

Sun. Oct 12: Week 11 of Vigils: DOJ admits detainees do not all have deportation orders, leaders of faith and conscience say, stop the lies and free them all

What: Vigil outside the gates of Alligator Alcatraz to demand the detention camp be shut down, that the people being detained be freed, and that the ICE sweeps that are abducting, detaining and deporting our neighbors come to an end.

Who: Leaders of Faith and Conscience and the general public

When/Where: Sunday 10/12, Vigil from 5:00-6:00PM
Across from entrance to Alligator Alcatraz on Route 41
54585 Tamiami Trl E, Ochopee, FL 34141
Coordinates: 25.861821,-80.898036

Why: This week, the US Department of Justice acknowledged that [people being detained in Alligator Alcatraz do not all have deportation orders](#), in direct contradiction to Governor Ron DeSantis's claims, AP News reported. According to the DOJ some have likely never been in removal proceedings. This stunning admission came as a lawsuit concerning detainees civil rights including the right to confidentially consult with their attorney, moved forward.

"The government is getting caught in its own lies about who is being detained," said Noelle Damico, Director of Social Justice at the Workers Circle, a national Jewish nonprofit that has been organizing the vigils with Florida leaders of faith and conscience. "These are people who by and large have been living and working in communities across the nation; many have work authorization and have even been taken from ICE courts where they had been checking in without incident until the cruel sweeps, detentions and deportations started this year."

Yesterday the American Prospect reported that the US Department of Labor issued a stark warning that [immigration raids are posing immediate dangers to America's food supply](#) due to a lack of immigrant workers,

"Let's be clear, [the state of Florida has been given \\$608 million from the federal government](#) to cover building and running this inhumane detention center to lock up our neighbors" said Rev. Nyaa Toussaint of First Church Miami and FIU's History Department. "Our country has become Sodom and Gomorrah, ICE resembles the gang of people outside of Lot's house terrorizing foreigners that we should radically hospitable to."

Now in its 11th week, the Alligator Alcatraz vigils have mobilized more than 2,000 people of faith and conscience in Florida alone and spurred new vigils in Tallahassee, Sarasota, Orlando, and in other states.

Weekly Sunday vigils outside Alligator Alcatraz will continue as long as people are being detained at the facility [in reprehensible conditions](#).

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