers who were subjected to final orders of deportation.

However on January 25th of 2017 the President of the United States issued **Executive Order No. 13768** titled **Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States** which revoked the Priority Enforcement Program and restored the former Secure Communities Program ("S-Comm") which also expanded the enforcement priorities..

2. <u>Secure Communities Restored - 1/25/17: Biometric Fingerprint</u> <u>Submissions:</u>

Under the newly reinstituted Federal *Secure Communities Program*, the fingerprints of all persons arrested by state and local law enforcement agencies, in which those agencies routinely submit these electronic biometric prints to the FBI (via the Massachusetts State Police server) for criminal justice database checks, are also automatically shared with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS-ICE). These fingerprints are checked against the DOJ's biometric identification system for criminal history records are automatically sent to DHS's biometric system to check against its immigration and law enforcement records. The United States government has determined that a jurisdiction cannot choose to have the fingerprints that it submits to the federal government processed *only* for criminal history checks.

¹ <u>Note</u>: The U-Visa protection provides a specific avenue through which immigrant crime victims and witnesses who cooperate with law enforcement can obtain temporary lawful immigration status and protection against deportation. See policy link: <u>U-Visa Policy No.2.06</u>

Further, jurisdictions cannot ask that the identifications that result from DHS's processing of the fingerprints not to be shared with local ICE field offices in that jurisdiction. It is ICE, and not the state or local law enforcement agency, that determines what immigration enforcement action, if any, is appropriate. During that electronic submission Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel will check the local arrestee's (currently being held in a police lock-up by the local or State PD) personal biographical information against the active DHS-ICE immigration databases. If ICE determines that it has what was deemed to be an "actionable interest" in the local arrestee based on a so-called "hit" (match) on that database with the submitted fingerprints, ICE will then determine what specific enforcement action, if any, to take based on their DHS Enforcement Priorities and available personnel resources in existence at the time of the hit.

1. <u>Request for an Immigration Detainer by ICE:</u>

If the local arrestee appears to have violated the federal immigration laws and the arrestee is deemed to fall within any of the applicable enforcement priorities listed below (II-4), ICE will decide whether or not to issue what is known as an <u>Immigration Detainer – Notice of Action</u> form for the arrested individual currently held in local police custody. A Request for a Detainer form, which is sent via a fax after an initial phone call is made to the local police department's OIC, is an official *request* from DHS-ICE directed to the specific state or local law enforcement agency to hold the individual for a period not to exceed 48 hours so that ICE has the opportunity to arrange for the potential transfer of the individual into federal custody in situations when gaining immediate custody is either impracticable or impossible.²

² 8 CFR 287.7(a) and 8 CFR 287.7(d). Federal law provides that an individual cannot be held on a detainer for longer than <u>48</u> <u>hours</u>, excluding weekends and holidays. <u>At the end of the 48 hour period, the detainer expires</u>.



3. <u>NEW Implications of Commonwealth v Lunn 477 Mass. 517 (2017):</u>

Immigration detainers are voluntary requests to Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) for assistance—compliance is <u>not mandatory</u>. As such, LEAs are not legally required to enforce or honor detainers. The Federal Immigration officer will ask the State custodian [local, state police, or sheriff] to *voluntarily* hold the person for up to two days [e.g., 48 hours] after he/she would otherwise be entitled to be released from State custody (e.g., bailed), in order to allow Federal ICE authorities the time necessary to arrive and take the person into Federal custody for possible removal.

It is important to note that these detainers are not criminal detainers nor are they criminal arrest warrants. They do not charge anyone with a criminal violation of the law, indicate that anyone has been charged with a crime, or ask that anyone be detained in order that he or she can be prosecuted for a crime. Detainers like these are used to detain individuals because the Federal authorities reasonably believe that they are civilly removable from the country.

If a LEA wishes to honor an immigration detainer and to keep an individual in custody <u>after</u> such time as he or she would otherwise be released, it may do so <u>only</u> under circumstances where a warrantless arrest is already permitted by state law here in Massachusetts.

