

“DO SOMETHING, BITCH!”* KRISTI NOEM DRESSED RUSSIA’S USEFUL IDIOT UP TO COSPLAY CBP

The White House denies that Kristi Noem told President Trump that she was going to zero out counterterrorism funding for the cops in NYC who protect – among other high profile potential targets – Trump Tower.

That’s where we start this very very long story of stupid things DHS is doing that are awful in real time but, with concerted focus, may backfire. We’re seeing it in NY, we’re seeing it in the Portland and Chicago invasions, and we see the potential result in the Kilmar Abrego case.

Kristi Noem didn’t warn Trump she was stripping security funding from New York City

As New York described it in a lawsuit, on the last day of the fiscal year last week, the state learned that DHS had zeroed out security grant funding for New York City’s MTA from a news article; as of the filing of that suit, DHS had not notified New York it had withdrawn funding.

4. New York learned about the Reallocation Decision not from the government but from an online news story, which reported earlier today that “[t]he federal government will deny the [the Metropolitan Transit Authority (“MTA”)] tens of millions of dollars in requested security grant funding, withholding every dollar the agency

asked for because New York City and New York state are 'sanctuary jurisdictions.'" Dave Cole & David Myer, BIG ZERO: Trump Stiffs MTA in 'Sanctuary City' Tantrum, STREETSBL0G NEW YORK CITY (Sept. 30, 2025), <https://nyc.streetsblog.org/2025/09/30/trump-admin-zeros-out-mta-security-grant-funding>. At this time, MTA has not even received formal notice that their award was cut to nothing.

5. Upon information and belief, New York's award was changed from the \$33,898,500 that FEMA had targeted New York to receive in the Notice of Funding Opportunity ("NOFO") to \$0. As of the filing of this complaint, New York has received no explanation from DHS or FEMA, despite repeated attempts to contact the agency through the Department of Justice. But upon information and belief, New York has been targeted because the administration believes it is a "sanctuary" jurisdiction. FEMA also did not treat all "sanctuary" jurisdictions evenhandedly. Upon information and belief, at the same time as it eliminated New York's allocation, FEMA made increases to other States' allocations, including other "sanctuary" jurisdictions.

[snip]

9. Now today, FEMA issued increased TSGP award notifications for other states, and Plaintiffs have discovered the Reallocation Decision through the media. At 1:07 PM today, counsel in Illinois v. FEMA and Illinois v. Noem sent an email communication to the Department of Justice inquiring about the story, asking for New York's notice of award, and alerting the government that they would file the instant lawsuit and a TR0

motion before the end of the federal fiscal year tonight. Counsel followed up that email with a second. At the time of filing, New York has not received a response. The New York Attorney General's Office was sent (not by Defendants) a power-point presentation that appears to be a genuine document prepared and presented to Congressional staff, which is aligned with the online story. That document, attached as Exhibit 3 to the Affirmation of Rabia Muqaddam, identifies the MTA as the only applicant for TSGP funding that was denied, while other applicants received greater than originally allocated awards. It further states that MTA did not receive their award "because it is based in a Sanctuary Jurisdiction city." Id. at *25.

In a NYT article providing more details of the funding, Kathy Hochul aptly described this as Republicans defunding the cops.

"A Republican administration literally defunding the police is the height of hypocrisy – and walking away from the fight against terrorism in the No. 1 terrorist target in America is utterly shocking," Gov. Kathy Hochul of New York said in a statement on Tuesday.

The decision to strip NY of counterterrorism funding directly violated an order issued just days earlier in a lawsuit seeking to enjoin this kind of politicized DHS process.

There's the legal issue: how DHS continues to double down on politicizing security grants in defiance of court orders, just as the government is trying to defy Karin Immergut's order enjoining the deployment of the Guard to Portland. A judge in NY's lawsuit issued a TRO to prevent the cuts, as Immergut did in Oregon; a judge will hold a hearing Thursday in

Chicago's challenge to Trump's invasion.

But holy hell! In pursuit of politics, Kristi Noem cut counterterrorism funding created in response to 9/11 to the city of New York.

At least according to the White House, *no one told the President* that DHS was going to strip counterterrorism funding from a city where he owns significant property.

