

9/3/2025

Joint Statement from Lake County Government and the City of North Chicago

Lake County Government and the City of North Chicago are aware of recent reports regarding unprecedented federal operations that will be based out of Naval Station Great Lakes. We understand that these developments have created anxiety and uncertainty for many in our community, and we want to speak directly to those concerns.

First and foremost, these activities are coordinated entirely at the federal level. Under Illinois law, local and state law enforcement agencies do not and will not participate in federal immigration enforcement. Immigration matters remain solely under federal jurisdiction and our local resources remain focused on serving and protecting our residents.

We know that this situation may cause fear, especially for immigrant families. For residents seeking assistance or reliable information, we encourage you to connect with trusted organizations such as the [North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic](#), [Prairie State Legal Services](#) and [Mano-A-Mano Family Resource Center](#). These groups are available to provide guidance, resources and support during this time. Residents are also reminded that everyone has fundamental rights under the law, regardless of immigration status. Resources on “Know Your Rights” are available through these organizations and through the [Illinois Attorney General’s Office](#), and we urge community members to review and share them.

North Chicago is a proud and diverse city, defined by faith, resilience, compassion and courage. In the face of these federal operations, those values guide how we support one another and stand strong together. In the same spirit, Lake County is, and will continue to be, a welcoming community for all people, embracing every race, religion, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, age or ability. Lake County’s commitment to inclusion and dignity for every resident will not waiver, no matter the challenges we face.

It is important to emphasize that the presence of these operations should not reflect negatively on Naval Station Great Lakes, its leadership or the men and women who serve there. The base has long been a cornerstone of our region and our partnership will continue to remain strong.

While these developments may feel unsettling, please know this: you are not alone. Your community stands with you and together we will navigate this moment with care, steadiness and resolve.