¹ 8 CFR 287.7(a) and 8 CFR 287.7(d). Federal law provides that an individual cannot be held on a detainer for longer than <u>48</u> <u>hours</u>, excluding weekends and holidays. <u>At the end of the 48 hour period, the detainer expires</u>.

Generally speaking, under Massachusetts state law LEAs <u>may keep</u> an individual in custody who is the subject of a detainer <u>only</u> under the following two situations:

- a. The detainer is accompanied by a judicial warrant signed by a federal judge or federal magistrate and <u>not</u> a so-called <u>administrative warrant</u> which is a document signed by an ICE Agent/Supervisor and not a judicial officer of the court; OR
- b. The LEA has probable cause to believe the individual has committed a state or federal crime for which he/she is not eligible for release by the bailing authority (e.g., murder, or violation of a Chapter 209A domestic restraining order – which only can be bailed by a judge not a clerk magistrate).

If an individual is to be released from custody, LEAs should also take due care to ensure that any potential delays that may occur in releasing the individual are reasonable and justified by what is/are deemed to be a legitimate administrative purpose(s). So-called "pretextual" delays designed with the real purpose of allowing ICE additional time to arrive and take custody of an individual have been deemed to be unreasonable and are unlawful. Further, if an LEA chooses to keep an individual in custody under either circumstance directly above — state law requires that the LEA hold the individual for no more than 24 hours without first presenting the individual to a neutral and detached magistrate for a determination of probable cause via a Jenkins Hearing.³ This is a long standing practice and is usually conducted at the Police Department by the on-call Clerk or Assistant Clerk Magistrate.

4. <u>ICE's Enforcement Priorities under the Secure Communities</u> <u>Program:</u>

In a Memo dated 2/20/17 from DHS Secretary John Kelly to federal law enforcement agencies that the enforcement priorities under the Secure Communities Program are now <u>more wide ranging</u> than under the previous Priority Enforcement Program including not just felony convictions (as was previously the case under PEP). They shall include:

³ <u>See Jenkins v. Chief Justice of the Dist. Ct. Dept.</u>, 416 Mass. 221 (1993) (requiring neutral review of probable cause to occur within twenty-four hours).

- all convictions on the arrestee's BOP of "any crime" including misdemeanors,
- as well as those arrestees currently being charged with an offense without a conviction record,
- those alleged to have committed acts of fraud,
- abuses of any benefit program,
- final orders of deportation
- or those who commit acts that constitute threats to national security or public safety in general. <u>See DHS Memo dated 2/20/17</u> <u>from DHS Secretary John Kelly</u>.

If the local arrestee appears to have violated the federal immigration laws (e.g., overstayed a visa, crossed the border without inspection) and the arrestee is deemed to fall within any of the aforementioned enforcement priorities, ICE will now decide whether to issue the **Request for a Detainer** for the arrested individual.⁴

Important Note: Based on the implications of Commonwealth v. Lunn, state and law enforcement officers in Massachusetts and bailing authorities may not hold an arrestee who is otherwise eligible for release despite the issuance of a detainer by ICE other than those mentioned in Section (II)(4)(a)(b) above.

5. <u>DHS Secure Communities ("S-Comm") and Potential Impacts on Local Community</u> <u>Policing Efforts</u>:

DHS-ICE and the DHS *Secure Communities Program* do not operate in a vacuum and local law enforcement must always be mindful that the resulting enforcement actions that are undertaken by ICE can run the risk that these actions can potentially adversely impact the local police agencies and the long standing relationships that they have with their respective communities in what some stakeholders may conclude is a negative fashion. According to DHS, S-Comm only entails the sharing of information known as *"interoperability"* between local law enforcement>MSP and > the FBI and DHS. Any subsequent immigration enforcement action that is taken after that information is shared is not part of the S-Comm Program, but instead is the result of an independent determination by ICE <u>Enforcement and Removal Operations</u> (ERO). Similarly, any action taken by the local law enforcement agency at the time of the arrest and prior to booking and submission of fingerprints to the federal databases is not part of the S-Comm Program.

