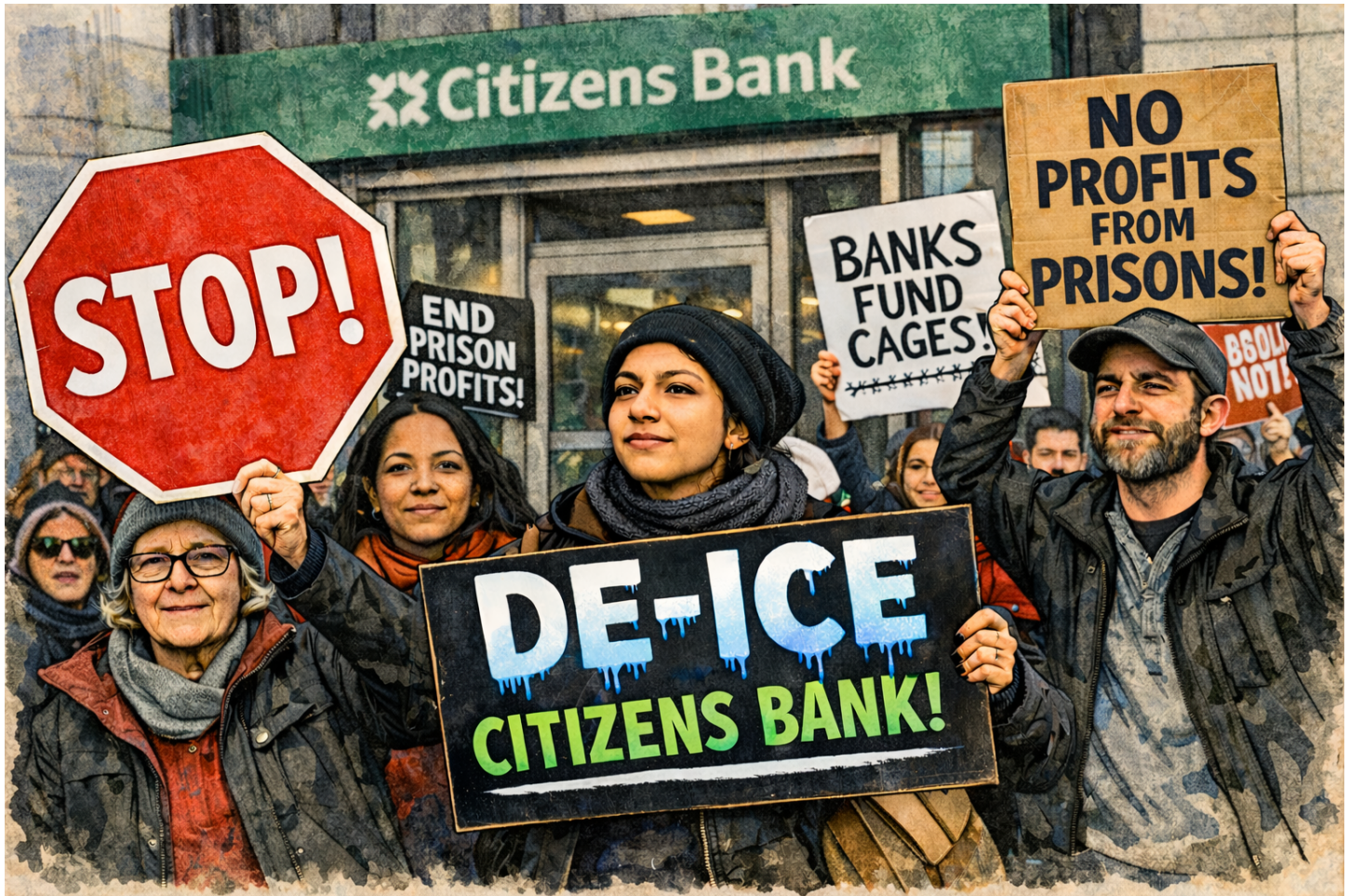


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Citizens Bank: Cruelty is Bad for Business!



Across the country, activists are organizing coordinated, targeted protests against Citizens Bank for its financial ties to CoreCivic and GEO Group, the for-profit companies that operate ICE detention facilities notorious for safety violations, human rights abuses, and preventable deaths.

In just three months, the De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition has expanded to 12 states plus DC, mobilizing thousands of activists. The March 7 day of action brought 70 protests across 12 states and Washington, DC, earning national attention, including a mention on The Rachel Maddow Show.

This campaign reflects well-established research on nonviolent movements, including the work of Erica Chenoweth, which shows that successful resistance efforts often target the “pillars of support” that sustain unjust policies—such as financial institutions, contractors, and corporate partners.

By focusing on banks that finance detention contractors, organizers aim to generate reputational, financial, and moral pressure that can prompt companies to withdraw support, weakening the broader infrastructure that enables harmful systems. The De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition seeks not only to raise public awareness but also to drive institutional shifts and defections within these networks.

