

Iowa Code Chapter 27A

LOCAL ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAWS

COMPLAINT PROCESS AND FORM

Iowa Code Chapter 27A was enacted in 2018. The statute imposes requirements and restrictions on “local entities” (a defined term in the statute) and law enforcement agencies. The requirements and restrictions include the following:

1. Law enforcement agencies are required to fully comply with federal immigration detainer requests and other legal documents.
2. Local entities are prohibited from adopting or enforcing policies that prohibit or discourage enforcement of federal immigration laws.
3. Not later than January 1, 2019, law enforcement agencies are required to adopt written policies regarding enforcement of immigration laws that are consistent with the statute.
4. Local entities are prohibited from considering race, skin color, language spoken, or national origin while enforcing immigration laws, except as permitted under the U.S. Constitution or the Iowa Constitution.
5. Local entities are prohibited from collecting information about national origin from crime victims, witnesses, or those reporting an alleged public offense, unless the information is pertinent to the investigation of the public offense. The term “public offense” does not include moving traffic violations.

Any person, including a federal agency, may file a complaint with the Iowa Attorney General alleging that a local entity has violated the statute. The complaint must be accompanied with evidence to support the allegation of violation and must include all the evidence you have to support the violation. The complaint will not be valid unless the Attorney General determines the violation was intentional.

The statute lays out a procedure for the review of valid complaints by the Attorney General. Local entities are given opportunities to correct violations. The statute empowers the Attorney General to file a civil action for on-going, intentional violations and provides for loss of state funding in certain cases.

Printable Complaint Form for Alleged Violations of Iowa Code Chapter 27A:

Click [here](#) for a printable complaint form. After completing and printing, mail, fax or email to the contact information below. In order for the Attorney General to pursue a complaint, you must include your full name, address, and phone number.

NOTE: Please include *copies* of any additional supporting documents or evidence and retain the *original* documents for your records.

Contact:

[Email: Webteam@ag.iowa.gov](mailto:Webteam@ag.iowa.gov)

Fax: 515-281-6771

Phone: 515-281-5164

Mail: Office of the Attorney General
Hoover State Office Building
1305 E. Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0196