The cuts, which represented the largest federal defunding of police operations in New York in decades, were made by the Department of Homeland Security, without explanation and without the approval of President Trump, White House officials said.

Indeed, President Trump was blindsided by the decision to defund the police, not learning of the cuts until Gov. Kathy Hochul of New York called him on Sunday to protest the change after the fact, according to three people with knowledge of the call.

The other politicized cuts rolled out in recent days, both the cuts to transportation projects cherished by New Jersey commuters and to energy projects focused on swing congressional districts, will be fairly easy to politicize.

But to cut counterterrorism funding for New York City is self-evidently insane by any measure.

And also put Donald Trump's flagship branded property at risk, which is probably one of the reasons he reversed the decision so quickly.

**Trump Federalizes
Oregon National Guard
based off Fox News**

propaganda

The claim – however incredible – that Trump had no idea DHS was cutting counterterrorism funding from NYC is important background to the repeated pieces of evidence that Trump deployed the National Guard to Portland because he believes the propaganda he sees on Fox News.

By his own description, Trump did so based on seeing things on television “that are different from what’s happening,” as described by Governor Tina Kotek.

In an NBC News interview on Sunday, Trump himself appeared to question the narrative he used to justify the deployment following a phone call on Saturday with Kotek, who said Trump told her he’d seen videos of fires in the city that may have been from the 2020 protests.

“I spoke to the governor, she was very nice,” Trump said in the interview. “But I said, ‘Well wait a minute, am I watching things on television that are different from what’s happening? My people tell me different.’ They are literally attacking and there are fires all over the place...it looks like terrible.”

As Salon noted, Trump was under a mistaken belief that what he sees on Fox News reflects reality.

“I told him in very plain language there is no insurrection or threat to public safety that necessitates military intervention in Portland or any other city in our state,” Kotek said. “Putting our own military on our streets is an abuse of power...Here’s the deal. “We cannot be looking at footage from 2020 and assume that that is the case today in Portland.”

On Sunday, Oregon and Portland filed a 41-page lawsuit in federal court against Trump's actions. The suit referenced a recent Fox News report cited by the president that misled viewers by wrongly presenting "outdated protest footage from 2020." As Oregon's Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden told reporters on Friday, "If [Trump] watches a TV show in the morning and he see Portland mentioned, he says it's a terrible place."

But even after Trump's announcement, Fox continued to use old footage to paint Portland as a lawless state.

The initial order from Judge Karin Immergut, a Trump appointee, enjoining the deployment focused on how unnecessary the deployment was.

The protests generally were limited to fewer than 30 people and were "largely sedate." Id. ¶ 25. If the protests were to increase or threaten public safety, PPB could call on additional available resources. Id. ¶ 26. But the protests have been such a minor issue, that the normal nightlife in downtown Portland has required more police resources than the ICE facility. Id.

[snip]

Defendants also express concern about danger in Portland because of incidents that have occurred elsewhere in the country. Id. ¶ 21. Most concerning is the sniper shooting in Dallas, Texas, targeting an ICE van, and the protest that followed in Chicago when a protestor was found with a firearm. Id. ¶¶ 21-22.

[snip]

Defendants' declarants describe only four incidents of protesters clashing with federal officers in the month of

September preceding the federalization order—on September 1st, 9th, 12th, and without further specification, the second week of September. Wamsley Decl., ECF 38 ¶¶ 16, 18; Cantu Decl., ECF 40 ¶ 15. The first involved protesters setting up a makeshift guillotine to intimidate federal officials; the second involved four people shining overpowered flashlights in the eyes of drivers; the third involved someone posting a photograph of an unmarked ICE vehicle online; and the last involved additional drivers having flashlights shone in their eyes. Cantu Decl., ECF 40 ¶ 15; Wamsley Decl., ECF 38 ¶¶ 16–18. These incidents are inexcusable, but they are nowhere near the type of incidents that cannot be handled by regular law enforcement forces. They also occurred at least two weeks before President Trump issued his directive.

She compared that to the nonsense Trump put in his Truth Social posts leading up to his declaration.