On April 23, the Coalition will bring its message directly to corporate leadership with a protest at the bank’s annual shareholder meeting!

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Follow the steps below to stay informed and get involved. If you haven't already, sign up for the De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition. Join the Coalition in demanding that Citizens Bank stop profiting from the suffering of others!

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SOURCES

De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition (a multi-state coalition of activist groups organizing peaceful standouts to protest Citizens Bank's financial support to prison companies building and operating ICE detention centers across the US.

ACTION DETAILS

- 1. Sign Up for Actions of the Week:** Take the [DE-ICE Citizens Bank pledge here](#). You will receive in your inbox an Action of the Week to join the efforts of the De-ICE CB Coalition!

SAVE THE DATE: April 15-21, the Coalition needs your help to blanket social media with info about Citizen Bank's collaboration with ICE prison operators!

During the week leading up to Citizens Bank's annual shareholder meeting on April 23, the De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition is running a coordinated digital week of action to ensure that Citizens Bank's executives, board members, investors, and community partners understand exactly what Citizens is enabling by bankrolling CoreCivic and GEO Group.

Mark your calendars now, and make sure you are watching our social media and emails from April 15 through April 21!

Each day, you should repost the Coalition's new content and take the specific online actions they outline, like sharing the petition or emailing executives. We will give you everything you need to help out and get your friends to help too!

In the meantime, make sure you're following the Coalition on social media: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Bluesky](#)

- 2. Register and Attend:** DE-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition Mass Call - **4/16/26 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM EDT**, [Register Here](#)

Attend this Mass Call with the De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition to learn about what we are doing and how you can join this growing national movement.

- 3. Show Up For The People's Shareholders Meeting:**

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Join the De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition as it holds a People's Shareholder Meeting, outside the Citizens Bank National Headquarters in Providence, RI, while Citizens holds its annual shareholders meeting inside. Thursday, April 23, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM, [Register Here](#).

- 4. Write to Citizens Bank Leadership:** Whether you are a Citizens Bank customer or not, you can apply pressure by writing to the CEO to express your concerns. [Use this link to find templates](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Citizens Bank is financing the country's two largest prison companies, CoreCivic and the GEO Group, which are among the largest operators of ICE detention facilities nationally. Nearly 90% of people in ICE custody are being held in facilities run by for-profit prison companies, according to National Public Radio.

Facilities built and operated by CoreCivic and the GEO Group have been rife with reports of inhumane, punitive, and dangerous living conditions. Reports include allegations of serious medical neglect resulting in a growing number of preventable deaths, overcrowding, physical abuse, sexual assault, inadequate food and water, unsafe and unsanitary living conditions, and insufficient access to legal counsel. Multiple investigations and lawsuits have revealed broad systemic failures of accountability, transparency, and handling of serious complaints.

Citizens Bank has been providing loans, underwriting bonds, and providing credit to CoreCivic and GEO Group for a dozen years. It has played a key role in helping them access more than \$2.5 billion in financing. Despite persistent human rights and safety violations reported at their facilities, these companies continue to receive generous financial support.

In 2019, a slew of major banks ended their relationships with the private prison industry amid public pressure, while Providence-based Citizens strengthened its ties to the industry. In 2024, Citizens helped CoreCivic raise \$500 million by leading the bond sale and committing to purchase \$200 million of the bonds. In mid-2025 and early 2026, Citizens helped GEO Group increase its revolving credit line from \$310 million to \$550 million – a key step in helping the company expand as ICE detentions have skyrocketed and continue to grow.

Citizens Bank claims that they only “do business with organizations that conduct business in a lawful manner,” but it has yet to signal that it intends to sever ties.

The De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition seeks to influence Citizens Bank's financing support for these notorious companies and their deplorable facilities. Efforts include:

- publicity and social media campaigns,
- coordinated multi-state protests,
- Letter-writing to Bank leadership,
- encouraging account holders to complain to Citizens Bank leadership and transfer their accounts elsewhere, and
- applying shareholder pressure.

Faith groups that bank with Citizens Bank are being encouraged to transfer their accounts to other banks. A new project includes encouraging legislators and other elected officials, who use Citizens Bank

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for campaign finances, to publicly call on Citizens Bank to sever its ties with CoreCivic and the GEO Group.

[Learn more here.](#)

[De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition Website](#)

[Boycott Citizens Website](#)

[De-ICE Citizens Bank-Why and How](#)

[Video Montage of Jan 24 De-ICE Citizens Bank Event](#)

[Crawl, Walk, Run!](#) John Majercak, De-ICE Citizens Bank Coalition, Substack

Past IMC-CANs (older CANs may not have up-to-date information)

[August 20, 2025](#)

[January 6, 2026](#)

[February 18, 2026](#)

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