



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Puente to rally outside ICE Phoenix Field Office to demand Biden-Harris end the use of Title 42 to expel migrants

Phoenix, Arizona--In observation of the National Day of Action against immigration detention and deportation, on September 23, 2021 at 5:00pm Puente Human Rights Movement (Puente) is rallying outside of the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Phoenix Field Office calling for the Biden administration to end the use of Title 42 to expel migrants.

Last week a federal judge directed the Biden administration to stop using the Title 42 authority to expel migrant families with children from the U.S.-Mexico border. The judge has given the Biden administration two weeks to adjust its use of policy at the border. The Biden administration has already appealed this decision. In August alone, ICE and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) used Title 42 to "expel" 16,200 parents and children traveling as families, a process which Puente characterizes as unlawful deportation without due process and a violation of the rights of asylum seekers. Puente is calling for the Biden administration to end the use of Title 42 to expel migrants in all cases.

Puente first began advocating against the use of Title 42 in immigration policy in 2020 during the rise of COVID-19, when the former Trump administration appropriated the obscure public health code to expel migrants by the thousands without due process. Despite promising to end the use of Title 42 in his administration's immigration policy, the Biden administration has continued and even ramped up its use of the Trump-era policy. Title 42 has already been used to expel 1 million migrants from the Southern border into Mexico, including asylum seekers who are unable to apply for humanitarian protection due to the policy's enforcement.

Puente's direct action at the Phoenix ICE Field Office on September 23 is part of a National Day of Action against immigration detention and deportations organized by Detention Watch Network and other partners organizations. Migrant rights organizations across the country are coming together to rally against Biden's inaction on ICE's deadly and inhumane detention system, ongoing systemic abuses in CBP and ICE, to call for a permanent end to immigration detention and a pathway to citizenship for all 11 million undocumented migrants.

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Puente Human Rights Movement is a grassroots migrant justice organization based in Phoenix, Arizona that develops, educates, and empowers migrant communities to protect and defend families and communities.