⁴ <u>Note</u>: Once a state or local law enforcement agency voluntary submits fingerprint data of an arrestee for the purposes of a record check to the federal government, no specific agreement or MOU with the individual state is legally necessary for one agency of the federal government (e.g., FBI) to share the data with another federal agency (e.g., DHS-ICE).

However, with this in mind, it is important to note that much of the criticisms of the S-Comm Program relate to the enforcement activities <u>before</u> (with the local police making an arrest) and <u>after</u> (with ICE Officials potentially transferring custody of the arrestee) the actual information sharing of biometrics which defines the process takes place. While ICE has distinguished between S-Comm's *"interoperability"* function and the subsequent detention and/or removal of an individual via the ERO process, the distinction is often times lost on many community stakeholders, advocates and even some law enforcement officials.

As a result, we anticipate that the reinstitution of the S-Comm Program may be commonly viewed and perceived by many as the <u>entire process</u> which begins with an initial arrest by the local law enforcement agency and often times ends in deportation of the local arrestee. To the community at large, especially urban inner-city, immigrant communities such as the city of Everett, local law enforcement agencies participating in the S-Comm Program run the risk of being viewed by many as immigration agents, regardless of the actual limited role that they play in the process.

Therefore, it is imperative that the local community is informed and educated at appropriate venues and community forums at appropriate intervals as to the specifics of the local law enforcement agencies' actual role in the S-Comm process so as not to jeopardize the trust, confidence and spirit of cooperation that the police department and the community at large have formed over the course of several years.

III. POLICY

The enforcement of the nation's federal civil immigration laws are the primary responsibility of the federal government. Accordingly, the Everett Police Department <u>shall not</u> undertake immigration-related investigations and shall not routinely inquire into the specific immigration status of any person(s) encountered during normal police operations. Exceptions may be made under Section IV (C) below. Further, the Everett Police Department <u>shall not</u> enter into any voluntary Federal 287(g) Program that would have local officers trained and sworn to enforce federal civil immigration laws.

This prohibition does not preclude the Everett Police Department from cooperating and assisting with federal immigration officials from the DHS Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agency when formally requested as part of an on-going *criminal investigation*, or from **notifying those federal officials in serious situations** where a potential <u>threat to public safety</u> or <u>national security</u> is perceived. [See §§ IV (C), (D) below].

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Immigration Detainer – Notice of Action

• Whenever any Officer in Charge (OIC) or Prisoner Control Officer of the Everett Police Department receives either an *Immigration Detainer* (Form I-247A –

issued 12/12) in the form of a fax from DHS-ICE, the OIC shall immediately upon arrival at Headquarters inform the bailing Clerk or Assistant Clerk Magistrate of the existence of the Federal ICE Detainer when they respond to Police Headquarters to make the decision of setting bail on those currently in custody.

- It shall be sole decision of the bailing Clerk of Court to decide whether to set a monetary bail or release the arrestee on personal recognizance.
- Pursuant to Commonwealth v. Lunn (2017) the bailing Clerk <u>may not</u> order that the arrestee be held in police custody based solely on the Immigration Detainer unless there are extenuating circumstances such as the arrestee also committed a restraining order violation (only bailable by a Judge) or there is a criminal default warrant in effect against the arrestee.
- The OIC shall ensure that the arresting Officer adheres to the <u>following procedure</u> when an Immigration Detainer is received:
 - 1. Put the original detainer in the arrest envelope
 - 2. Make note of the detainer on the white board behind the desk
 - 3. Add the proper charge to the arrest report, adding the proper language in the report narrative

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- Although the issuance of a Detainer by ICE is <u>not a criminal charge</u> please add the 'Description" above under charges in the Crimetrack Records Management System so that the Criminal Investigations Division (Crime Reporting and Analysis Unit) can accurately track each Detainer that the department receives.
- If a decision is made by the Clerk to bail the arrestee pursuant to this policy ICE: ERO shall be notified by the OIC.
- The <u>arrestee SHALL always be afforded a copy</u> of the applicable ICE Immigration Detainer Form.
- A copy of the ICE Detainer Form shall be placed in the arrestee's arrest folder to be transmitted to the Malden District Court.

