

The Michael Davis, Jr. and Danny Oliver in Honor of State and Local Law Enforcement Act (“Davis-Oliver Act”) calls for increased entanglement between immigration enforcement and state and local law enforcement which undermines existing protections for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. This will reduce the likelihood of immigrant victims or witnesses reporting crimes and create unprecedented fear for immigrant families and communities. The following reports illustrate these problems.

- If immigrants are afraid to call the police because of fear of deportation, they become more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation and are driven further into the shadows. Since the beginning of 2017, the LAPD reported that the “sexual assaults reported by Latinos in Los Angeles have dropped 25 percent, and domestic violence reports by Latinos have decreased by 10 percent compared to the same period last year.” *Michael Balsamo. “LAPD: Latinos report fewer sex crimes amid immigration fears” Associated Press (March 22, 2017).*
- The Houston Police Department reported that the number of Hispanics reporting rape is down 42.8 percent from last year. Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo stressed that that government agencies should enforce immigration laws “in a manner that does not have a chilling effect on victims of violent crimes coming forward regardless of their immigration status.” *Brooke A. Lewis “HPD Chief Announces Decrease in Hispanics Reporting Rape and Violent Crimes Compared to Last Year” Houston Chronicle (April 6, 2017).*
- The Denver City Attorney reported that their office had to dismiss four separate domestic violence prosecutions because the undocumented **victims were afraid to continue with the case for fear of deportation.** *Mark Joseph Stern. “Bad for Undocumented Immigrants, a Gift to Domestic Abusers” Slate (March 8, 2017)*
- King County Prosecutor Daniel Satterburg recently stated, “When victims of crime are afraid to trust police and the courts, the only winners are violent people.” *Dan Satterburg. “Crackdown on Immigrants Undermines Public Safety” Seattle Times (March 24, 2017).*
- Chuck Wexler, Executive Director of the Police Executive Research Forum stated, “The reason police chiefs are so concerned is that an **unreported domestic violence case can become a reported homicide if police are not alerted,**” Wexler said. “It’s only a few months since the national perspective has changed, but I think most police chiefs would agree that for those who have large immigrant communities, this will definitely make them reticent about interacting with the police if they’re involved with witnessing a crime or are a victim.” *Lindsey Bever. “Hispanics ‘are going further into the shadows’ amid chilling immigration debate, police say” Washington Post (May 12, 2017).*
- In Camden County in New Jersey, there was a 6 percent decrease in service calls from communities predominately consisting of undocumented individuals. Camden County New Jersey Police Chief Scott Thompson was quoted in the Washington Post as stating:
 - “The fear is palpable, and it’s manifested in how the community has altered its behavior or, I should say, it’s altered its relationship with the police department in a reluctance to communicate with us,” Thomson said that when it comes to deportation woes, people in those communities are not differentiating among local, state and federal officers. “They’re going to look at all police in the same light.” *Lindsey Bever. “Hispanics ‘are going further into the shadows’ amid chilling immigration debate, police say” Washington Post (May 12, 2017).*