

**Commission on Immigrant & Refugee Affairs
Special Meeting #1**

Friday, February 20, 2026

**Church of Pentecost, Columbus North District, 6200 Cleveland Avenue, Columbus, OH
12:00 – 1:00 pm**

Attendance:

- **Commissioners:** Bartholomew T. Shepkong, Daniel Myungho Sim, Fernanda Diaz-Basteris, Kassandra Aguirre Ramirez, Mariam Isse, Nadia Jean-Jacques, Tasha Lomo, Naima Ilmi, Bashir Ahmed, and Sara Abou Rashed.

Absences: Adeeti Jindal, Rev. Dr. Alexander Y Sumo, Shahwar Ali, Kamran Syed Arif, and Jesus A. Valencia.

- **City Employees/Non-voting members:** Robert Tobias, CM Lourdes, Jessica Caceres, and Lindora Howard-Diawara

Welcome Remarks, Quorum Verification, and Call to Order

- The chair welcomed everyone to CIRA’s first special session, emphasized the importance of the meeting and indicated that its purpose was to adopt a resolution.
- Lindora confirmed a quorum with eight members present, including five online participants.
- The meeting was then called to order.

Review/Presentation of the Draft Resolution and Discussions (Naima)

- Naima presented a summary of the resolution and discussions were held.

Key Highlights:

Intro: The meeting addressed a resolution to enhance accountability and safety by requiring federal agents to display identification during immigration enforcement operations. Additionally, the resolution aims to align local policies with broader community expectations regarding federal agent conduct.

- A resolution was presented to hold federal agents accountable during immigration enforcement operations.
- The resolution requests federal agents to visibly display identification and refrain from certain face coverings.
- Council members emphasized the need for community safety and accountability from federal law enforcement.

- The Chair (Barth) called a motion to adopt the resolution. Nadia moved for the adoption and Cassandra seconded the motion.

Next steps defined:

- The resolution would be forwarded to Council Member Lourdes Barroso de Padilla's Office (Jessica already had a copy).
- Commissioners will attend city council meeting on Monday, 02/23/2026 to present the resolution on behalf of the Commission.
- City council will then adopt the resolution along with four others expected to be presented by council following deliberations.

Adjournment (Chair/All)

The chair (Barth) again called for a motion but this time to adjourn the meeting. Kasandra moved and Nadia seconded the motion.

Webex Meeting recording: Special Commission Meeting-20260220 1726-1

<https://cocmeetings.webex.com/cocmeetings/ldr.php?RCID=7abec482434b115a9f6ce21a0a28b71e>