B. <u>Inquiries into Immigration Status:</u>

- (i) A person's right to file a police report; participate in any policecommunity activities (i.e., Community Meetings, Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, etc); or otherwise benefit from general police services shall not be contingent upon the individual providing proof of citizenship or any type of documented immigration status. MPAC Standard: 42.2.8(a)
- (ii) Consequently, officers <u>shall not</u> question any person about his or her specific citizenship or immigration status <u>unless</u> that person is reasonably believed to be involved in one or more of the activities identified in <u>Subsection IV (C)</u> below.

Notification to Federal Immigration Authorities:

In furtherance of the department's community policing philosophy and continued engagement and outreach efforts, Everett Police Officers shall not participate in any federal civil immigration related investigations of any immigrant or foreign national, <u>except</u> under the following circumstances when the <u>immigrant or</u> foreign national:⁵

- 1. is **arrested** for any **violent felony** by EPD Personnel including but not limited to:
 - ✤ Murder,
 - ✤ Assault with intent to Murder,
 - ✤ Assault & Battery by means of a Dangerous Weapon,
 - ✤ Assault by means of a Dangerous Weapon,
 - ✤ Armed Burglary,
 - Rape, (or any Sex Offense)
 - ✤ Mayhem, or
 - ✤ Armed Robbery;
- When the EPD acquires reliable information that the individual in Everett Police custody has been <u>convicted</u> in a court of competent jurisdiction of <u>any felony</u>;

⁵ <u>Note:</u> An exception to the above could occur if an operator of a lawfully stopped motor vehicle presents what appears to be a valid Foreign Country's Driver's License in which the license is valid in this state for only one (1) year and requires the operator to produce proof to the investigating officer of the most recent admission date to the United States so as to effectively toll the one year time period. (e.g., Form I-94 or Passport with the entry stamp).

⁶ Please See <u>EPD Policy No. 4.36, titled Consular Notification and Access</u> for further procedural requirements.

- 3. is <u>arrested</u> by EPD Personnel for any <u>terrorism-related offense</u>, has a subsequent conviction for such activity or is otherwise *reasonably suspected* of involvement in any terrorist and/or subversive activities;⁶
- 4. is <u>arrested</u> or has any convictions for any offense involving the entry or fraudulent assimilation or <u>trafficking of individuals</u> into the United States, or is reasonably suspected of participating in an *organized venture* to bring or fraudulently assimilate undocumented foreigners in this country; <u>OR</u>
- 5. is <u>suspected</u> based upon the legal standard of <u>probable cause</u> (basis of knowledge and veracity) of <u>participating in criminal street gang</u> <u>activity involving violence and/or distribution of illegal</u> <u>drugs/weapons.</u>

Note: If any of the preceding arrest situations should occur (1-4) or if any Officer develops probable cause based on reliable and credible information that an individual at large is believed to be involved in a <u>violent street gang</u> and is also believed to be an undocumented foreign national then <u>ICE may be contacted by the Officer in Charge for further investigation</u>.

D. <u>Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Investigations and/or</u> <u>Requests for Assistance</u>:

- 1. The U.S. Bureau of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement has primary jurisdiction for enforcement of the provisions to <u>Title 8, U.S. Code</u> dealing with illegal entry into the United States by foreign nationals.
- 2. Everett Police Officers **shall not** directly participate in any such ICE tactical operation(s) solely for the *civil enforcement* of federal immigration laws as part of any Detention or Arrest Team <u>unless:</u>
 - it is in direct response to a request for immediate assistance on a temporary basis for "*Officer Safety*" purposes; or
 - for the assistance in the apprehension of any individual who is also wanted on a Massachusetts issued Warrant Management System Criminal Warrant (WMS) which remains in full force and effect at the time of the request.
- 3. Whenever ICE has occasion to be in the city of Everett, whether looking for a target(s) who is the subject of a criminal warrant (usually the criminal investigatory branch