On September 19, 2025, President Trump explained that the administration was going to “get rid of” the “problems” in cities, including Chicago, Memphis, and Portland. Marshall Decl., ECF 9 ¶ 25. He described that in Portland people were “out of control” and “crazy.” Id. On September 25, 2025, the President again described Portland, exclaiming that “nobody’s ever seen anything like it” with activity happening “every night,” with people that “just burn the place down.” Marshall Decl., ECF 9 ¶ 26. President Trump commented on “professional agitators” in Portland who are “paid a lot of money by rich people,” “anarchists,” and “crazy people” who try to “burn down buildings, including federal buildings,” with

Portland having activity “every night . . . for years.” Id. He promised to do a “pretty big number” on the “people in Portland that are doing that.” Id.

The order is best understood as laying out that DOJ was absolutely unable to substantiate the things Trump said in his Truth Social posts that were the ostensible purpose for the deployment. This great Greg Sargent interview with Oregon’s Attorney General, Dan Rayfield, describes how easy it was to prove Trump deployed the Guard based on delusions.

Sargent: Well, to go into the guts of that, by law, Trump can only federalize the National Guard if there’s an invasion by a foreign nation, a rebellion, or if the laws can’t be executed with regular forces. The crucial thing though is that while the president has a fair amount of deference in determining whether those things are happening, you can’t just make it up whole cloth. The judge cited a few examples of violence but said it doesn’t come close to reaching those conditions. Can you talk about the importance of that aspect of the ruling?

Rayfield: Yeah, and I think it’s important for all of us to be grounded. We actually do want a rational president to have deference in being able to determine when there’s an emergency that might necessitate the military, right? You wouldn’t want to second-guess a president—is this an invasion or is this not? You want to give them a ton of deference to react immediately.

What made this very unique is that, right now, it’s not even a close call. You can give all the deference you want to the president, and still—none of those circumstances exist.

And I often joke, the only rebellion going on in Oregon right now is when I try to feed my son a vegetable. So it's just a very strange dynamic. The president is really just fixated on social media gossip, which is incredibly reckless to rely upon when you're deploying the United States military.

Sargent: Well, I want to try to get at Trump's bad faith in all this. The judge cited a tweet from Trump after a period of really minimal activity outside the Portland ICE facility. Trump tweeted that he's directed the defense secretary to protect, quote, "war-ravaged Portland and any of our ICE facilities under siege from attack by Antifa and other domestic terrorists."

The judge looked at that and said Trump can't just make up "facts on the ground"—said Trump was "untethered from the facts." So, AG, didn't Trump's bad faith work against him here?

Rayfield: Unquestionably, right? But that's what's so amazing about our court system in the United States. It's a place where we get to go in and talk about truth. We get to talk about facts. And we have a judge—no matter where they come from in life—who gets to evaluate the circumstances on the ground and make these decisions.

It doesn't matter what the president says. You can say whatever you want, but you still have to be able to back it up with real facts. And to be able to push back against the president and say, Hey, no, this is unacceptable, is incredibly important.

The man is delirious. DOJ cannot substantiate the reality he is living in.

And yet the far right keeps churning out

propaganda in hopes of justifying an invasion. Even as this hearing was going on, right wing provocateur Nick Sortor was whining that he had been arrested outside the ICE facility.

Not only did DHS get him released from Portland custody, but one after another top official decided they were going to investigate Portland for arresting an outside agitator.



Trump even took some time out to encourage the outside agitator.



Nick Sortor
@nicksortor

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President Trump took time out of his busy schedule to text me following my wrongful arrest by Portland Police

“Nick, I saw you on television. Great job. We are behind you 100%. Let us know if there is anything we can do... President DJT”

He sent that immediately after my hit on [@IngrahamAngle](#).

And it means so much to me.

We'll keep fighting, President Trump. Thank you for having the backs of patriots all across the country 🇺🇸



3:42 AM · Oct 5, 2025 · 391K Views

There are multiple problems with this big rush to defend Sortor. Not only does Sortor have a history of doing this and ties to far right extremists, not only was the conflict caught on video showing him making physical contact first, not only has ICE elsewhere violently assaulted real journalists (meaning Civil Rights Division is selectively intervening), but according to the press release, Federal authorities started arresting people before Portland arrested Sortor.

