

URGENT ACTION

RELEASE JOURNALIST SHOT AND DETAINED BY ICE

Richard Parias is a citizen journalist who reports on issues in Los Angeles, California, including immigration enforcement raids. On October 21, 2025, he was driving away from his home when masked immigration agents, waiting in unmarked vehicles, surrounded his car with their vehicles and shot him in the arm. He has been detained at the Adelanto ICE Processing Center for nearly a year with persistent severe pain and swelling from the gunshot wound and is not receiving medical care. We demand Richard's immediate release from detention for immediate medical attention and protect his right to free expression.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **UA 111.26**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Thomas Giles, ICE Field Office Director
300 North Los Angeles St., Room 7631
Los Angeles, CA 90012
USA
LosAngeles.Outreach@ice.dhs.gov

Dear Field Office Director Giles,

I call for the release of citizen journalist **Carlitos Ricardo Parias Rames** (A#246-059-603). In October 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents shot and critically injured Mr. Parias while attempting to arrest him outside his home. I am concerned that he has been detained at the Adelanto ICE Processing Center, a facility where four people have died since September 2025.

Despite the two judges who presided over the criminal case ordering his release from federal custody on bond in November 2025, Mr. Parias was handed over to ICE. One month later, the criminal case was dismissed. Yet, ICE continues to detain him unlawfully in cruel conditions and deny him the medical care he needs. Mr. Parias continues to suffer from the lingering effects of the gunshot wound involving pain and swelling while being denied adequate medical care. Despite this, he continues to report and sound the alarm on the treatment and care of other people detained inside Adelanto, including the presence of worms in the drinking water.

I am concerned that Mr. Parias was targeted by ICE due to his work as a citizen journalist. Months prior to his arrest, federal agents physically assaulted him while he was covering an immigration raid and wearing his 'PRESS' vest. His arrest and detention are part of a broader erosion of human rights in the United States in which immigration authorities are implementing a policy of mass detention and deportation, and commonly repressing free expression exercised by journalists who are immigrants.

I urge you to immediately release Mr. Parias from detention so that he may receive critical medical attention, due process in his immigration proceedings, and continue to exercise his right to freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Carlitos Ricardo Parias is a citizen journalist in Los Angeles, California. He is a Mexican citizen and has lived in the USA since 2002. With a [TikTok](#) following of over 126,000, he has been [recognized](#) by a Los Angeles city councilmember for his on-the-ground reporting, including on immigration enforcement raids, and has become a well-known figure in his community. In June 2025, federal agents [assaulted](#) him as he was [documenting](#) an immigration raid and wearing a 'PRESS' vest. Reportedly, local bystanders intervened and took him to get medical attention and federal agents did not pursue him further that day.

On October 21, 2025, masked ICE agents waited in unmarked vehicles outside of Mr. Parias's home. While Mr. Parias was driving away from his home, ICE agents boxed in his vehicle. As they got out of their car and approached him, one agent shot Mr. Parias in the arm from the passenger side, causing critical injuries. Mr. Parias was hospitalized for a few days, during which the government also charged him for "assaulting a federal officer" because the tires from his vehicle shredded as his boxed-in car accelerated, causing tire fragments to scatter in the air and hit some agents. This charge is frequently claimed by ICE agents against immigrant members of the communities to portray them as violent criminals and is often found baseless in court.

Two separate judges had ordered Mr. Parias released on bail, but the government instead transferred him to Adelanto ICE Processing Center. In December 2025, a judge dismissed the criminal charges against him, but Richard remains in ICE detention with persistent severe pain and swelling from the gunshot wound. Adelanto ICE Processing Center is an immigration detention center that organizations have [called](#) to be shut down due to human rights concerns. Four people have died at Adelanto since September 2025. Mr. Parias has been detained there for nearly a year with minimal medical attention to address his persistent pain and swelling from his gunshot wounds. His lawyers described that his arm "looks swollen and the wrong color" 10 months after the shooting. While in detention, Mr. Parias exposed unsanitary drinking water that contains worms at Adelanto.

Since January 2025, the Trump administration has repeatedly attacked journalists for reporting on government actions and abuses. Examples of these attacks include the deportation of USA-based journalist and asylum-seeker, **Mario Guevara**, who reported on ICE raids; the detention of USA-based journalist and asylum seeker, **Estefany Rodriguez**; the ongoing prosecution against journalist, **Georgia Fort**; and other journalists who reported on an anti-ICE protests at Cities Church in Minnesota; the subpoenas issued against reporters at the New York Times and Wall Street Journal for sources and phone records; the FBI seizure of personal and professional devices from a Washington, DC, reporter's home; the White House's launch of a website focused on attacking journalists and media outlets; and the weaponization of the Federal Communications Commission's authority to approve licensing and corporate media mergers. The targeting and discrediting of reporters and the media by those in power is a common authoritarian practice. Narrative control and silencing dissent or non-aligned reporting are key strategies for those in power to seek to act without accountability.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: January 31, 2027

NAME AND PRONOUN: Richard Parias, he/him