

As County Executive, Pat Ryan turned Ulster County into a sanctuary county by refusing to cooperate with federal law enforcement in identifying illegal immigrants who have committed crimes locally.

BACKUP:

Sanctuary jurisdictions “have laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions, policies, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from ICE”:

- A sanctuary jurisdiction has “policies in place designed to limit cooperation with or involvement in federal immigration enforcement actions.” “The term ‘sanctuary city’ is a broad term applied to jurisdictions that have policies in place designed to limit cooperation with or involvement in federal immigration enforcement actions. Cities, counties and some states have a range of informal policies as well as actual laws that qualify as “sanctuary” positions.” (Tal Kopan, “What are sanctuary cities, and can they be defunded,” [CNN Politics](#), 3/26/18)
- Sanctuary jurisdictions “have laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions, policies, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from ICE.” “These cities, counties, and states have laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions, policies, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from ICE — either by refusing to or prohibiting agencies from complying with ICE detainers, imposing unreasonable conditions on detainer acceptance, denying ICE access to interview incarcerated aliens, or otherwise impeding communication or information exchanges between their personnel and federal immigration officers.” (Jessica M Vaughan and Bryan Griffith, “Map: Sanctuary Cities, Counties, and States,” [Center for Immigration Studies](#), 3/22/21)
- Sanctuary policies include “don’t enforce,” “don’t ask,” and “don’t tell” policies aimed at hindering the work of federal immigration agents. “But traditional sanctuary policies are often described as falling under one of three categories. First, so-called “don’t enforce” policies generally bar state or local police from assisting federal immigration authorities. Second, “don’t ask” policies generally bar certain state or local officials from inquiring into a person’s immigration status. Third, “don’t tell” policies typically restrict information sharing between state or local law enforcement and federal immigration authorities.” (“Sanctuary’ Jurisdictions: Federal, State and Local Policies and Related Litigation,” [Congressional Research Service](#), 5/3/19)

Ryan promised to make Ulster County a sanctuary county and followed through on his promise by using his second executive order to make Ulster County a sanctuary county:

- Ryan promised to “oppose any coordination between our county and local law enforcement and ICE.” “Oppose any coordination between our county and local law enforcement and ICE, and stand in solidarity with our immigrant communities.” (“Taking on the Trump Administration,” [Pat Ryan for Ulster County](#), Archived 5/24/22)
- In June 2019, Pat Ryan’s second executive order as Ulster County Executive was to “to halt cooperation with federal immigration officials, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) officers.” “Ulster County Executive Patrick Ryan signed his second executive order Wednesday, instructing county employees under his authority to follow ‘new operating procedures that are designed to

halt cooperation with federal immigration officials, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) officers.” (“Ulster exec signs ‘non-cooperation’ order to passively resist immigration enforcement,” [Mid Hudson News](#), 6/27/19)

Editor’s Note: *Sanctuary jurisdictions “have laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions, policies, or other practices that obstruct immigration enforcement and shield criminals from ICE.”*

In 2019, Ryan made Ulster County a so-called “Sanctuary County” and argued sanctuary counties make us safer, promote economic growth, and exemplify the founding principles of the United States:

- **VIDEO:** Ryan made Ulster County a sanctuary county and argued sanctuary counties make us safer, promote economic growth, and exemplify the founding principles of the United States. “So I’m here today to sign an executive order directing Ulster County government to not coordinate with ICE or any other federal immigration... uh... entity. And... thank you... As county executive, it is my responsibility to ensure the rights and to protect the rights of every resident, the 180,000 people that we’re blessed to have living in this county. And when people are forced to live in the shadows, we’re all less safe. When people are forced to live in the shadows our economy suffers. When people are forced to live in the shadows, we fail to uphold the principles that have guided our country since its inception. I know this community. This is where I grew up. I know the values that have undergirded us and made this, made us thus incredible place, and we’re at a moment where those are being tested and challenged and in those moments of challenge and crisis, that’s when we all have to step up and that’s when leadership is called for.” (Daily Freeman, “County Executive Patrick Ryan on ICE,” [YouTube](#), 6/26/19)