

From: [Lisa Thomas](#)
To: [Laura Stone](#)
Cc: [James Drumm](#)
Subject: Fw: Publicly Denounce Wrongful, Discriminatory Refugee Arrests, Detention, and Attempts to Remove Thousands of Refugees from Our Neighborhoods
Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 10:44:13 AM

Laura,

Please attach under correspondence on the Feb. 2 agenda. I have confirmed that Ms. DiMella is a Coventry resident.

Thank you.

Lisa Thomas
Chairwoman, Coventry Town Council
Member, CT State Comptroller's Healthcare Cabinet
Member, CT Education Mandates Review Advisory Council
Member, CT Grown4 CT kids Advisory Council
860.930.7303
PLEASE NOTE: my new email is LThomas@coventry-ct.gov

From: Virginia DiMella <Virginia.DiMella.992589526@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2026 10:27 AM
To: Lisa Thomas <lthomas@coventry-ct.gov>
Subject: (EXTERNAL MESSAGE)Publicly Denounce Wrongful, Discriminatory Refugee Arrests, Detention, and Attempts to Remove Thousands of Refugees from Our Neighborhoods

You don't often get email from virginia.dimella.992589526@p2a.co. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Virginia and as your constituent from Coventry, CT, I am outraged by DHS's January 9th launch of Operation "Post-Admission Refugee Reverification and Integrity Strengthening" or "PARRIS." This followed media reports from November 24, 2025 of a USCIS memo that ordered a "review and re-interview" of all refugees who entered via the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program under the Biden administration.

Operation PARRIS has an "initial focus" on 5,600 resettled refugees in Minnesota who have refugee status and have not yet received their green cards. Many details remain unclear, but some recently-arrived refugees in Minnesota have already been arrested – and then flown to and detained in other states like Texas – by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Operation PARRIS compounds the significant harm caused by DHS since the Trump administration's escalation of immigration actions across the country.

Operation PARRIS is cruel, illegal, and a massive waste of limited USCIS resources. All refugees in the U.S. have gone through an extremely extensive vetting and screening process and are some of the most vetted travelers in the world – checks that were continuously improved across previous administrations. This operation is also deeply destabilizing for

individual refugees and refugee families who already survived violence and persecution. USCIS's implication that there is a chance these individuals don't meet the refugee definition is baseless, defamatory, and reckless. And it is unconscionable that refugees we've already welcomed – for whom this country has provided freedom, safety, opportunity, and a path to citizenship – could be yanked out of their communities, and potentially sent back to places where their lives could be in danger.

I urge you to take immediate action and:

(1) Hold the administration accountable to terminate Operation PARRIS, end these harmful enforcement actions, and halt any actions that would terminate refugee status, remove protections, stop required processing, or retroactively review entire cohorts of resettled individuals.

(2) Demand full transparency for any refugees arrested, detained, interviewed, or removed: provide all documents, analyses, screening protocols, and timelines behind this operation, and ensure that statutory consultation requirements were followed.

(3) Speak out publicly and do everything in their power to safeguard their refugee communities.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this important matter.

Best,
Virginia