PPB was monitoring the protest during the evening and observed some protest participants engaging in fights.

At about 8:09 p.m., PPB Dialogue Officers (DLOs) observed two men fighting near the ICE building driveway. The DLOs called in additional resources and officers were responding when the fight ended following one participant being knocked to the ground. He did not lose consciousness and never requested medical help. Both involved were detained by federal law enforcement and

were later released. Neither party indicated they wanted to make a police report.

PPB continued to monitor the situation and responded after seeing additional fights break out. At about 11:16 p.m., RRT moved in and arrested three people were arrested and all booked into the Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC) on charges of Disorderly Conduct in the Second Degree:

Angela Davis, 49, of Vernonia, Oregon

Nicholas Sortor, 27, of Washington, DC

Son Mi Yi, 43, of Portland

DOJ is saying that Portland can't arrest people who travel across the country to spark unrest in Portland. And Sortor has been out since then trying to provoke violence.

When this goes to court – and undoubtedly it will in some form – DOJ will be stuck defending the premise that DOD has to invade Portland because right wingers with close ties to the President traveled across the country to stoke unrest.

And they did so in conjunction with an invasion premised on persistent false propaganda shown on Fox News.

Sunday, Trump was babbling some more about what's going on in Portland, claiming that the reason Mayors don't want the Guard is that they're too terrified of ... the inflated frog personas, I guess.

**Kristi Noem dresses up
a Russian useful idiot
to produce propaganda**

about Chicago

Which leads us to Chicago.

I suggested, last week, that one reason Trump's immigration invasions are so unpopular is they result in so many videos showing ICE butt cracks and beer bellies, poorly trained-men rolling around in a street like greased pigs as they try to arrest brown men. That negative spectacle, going viral, has drowned out the staged attempts to pitch the violence against brown people in eroticized terms.

Which is an important thing to remember when reviewing just the last few days of outrageous abuse: there is the abuse, there is the staged spectacle, and there is the effort (as with Nick Sortor) to use the resultant spectacle to provide a pretext to justify further invasion.

Consider that DHS produced a highly produced video of its assault on a South Shore apartment building last week, which may do more to explain the timing of the raid – which started at 1AM and thus necessitated strobe lighting – than any law enforcement purpose (to say nothing of the fact that judges ordinarily require warrants be executed after dawn). Since it was hours before even the US citizens detained in the raid got back into their apartments, there were few live videos of the raid – though one neighbor took a picture of Noem's goons apparently traveling the same way the extremist group, Patriot Front, travels: in the back of a rental truck.



Agents conducted an immigration raid in South Shore early Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2025. Credit: Courtesy of KT O'Loughlin

It wasn't until after residents were able to return to their homes that they found that ICE had taken an already squalid place into a hell hole.

Dan Jones stood outside with police officers to file a report after his valuables – from his mattress and iPad down to his air fryer – were stolen after agents broke his door.

Jones slept at an aunt's house following the raid and returned to find clothing and garbage that wasn't his all over his apartment floor.

A small moving crew said they had been hired after the raid to clear out now-vacant units – but didn't say by who. Doors were boarded up. In one room, there were zip ties and blood stains on the floor next to baby shoes. Flies swarmed around open fridges.

Water damage had caved in ceilings. Strollers and air conditioners and more things left behind blocked the middle of dark hallways. The lobby elevators were broken, with their buttons perpetually lit on the down arrow.

There was a strong odor everywhere.

Jones said the building's "dirty"

conditions predated the raid, but this was the worst he'd seen the place. It was the first of the month and his rent was due.

"It looks like hell," Jones said. "ICE really just a gang."

There's reason to suspect that one beneficiary of this raid, like similar ones in Colorado targeted at apartments significantly rented by Venezuelans, is the slum landlord who had neglected the building.

As I noted, Illinois' lawsuit against the Federal government focuses on how Noem and her chief goon, Greg Bovino, staged a number of other photo ops around the city, including the confrontation they staged with protestors.

I've also laid out the significant discrepancies in the claims surrounding CBP's shooting of Marimar Martinez, discrepancies that could doom that prosecution even if the central allegation, that she rammed the CBP vehicle, were true (which her attorney contests).

