



MINNESOTA
TRUTH COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING BRIEF

Public Meeting #1: Violations of the Constitution and the Rule of Law



“I still feel the fear. The fear of hearing someone knocking on the door. ICE agents did not come into our apartment building asking questions. They would get anybody in sight. We saw them take people, anybody who was there. And we heard the anxiety of the voices of people calling out for help. That is when we understood we were not protected by our papers, or legal documents, or permits that said that we were here legally. They were getting us because we were Latinos.”

— Participant in Minnesota Truth Council listening session

WHAT PEOPLE EXPERIENCED

Community Preparation and Response

“The community response was not spontaneous. Immigrant- and refugee-led networks carried core leadership, both during the crisis and through years of preparation before it. Mutual aid scaled overnight. Legal observation, rapid information sharing, cross-network coordination, and broad community participation made collective action possible. ... What unfolded in Minnesota offers a window into what civic infrastructure looks like when it is built before crisis hits, and what it takes to sustain it.”

Source: “How Minneapolis Community Organizations Responded to Operation Metro Surge,” Stanford Social Innovation Review / McKnight Foundation series, July 13, 2026 — <https://ssir.org/minnesota-operation-metro-surge>

WHAT THE NUMBERS SHOW

Emergency Room Visits

126 suspected protest-related emergency department visits identified in Hennepin, Dakota, and Ramsey counties. Black individuals made up **36%** of the protest-related visits, substantially higher than the norm.

Source: Minnesota Department of Health syndromic surveillance data on protest-related emergency department visits at hospitals in Dakota, Hennepin, and Ramsey counties, Dec. 4, 2025, to March 1, 2026.

WHAT PEOPLE EXPERIENCED

Detention

“There was no humanity.”

— A young Muslim woman and legal refugee, speaking through a translator, on being shackled at the ankles and locked in a Whipple bathroom with three men for 24 hours, with no bedding or pillows and one sandwich a day.

Source/context: “No humanity”: Detainees describe conditions inside Whipple Federal Building”, The Minnesota Star Tribune, Jan. 31, 2026.

“Not a single patient that I have talked to got medical care of any kind, none whatsoever, while they were in detention. They are coming back with their chronic diseases completely out of control as well. One patient knew exactly the names of medications, the dosages and everything. She was asking for it and didn’t get a single dose.”

— Health care professional

Source: Testimony to the Minnesota Truth Council through the story collection process.

WHAT THE NUMBERS SHOW

Interactions with Law Enforcement

Survey data shows that:

People of color who interacted with federal immigration enforcement agents in Minneapolis were **37%** more likely to be randomly stopped while walking compared to White respondents.

In Minneapolis, **23%** of people who interacted with federal immigration enforcement agents said that when agents asked to enter their home and they said no, the agents entered anyway. In Saint Paul, it was **13%**.

Source: U.S. Immigration Policy Center, University of California San Diego, survey of 1,390 respondents aged 18 and older in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Feb. 17, 2026, to March 6, 2026.

WHAT PEOPLE EXPERIENCED

Rights Concern

“Officers threw flash bangs and tear gas in my car. I got six kids in the car... My 6-month-old can’t even breathe. This was flipped over,” Shawn said, holding up his child’s car seat. “My car filled with tear gas, I’m trying to pull my kids from the car.”

— Shawn Jackson, describing the moment his family’s SUV filled with chemical irritants after an agent rolled a canister and threw a flash-bang beneath the vehicle in north Minneapolis. His family was caught in clashes between protesters and law enforcement. Three of his children were hospitalized, including a 6-month-old baby, who temporarily stopped breathing during the incident.

Source: “North Minneapolis ICE shooting: Children hospitalized after flash bang, tear gas hits van,” FOX 9, Jan. 15, 2026.

WHAT THE NUMBERS SHOW

Misuse of Crowd-Control Weapons

94 documented incidents of misused crowd-control weapons, often causing injuries, by federal, state, and local agents in Minnesota. These accounted for nearly a quarter of the nationwide total from June 2025 to May 2026.

76% of these incidents in Minnesota were attributed to federal Department of Homeland Security agencies with the rest attributed to state and local law enforcement or “unknown.”

27% of the documented misuse of crowd control weapons incidents in Minnesota targeted journalists.

Source: Physicians for Human Rights and the Human Rights Center at the University of California, Berkeley, documented incidents involving crowd-control weapons in Minnesota, June 2025 to June 2026.