

8:30AM: Rapid Response call goes out after ICE was spotted outside the house.

Community members gather around the house to defend the people inside. Others brought food, water, and masks. The protest was completely nonviolent—protesters gathered around the house while chanting and singing. Protesters successfully moved a young child out of the house and to safety. DHS agents, South Burlington Police, and State Police stood in the back yard and along the road, blocking the street.

After more than 6 hours, DHS and State Police illegally ordered demonstrators to disperse, pushed through the protestors, shoving several to the ground, and broke down the front door of the house without presenting the warrant to the residents. They searched the entire house and arrested three of the people inside, taking them to a car. The person named on the warrant was not in the house.

There are dozens of direct, unprovoked violence enacted by every law enforcement agency present captured on video – in particular one that stood out were VSP attempting to break the fingers of individuals linking arms and singing, and then when he failed, physically assaulting them, and strangulating her with his hand, squeezing her neck on the ground until she passed out. Another incident where Burlington Police Department pepper bombed somebody by pulling their mask down and then proceeded to restrict their airway; they ignored multiple community members requesting that they help them breathe, and when one tried to pull his mask off his throat, a BPD officer grabbed her by the skull and smashed her into the ground causing concussions amongst other damage.

Protesters blocked the cars from getting away. DHS grabbed the people closest to the cars and threw them to the ground, detaining one of them. DHS and Police cars started to try to drive away. As protestors moved to block these cars, police began pepper spraying and shooting rubber bullets at protestors.

Protesters surrounded the final remaining police car (that may have had a detained protester in it). Federal agents deployed tear gas, pepper spray, and flash bangs directly on people sitting in front of the car. Car ultimately is able to drive away.

Many protestors sustained concussions, bruises, and other minor injuries, but there have been no reports of major injuries. Police dragged and detained two protestors, charging them with disorderly conduct.

Law enforcement and so-called ‘affected community’ have strategically presented the narrative of a ‘both sides’ conflict wherein ICE unnecessarily escalated, but protestors sowed civil unrest justifying or otherwise necessitating law enforcement’s intervention or violence. This is entirely contradicted by video footage which demonstrates VSP and ICE to be the inciting agents of direct violence, Burlington and South Burlington police department actively intervening by pushing and assaulting the crowd preemptively (doing nothing to curtail the mass violence from ICE), and making bold lies about when the community ‘escalated’ (both embellishing the details

of this escalation, and placing it before rather than after VSP attacked the fully nonviolent crowd).

A warrant was never presented to the crowd nor the residents of the home. At one point a DHS agent lied implying that they were a VSP agent and spoke to 8-10 members of the crowd; this was the only order to disperse. The three individuals who were kidnapped were not named on any warrant; all law enforcement agencies involved have sworn that they are aware of this fact but did nothing to stop this kidnapping and mercilessly beat protestors for nonviolently resisting them being taken.