Where Noem's urge to create propaganda may get her in trouble is how she invited Russia's useful idiot, Benny Johnson, to tag along *wearing Border Patrol armor*.



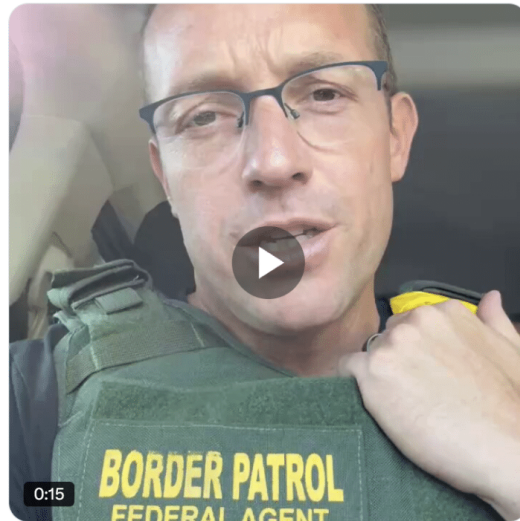
Benny Johnson @bennyjohnson · Oct 3



I am on the ground in Chicago with ICE and the Department of Homeland Security. I'll be covering their immigration enforcement operations today.

Things are already popping off. Secretary Noem is on the ground with us. It will be an interesting day with [@Sec.Noem](#).

Roll with us...



Among other things Benny did on his cosplay cop caper was to post a video of protestors as they were being arrested, claiming they were being arrested for "VIOLENT ASSAULT."



Benny Johnson
@bennyjohnson

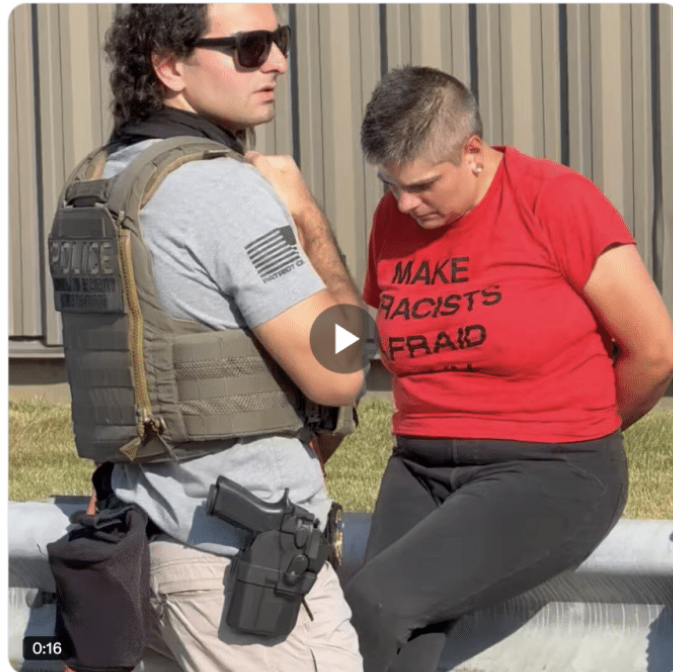
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LIB LINEUP: I saw dozens of Democrat domestic terrorists arrested today for **VIOLENT ASSAULT** on federal law enforcement. Every activist here attacked ICE agents in broad daylight just for enforcing American law.

No one is above the law.

Democrats are the party of violence...



10:07 PM · Oct 3, 2025 · 1.7M Views

Of the Federal charges filed since then, just one has been from Broadview (it was assault, but even that one sounds like someone charged for being pushed by the Feds). If, in fact, these people weren't charged – much less with assault – this would be slander. Since he was dolled up as a "Border Patrol Federal Agent," even if they were arrested, this will be a privacy violation that might endanger any charges the Feds tried to file.

Worse, Benny's AI slop video from the cosplay should make it easy for Chicago to show that – as in Portland – Trump's people are simply making (literal) shit up about Chicago.



In multiple states, Trump's Administration is relying on provocateurs (in Benny's case, once funded by the Russian government and still scrutinized for his unnatural YouTube growth) to spread outright slop claims to justify these invasions.

There's so many ways this could backfire.

