



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

JUL 15 2008

The Honorable Bruce Braley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Braley:

Thank you for your May 15, 2008, and June 3, 2008, letters concerning the May 12, 2008, enforcement operation at Agriprocessors, Inc., in Postville, Iowa. I appreciate your interest in this matter and the opportunity to respond to your questions related to ICE's activity. Additionally, I would welcome an opportunity to meet with you personally to discuss ICE's worksite enforcement program in the near future.

Please be aware that prior to the May 12, 2008, operation at the Agriprocessors facility, ICE fully coordinated its activities with other Federal agencies, including the Department of Labor (DOL). In addition, DOL agents were present at the Agriprocessors facility during the execution of the search warrant and interviewed aliens during the operation, as they deemed necessary.

In your letter, you also requested specific information about how ICE and DOL are pursuing allegations of labor violations at Agriprocessors. Regrettably, I cannot provide you with additional information at this time as these questions relate to an ongoing investigation.

Be assured that ICE is committed to enforcing our nation's immigration laws. Central to that commitment are our efforts in the area of worksite enforcement. Working with other State, local, and Federal partners, ICE aggressively pursues criminal charges, often seizing the property and profits of those employers who knowingly hire and continue to employ undocumented workers. ICE believes criminal prosecutions, seizure of assets, and the imposition of meaningful civil penalties upon those employers and businesses that profit from the labor of unauthorized aliens are the most effective deterrents.

Thank you once again for contacting ICE. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jamie Zuieback", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jamie E. Zuieback
Director
Office of Congressional Relations