

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Activists Host Early Morning Noise Demonstration At Hilton CEO's House to Demand ICE Ban

**ARLINGTON, VA** - On Thursday, February 5, at sunrise, over 50 local activists rallied outside Hilton CEO Chris Nassetta's home in Arlington to protest the hotel brand's decision to house ICE as the agency invades Minneapolis and cities across the country.

The activists, including members of Sunrise DC, Families Not Feds, and other organizations local to the DC metro area, gathered before dawn in Rock Spring Park, then marched to Nassetta's house, where they sang, chanted, and played musical instruments. Protesters held up banners and signs that read "Hilton Houses ICE," "No Justice, No Sleep," and "We Are Wide Awake," emphasizing the hotel chain's role in recent ICE invasions.

"By renting rooms to ICE agents, Hilton allows them to launch massive attacks on cities, where they kidnap families and murder innocent people," said Stella Lovelady, an organizer with Sunrise DC. "We're here to wake Nassetta up to the horrors he and his brand are contributing to."

At the beginning of this year, the Trump administration [sent 2,000 ICE agents](#) to Minneapolis, where they abducted numerous residents including [5-year-old Liam Ramos](#) and his father and killed observers [Renee Goode](#) and [Alex Pretti](#). When the [Hampton Inn Lakeville Minneapolis](#) took a stand against this terror and canceled ICE bookings, Hilton responded by dropping them from the franchise.

"Instead of standing with their community, Hilton has chosen to profit off of state violence," said Will McBride, a member of the Families Not Feds Coalition and Sunrise DC. "Shame on Chris Nassetta for housing murderers."

Between music and chants, speakers demanded Nassetta direct Hilton to cancel all reservations by ICE agents, block them from reserving rooms in the future, reinstate the Hampton Inn Lakeville Minneapolis, and take a public stand against ICE terror.

"You cannot say you stand for safety while supporting systems that rip parents from their kids," said high school student Evelyn Rosales Flora, referring to Nassetta, in her speech. "You cannot claim neutrality while benefiting from cruelty. And you should be ashamed to look away while families are being torn apart behind closed doors."

The rally mirrored [near-nightly rallies in Minneapolis](#) in which locals hold noise demonstrations outside ICE agents' hotels, preventing them and other hotel guests from sleeping. Liana SC with

Sunrise Movement, a national youth-led movement which has hosted several of these “wide awake” protests, noted that hotels can prevent these disruptions by not housing ICE.

“Let this be a wake up call for Nassetta and all companies that are supporting ICE logistically, financially, or otherwise,” said Liana. “We’re going to keep up the pressure until we can all sleep safely.”

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Sunrise DC is a local hub of the national Sunrise Movement, a youth-led climate justice and anti-authoritarian organization fighting for collective liberation and a better future through a Green New Deal.

Families Not Feds is a growing group of advocacy organizations and community members working to end local law enforcement's ongoing collaboration with federal agents in Washington, DC.