# Trump orders National Guard deployment in LA amid disputed ICE protest claims



Donald Trump recently sparked controversy by invoking rhetoric reminiscent of his past statements regarding protests and civil unrest, this time in relation to demonstrations in Los Angeles linked to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids. In a post on Truth Social, Trump accused local officials, specifically California Governor Gavin Newsom and Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, of failing to maintain order, and threatened a significant federal intervention if they did not "do their jobs." He referenced "riots and looters," a detail that critics noted lacked substantiation against reports indicating that the protests were largely peaceful and centered around opposition to ICE activities.

The context surrounding these protests is vital for understanding the escalating tensions. The demonstrations arose following ICE operations that reportedly involved multiple arrests across Los Angeles and surrounding areas, including a controversial raid that occurred just prior to the protests. Eyewitness reports indicated that many of the demonstrations were calls for justice rather than chaotic riots, challenging Trump’s narrative.

Moreover, Trump's comments drew stark parallels to his rhetoric during the nationwide protests following George Floyd's death in May 2020, when he used brutal language to characterise demonstrators, previously stating, “when the looting starts, the shooting starts.” This phrase, historically linked to a 1967 Miami police chief amidst civil rights upheavals, evokes a legacy of racial repression and has continued to haunt Trump’s public engagements. While he has since refrained from using the phrase directly, his penchant for incendiary language remains a feature of his communications, as evidenced by derogatory comments made about immigrant communities.

As tensions escalated, Trump ordered the deployment of 2,000 National Guard troops to Los Angeles with the intention of restoring order, leading critics to highlight a potential authoritarian overtone reminiscent of his first term in office. “The federal government is taking over the California National Guard and deploying 2,000 soldiers in Los Angeles — not because there is a shortage of law enforcement, but because they want a spectacle,” Governor Newsom remarked, asserting that such a declaration was more about creating a visual show of force than addressing actual needs on the ground.

In this charged atmosphere, local leaders are expressing concerns regarding the president's approach. Accusations of unnecessary escalation have emerged, with many calling for calm and peaceful dialogue as a means of addressing the real issues driving community unrest. Mayor Bass echoed these sentiments, urging residents to avoid violence and expressing her disapproval of federal intervention.

Historically, Trump’s stance on immigration has been uncompromising, and this recent upheaval reflects a broader trend in his administration’s policies toward migrants. Looking ahead, with plans reportedly in place for even heavier mobilisations against undocumented immigrants should he return to office, there are valid concerns about how these interactions between federal and local authorities may shape future protests.

The events unfolding in Los Angeles serve as a critical flashpoint in the ongoing national conversation about law enforcement, immigration, and civil rights — a discourse that both illuminates and complicates the complexities within communities grappling with federal policies and local governance amid significant sociopolitical upheaval.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-ice-los-angeles-looting-shooting-b2765852.html), [[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/June_2025_Los_Angeles_protests)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-ice-los-angeles-looting-shooting-b2765852.html), [[2]](https://www.apnews.com/article/bdbbc8e78c66adb66047e331ced6c2d3), [[6]](https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-03-01/hundreds-protest-trump-deportation-policies-during-inland-empire-demonstration)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/legal/trump-plan-use-military-deportations-should-stand-up-court-2024-11-26/), [[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_protests_against_Donald_Trump)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/June_2025_Los_Angeles_protests), [[6]](https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-03-01/hundreds-protest-trump-deportation-policies-during-inland-empire-demonstration)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-ice-los-angeles-looting-shooting-b2765852.html), [[2]](https://www.apnews.com/article/bdbbc8e78c66adb66047e331ced6c2d3)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-ice-los-angeles-looting-shooting-b2765852.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.apnews.com/article/bdbbc8e78c66adb66047e331ced6c2d3> - In April 2024, President Donald Trump expressed intentions to deploy the National Guard to deport millions of migrants if re-elected. This plan signifies a significant escalation in his anti-immigration stance, reminiscent of his previous term. While he did not detail operational specifics, Trump indicated a willingness to consider using active-duty military forces if necessary. Historically, the use of military forces for deportations has been restricted, and such a move would likely face legal challenges under the Posse Comitatus Act, which limits military involvement in domestic law enforcement activities.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/legal/trump-plan-use-military-deportations-should-stand-up-court-2024-11-26/> - In November 2024, President-elect Donald Trump's proposal to deploy the U.S. military for deporting undocumented migrants was deemed unprecedented but potentially legally permissible. The plan involves military support roles without direct engagement in law enforcement, which could be allowed under certain federal exceptions. However, using the military for enforcement could face legal challenges under the Posse Comitatus Act, which restricts military involvement in domestic law enforcement. The National Guard, under state control, may bypass these restrictions, but federalizing them could face legal scrutiny if not justified by severe law and order disruptions.
4. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_protests_against_Donald_Trump> - The 'Timeline of protests against Donald Trump' provides a chronological overview of various demonstrations in response to Trump's policies and actions. Notably, on June 7, 2025, protests erupted in Paramount, California, following an ICE raid the previous day where 44 people were arrested. This incident highlights the ongoing public response to immigration enforcement actions during Trump's administration.
5. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/June_2025_Los_Angeles_protests> - The 'June 2025 Los Angeles protests' article details a series of civil disturbances in Los Angeles that began on June 6, 2025, in response to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrests. The protests escalated, leading to the deployment of 2,000 California National Guard members to quell the unrest. The article also covers the reactions of local officials, including Governor Gavin Newsom and Mayor Karen Bass, who criticized the federal government's actions and expressed concerns about escalating tensions.
6. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-03-01/hundreds-protest-trump-deportation-policies-during-inland-empire-demonstration> - In March 2025, over 200 people marched through downtown Ontario, California, protesting President Trump's deportation policies. The demonstration was part of a broader movement against mass deportation, with participants chanting slogans and waving flags in support of the immigrant community. This event underscores the ongoing public opposition to the administration's immigration enforcement actions.
7. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-02-28/volunteers-patrol-neighborhoods> - In February 2025, community groups in Los Angeles, such as Unión del Barrio, organized patrols to monitor and inform residents about federal immigration agents' activities. These volunteers aim to protect the community by alerting residents of their rights and preventing misinformation. The patrols reflect the heightened vigilance and community response to immigration enforcement actions during the Trump administration.