

Board Chair McKeel & Board Members,

The undersigned are members of the congregation at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, who are also residents of Charlottesville/Albemarle/Nelson and other counties, who wish to express support for the jail to choose to NO LONGER inquire into citizenship status when booking inmates.

As Christians, we take seriously the call to welcome the stranger and to treat others as we would like to be treated. And as members of a sanctuary congregation, we know that loving our neighbor means taking concrete, embodied action to liberate others and keep them safe. We resolutely stand opposed to practices that separate families, further entrench mass incarceration, line the pockets of prison profiteers, dehumanize fellow human beings, work to sow fear in communities, and further erode trust between communities and institutions sworn to keep those communities safe. Especially now that HB 1150 has been passed, removing any and all legal requirement for inquiring into citizenship upon booking, there can be no process-related excuse for maintaining this harmful practice, just as there has never been a moral one.

We commit to following up on your decision either way. Please know that even more members of our congregation have contacted you privately, or will be joining the meeting to observe your vote tomorrow.

Best Regards,

Maria Chavalan-Sut  
Charlottesville

Para Dios todos somos hermanos, a los encargados de las carceles. No entregue su hermano a ICE.  
Translation: With God we are all brothers, those in charge of the jails: don't turn your brother over to ICE.

Rosina Snow  
Charlottesville

Debra Millier  
Albemarle County

Andrea Zimmerman  
Albemarle County

Theodore Homyck, Jr.  
Charlottesville

I believe we are all stressed by intrusions into our personal information and this is certainly unnecessary.

Maria Vazquez-Amaral  
Charlottesville

As someone one generation removed from this type of persecution, because, frankly, that is what it is, this behavior at my local jails is intolerable!

Sue Lewis  
Charlottesville, VA

This change will make us more welcoming to strangers in our midst, who might be angels!

Juliana Piacentini  
Charlottesville, VA

Janice M. Ball  
Charlottesville, VA

John Olssen  
Charlottesville/Albemarle  
Citizenship should not be an issue when booking a person and asking for that information may lead to bias and prejudice.

Mary Elder  
Charlottesville, VA

Rochelle Shoemaker  
Albemarle  
Clearly the tides of politics, morality, and community are shifting to make room for equity, dignity and justice for all. Charlottesville can be a leader in all three.

Pat Rader  
Charlottesville, VA

John Wheeler  
Albemarle

Margaret Wheeler  
Albemarle

Monica McCormack  
Goochland

Jenette Parker  
Albemarle

Linda Hanson  
Charlottesville

Jordan Woodlief  
Albemarle  
Having worked as a paralegal in immigration law for years, I have witnessed how a simple charge or citation can be twisted into grounds for indefinite detention by ICE, tearing apart families. Inquiring

into citizenship is one way in which the ACRJ contributes to this pain in our community, and the jail board can make a difference by refusing to continue this policy.

Cameron Pampus  
Albemarle

Renita Banks  
Charlottesville  
Please don't communicate with ICE.

Carolyn Newsome  
Charlottesville  
People are people; they need help and rehabilitation no matter their citizenship.

Barbara Drinkwater  
Gordonsville  
Once having been a social worker, I know the damage inflicted by separating families. Please consider that carefully when making your decisions.

Jan Rivero  
Albemarle

Ryan Snow  
Charlottesville

Carolyn C. Walker  
Albemarle  
Cease asking about citizenship when booking

Sherry Lambert  
Albemarle

Mary Allen Ingram  
Fluvanna County  
I wish to support for the jails to longer inquire into citizenship status when booking inmates. This is not the job of the jails. I think it is done to intimidate inmates.

Eugene Kenton Rader  
Charlottesville

Jerry Shoemaker  
Albemarle, Co

Carolyn Ball  
Nelson County

I sincerely ask that you consider our request stop asking about citizenship when people have been taken to the jail. Thank you.

David Sandridge  
Albemarle County  
Embrace the humanity and Godliness of all.

Elena Alba-Cantone  
Charlottesville

Sarah Malpass  
Charlottesville

Jasmine Fernández

Charlottesville

Now more than ever, we need to check our biases and address the ways in which we perpetuate racism and racist practices. I sincerely hope you all will consider taking this step to bring dignity & justice to the criminal justice system.

Sarah E. Barner  
Charlottesville

Katie Cantone  
Chesterfield/Midlothian

Taylor Kitchens

Charlottesville

Trey Woodlief  
Charlottesville

Valencia Lagbo  
Virginia Beach

Matt Zimmerman  
Charlottesville

Peggy Bidwell  
Charlottesville

Alan Drinkwater  
Gordonsville

Isaac Collins  
Albemarle

Rosie Snow  
Director of Christian Discipleship  
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

Jack Horn  
Charlottesville

Nancy Horn  
Charlottesville

Gina Leah Edwards  
Albemarle County

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Rosie Snow  
Director of Christian Discipleship  
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church