

Nate Biscotti

From: Testimony
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 9:41 AM
To: Szilva, Jean
Subject: RE: [External] Dorset Street Protest advice for the future

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you, Jean. This has been received and will be shared and posted for the record.

Best,
Megan

Megan Cannella | [she/her](#)
Supervisor of Committee Services
[Senate Transportation Committee](#), Room 3
Office of Legislative Counsel
Vermont General Assembly

Attention Witnesses: If you have documents to accompany testimony, please submit as a PDF at least 24 hours in advance of your scheduled testimony. Should you require accessibility services, please [click here](#) and note that requests should be made 48 hours in advance of testimony.

First time testifying? See [Information for Witnesses](#) here.

From: Szilva, Jean <jean.szilva@med.uvm.edu>
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2026 10:32 AM
To: Testimony <testimony@vtleg.gov>
Subject: [External] Dorset Street Protest advice for the future

[External]

1. Don't frighten the ICE guys. They have guns and other less lethal weapons. During the time I was at the protest, young men would go nose to nose with ICE agents, shouting and maligning them before the ICE people had done anything. De-escalation would have helped but only a few of us were on that page. That said, South Burlington deputy police chief Sean Brisco did a great job of quieting folks and formulating a plan.
2. I believe local police should be present at every ICE event
3. I believe the police have a responsibility to understand what the ICE objectives are.
4. I believe the police should cooperate with ICE if the objectives are lawful and if the ICE agents are acting lawfully. In the case of Dorset Street, detaining people ICE did not have warrants for was a grave overreach.
5. I believe that help from community leaders could have talked their way into the house avoiding a violent and terrifying entrance.

6. Our police departments should protect the rights of all Vermonters no matter who is threatening them.

Respectfully,
Jean Szilva, MD

This message has originated from an **External Source**. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.