HOTNIR Current Events Digest — June 8, 2026

McLennan County Sheriff Parnell McNamara told KXXV that local Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detentions from February through May 2026 are 4-6 times higher than last year. The surge in ICE activity has created fear in the Hispanic community.
https://www.kxxv.com/news/local-news/in-your-neighborhood/mclennan-county/mclennan-county-ice-detentions-surge-in-2026

Rhode Island federal Judge John J. McConnell Jr. struck down policies that put immigrants' lives in "indeterminate legal limbo." The ruling means U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services must resume processing immigration and asylum applications from 39 Travel Ban countries.
https://abcnews.com/US/judge-trump-admin-illegally-paused-immigration-benefits-due/story?id=133628719
https://courthousenews.com/judge-blocks-trumps-sweeping-freeze-on-immigration-benefits-for-39-countries/

In his 135-page ruling, McConnell wrote that an "outright disdain" for individuals from those countries made USCIS more focused on targeting people from those countries than on national security. Court declined to ignore the "strong evidence of anti-immigrant animus before it."
https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.rid.61671/gov.uscourts.rid.61671.28.0.pdf

A whistleblower alleges the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) last year planned to assign fake death dates to 2.7 million immigrants to either force them to self-deport or detain them when they appeared at government offices to prove they were alive. The allegations come from a 25-year veteran of the Social Security Administration.
https://whistlebloweraid.org/trump-administration-weaponized-social-security-records-attempting-to-falsely-declare-2-7-million-people-as-dead/

Recipients and supporters of the Texas Dream Act have asked the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to let them defend the 2001 law. It allows students who attended and graduated from a high school in Texas to pay in-state tuition at state colleges.
https://www.texastribune.org/2026/06/04/texas-dream-act-federal-appeals-lawsuit/

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, is raising concerns about a possible ICE center in Alexandria, Louisiana, to be run by Texas-based Compass Connections. Documents show space for 528 beds in former military barracks. Families and unaccompanied minors could be held there for 72 hours before being deported via a regional airport located on the same site.
https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jun/04/democrat-louisiana-ice-family-detention-center

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin told lawmakers this week that he could not commit to following rulings from judges who rule that the agency is acting illegally.
https://www.politico.com/live-updates/2026/06/02/congress/mullin-refuses-to-commit-to-following-court-orders-for-dhs-00946961

New Jersey's attorney general is suing Geo Group, which runs the Delaney Hall ICE detention center in Newark, seeking access for state health inspectors. Detainees have reportedly been on a hunger and labor strike due to "inhumane and unsanitary conditions." The administration denies both. The Democratic governor came under fire for the state's response to protesters.
https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jun/02/new-jersey-lawsuit-geo-group-delaney-hall-ice
https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/what-to-know-about-the-protests-and-arrests-outside-a-new-jersey-detention-center

Letter from Delaney Hall detainees:
https://www.lahuelga.com/comunicado

The acting director of ICE, David Venturella, is a former Geo Group executive.
https://www.npr.org/2026/06/03/nx-s1-5836625/geo-group-private-prisons-ice-close-ties

Speaking at "Remigration Summit 2026" in Portugal, former U.S. Border Patrol commander Greg Bovino criticized the administration for watering down mass deportations and suggested Mullin is not up to the job. Far-right activists and politicians from a variety of countries attended.
https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2026/06/01/greg-bovino-criticizes-trump-aides-mass-deportations/90351373007/
https://www.politico.eu/article/afd-vox-mingle-with-ex-us-border-patrol-chief-white-nationalist-leader-at-remigration-summit/

A Canadian mother living with her American husband in South Texas was taken into custody at a checkpoint and spent three weeks at the Dilley detention center with her autistic daughter.
https://www.tpr.org/podcast/texas-matters/2026-06-05/texas-matters-canadian-mother-says-dilley-ice-detention-center-is-a-prison-not-a-family-facility

Indian-born workers with H-1B visas fueled growth in Dallas suburbs, but that population is dwindling due to new restrictions on the visa as well as job losses to artificial intelligence.
https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2026-dallas-h1b-housing-market/

A North Carolina judge signed an order on May 21, 2026, to deport a teenager from Honduras, despite being told he was murdered in a shooting in 2024.
https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jun/03/north-carolina-judge-deport-teen-murder-victim

Denied surgery for a painful ovarian cyst for months, Guatemalan immigrant Andrea Pedro Francisco has been released from the Camp East Montana tent detention center near El Paso.
https://www.texastribune.org/2026/06/04/el-paso-camp-east-montana-detention-ovarian-cyst-surgery-medical-neglect-2/
https://minnesotareformer.com/2026/06/04/ice-releases-andrea-pedro-francisco-woman-with-large-ovarian-cyst-from-texas-detention-center/