Kilmar Abrego gets Vindictive Prosecution discovery

Which brings us, after much delay, to the potential consequences for all this.

The other day, Judge Waverly Crenshaw granted Kilmar Abrego discovery associated with his motion for vindictive prosecution. He cited a range of public comments government officials made about the case. He focused closely on Todd Blanche's admission that the government only started investigating Abrego after his habeas case got traction.

Most tellingly, Attorney General Bondi's direct report, Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche, linked Abrego's criminal charges to Abrego's civil lawsuit in Maryland. Strikingly, during a television interview Deputy Attorney

General Blanche revealed that the government started “investigating” Abrego after “a judge in Maryland . . . questioned” the government’s decision, found that it “had no right to deport him,” and “accus[ed] [the government] of doing something wrong.” Kilmar Abrego Garcia was indicted on ‘very serious’ charges, US deputy attorney general says, Fox News (June 6, 2025), <https://www.foxnews.com/video/6373969491112>.

[snip]

Deputy Attorney General Blanche’s remarkable statements could directly establish that the motivations for Abrego’s criminal charges stem from his exercise of his constitutional and statutory rights to bring suit against the Executive Official Defendants, rather than a genuine desire to prosecute him for alleged criminal misconduct. ¹

¹ It may be that Deputy Attorney General Blanche’s opinion distressed former Chief of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Middle District of Tennessee, Ben Schrader. It is alleged that Mr. Schrader resigned on May 21, 2025—the day Abrego was indicted—because of what some have suggested were his “concerns that th[is] case was being pursued for political reasons.” Katherine Faulders et al., Kilmar Abrego Garcia Brought Back to US, Appears in Court on Charges of Smuggling Migrants, ABC News (June 6, 2025), <https://abcnews.go.com/US/mistakenly-deported-kilmar-abrego-garcia-back-usface/story?id=121333122>.

Judge Crenshaw suggested this list, from Abrego’s lawyers, would be a good starting point for discovery (though he said bullet e should be

narrowed):

- a. Material concerning the predication and reasons for opening the investigation that led to the indictment, including, but not limited to, communications between the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) and DHS, such as email, text messages, and other correspondence;
- b. Communications among DOJ, DHS, the State Department, and/or the White House about the inception or progress of the investigation**, such as email, text messages, and other correspondence;
- c. Material concerning the decision made by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) and/or Homeland Security Investigations (“HSI”) in or around 2022 not to pursue any investigation or prosecution of the November 30, 2022 traffic stop;
- d. Material concerning the government’s change in position and decision to prosecute this case;
- e. Material concerning negotiations and the decision to return Mr. Abrego to the United States after he was removed from the United States to El Salvador in March of 2025, including, but not limited to, communications among DOJ, DHS, the State Department, the White House, and/or the government of El Salvador, such as email, text messages, and other correspondence;
- f. Material concerning the departure of Ben Schrader**, formerly the Chief of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Nashville, Tennessee, whose resignation was reportedly prompted “by concerns” that the instant case “was being pursued for political reasons.”¹ See, e.g., *United States v. Adams*, 870 F.2d 1140, 1146 (6th Cir. 1989)

(allowing discovery in connection with vindictive prosecution claim); United States v. Fieger, No. 07-CR-20414, 2008 WL 205244, at *16 (E.D. Mich. Jan. 24, 2008), as amended (Feb. 1, 2008). [my emphasis]

Bullets b and f get you directly from decisions made in the White House and shared with Blanche to their effect on the AUSA who quit because of the way this went down – and it may well lead to a deposition of both Blanche and Schrader.

We're in uncharted territory here. Even if DOJ doesn't find a way to appeal this, there will be a heated fight over privileged communications (which will implicate Trump v. US when this inevitably gets to SCOTUS).

But this was the predictable outcome of a bunch of boneheaded things DHS and DOJ did back in April.

It's also a measure of where all the things they're doing right now could be headed ... a few months down the road.

* The "do something bitch" comment is what a CBP officer said before shooting Marimar Martinez on Saturday in Chicago.

Update: Now Oregon's GOP is making fabrications about what Portland looks like, based off old pictures of South America. And Broadview's Mayor is claiming ICE made false 911 calls to their office.