⁷ <u>Note</u>: The FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) shall also be contacted forthwith.

of ICE - Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) or looking for individuals who have **Final Orders of Deportation** (Civil component of ICE – Enforcement & Removal Operations-ERO), or conducting a surveillance, the EPD OIC shall send a <u>Community Impacting Incident Email/text forthwith</u> to the Chief of Police and other Command Staff <u>Personnel</u>.

- In addition the OIC shall ascertain from the notifying ICE Agent or Supervisory Agent who called the OIC pursuant to national de-confliction protocol to alert the presence in the city at a specific address the specific "*reason*" (e.g., criminal, civil) that they are looking to place the wanted individual into federal custody.
- If it is for a Massachusetts <u>Criminal Warrant</u> or other <u>State Warrant</u>⁷ for which we as duly sworn Everett Police Officers have the right of arrest then Everett Officers may assist as we would with any law enforcement agency where we have the legal authority do to so.
- If it is for <u>civil reasons only</u> then we shall <u>stand down</u> <u>and not respond</u> and only assist if a situation rises where an officer's (Agent's) safety is at risk where there is an emergency call for assistance.
- In all cases the OIC shall ensure that a call number is generated on the Dispatch Log by emergency Communications (e.g., Immigration Enforcement).
 - If multiple addresses are involved a Call Number shall be generated for each specific address.
- The ICE Agent shall be asked to call back the OIC with the results of the investigation (e.g., no service, one in custody, etc.) so that the Dispatch Log can be updated.
- Calls from Residents:
 - In the event that a local resident calls
 Emergency Communications and/or Police
 Headquarters and is uncertain as to whether a "Police Officer"
 - is knocking at their door
 - who is indicating that it is "the Police,"

⁸ See G.L. Chapter 276 Sections 10(a)(b) for authorization for arrests from Fugitives from Justice from other States.

- the dispatcher/officer shall ascertain if the address in question is one that ICE is currently off at pursuant to an ongoing investigation
 - and if so shall so advise
- \circ and if not
 - shall send a Everett Unit to investigate further.
- If the Everett Officer arrives on scene and locates the ICE Agents then the EPD Officer shall inform the resident that these are federal law enforcement agents who are conducting an investigation and the Everett Officer shall then clear the scene.
- For those individuals placed in custody by ICE Officials solely for civil enforcement reasons a courtesy booking **shall not be required by EPD personnel**.

Note: If either ICE-HSI or ICE-ERO have a pre-planned operation where multiple targets are sought in the City of Everett for civil immigration reasons only (where Everett Officers have no legal statutory authority to assist), the CID Division Commander shall designate a Detective to be a "*Point Person*" assigned to Police Headquarters who shall be in direct contact with an ICE Supervisory Agent(s) who is in the field in the city of Everett. The Point Person shall have the responsibilities of coordinating with Dispatch

- Personnel in updating the computerized dispatch log as to whether an arrest service was made or not and also keeping an itemized list of those that are placed in custody. The Police Chief shall also be notified forthwith via phone, text or email with any and all updates so that timely notifications can be made to certain designated city officials once the operation has been concluded to prevent any unnecessary misinformation or rumors from being generated on social media or otherwise.
- 4. Any detention by a member of the Everett Police Department during the request for assistance by ICE should be based upon a reasonable belief that the detained individual is either involved in <u>criminal activity other</u> <u>than a civil violation of federal immigration laws</u> or is wanted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on a WMS Active Warrant.

E. <u>Tracking Maintained by the Crime Analysis Unit</u>

The ECAU will prepare a yearly report on incidents involving ICE Detainers in the City Of Everett.

In-Service Training:

The sworn members of the Everett Police Department shall review the Policy annually.