



Politics

# 475 people detained in Georgia Hyundai raid by ICE, other agencies, officials say

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In a large-scale immigration enforcement raid at a huge Hyundai facility in Georgia on Thursday, 475 people were detained, including 100 who were allegedly were

Steven Seagal, who was in Georgia and was arrested. The raid was part of a variety of different operations in

South Korea. The raid targeted South Koreans who were

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Thursday. The raid was a story of Homeland Security. Customs Enforcem...ustoms

"This operation is a story of law, and...ns and law,

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safeguarding the integrity of our economy and protecting workers from exploitation," Schrank said.

Some of those detained Thursday allegedly entered the U.S. illegally, and others were accused of overstaying their visas or violating visa waivers by working, Schrank said. Most of the detainees were taken to an ICE facility in Folkston, Georgia, near the Florida-Georgia state line.

"They will be moved based on their individual circumstances beyond that," Schrank said.

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The president of Georgia's chapter of the AFL-CIO called the raid politically motivated and said ICE has been escalating its presence at workplaces across the state.

"This raid is the latest in an ongoing campaign of harassment that has targeted immigrant Georgians as they try to earn an honest living," Yvonne Brooks said in a statement. "Arresting and detaining workers, who are exploited every day and risk their lives every day on the job, creates an atmosphere of fear that terrorizes workers and their families and increases the workload burden on their coworkers."

The operation involved law enforcement agents from multiple federal agencies, including ICE, Border Patrol, the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the IRS and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, underscoring the government-wide nature of the Trump administration's crackdown on illegal immigration.

Earlier, the Atlanta office of the ATF had said 450 people were detained in a post on social me

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Federal authorities conduct an immigration enforcement operation at a Hyundai battery plant in Bryan County, Georgia, Sept. 4, 2025.

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"We are reviewing our processes to ensure that all parties working on our projects maintain the same high standards of legal compliance that we demand of ourselves. This includes thorough vetting of employment practices by contractors and subcontractors," the company said, in part, adding that it will "conduct an investigation to ensure all suppliers and their subcontractors comply with all laws and regulations."

In a statement to The Associated Press, LG said it was "closely monitoring the situation and gathering all relevant details." It said it couldn't immediately confirm how many of its employees or Hyundai workers had been detained.

"Our top priority is always ensuring the safety and well-being of our employees and partners. We will fully cooperate with the relevant authorities," the company said.

ICE spokesman Lindsay Williams confirmed that federal authorities conducted an enforcement operation at the 3,000-acre site west of Savannah. He said agents were focused on the construction site for the battery plant

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Video posted to social media on Thursday showed workers in yellow safety vests lined up as a man wearing a face mask and a tactical vest with the letters HSI, which stands for Homeland Security Investigations, tells them: "We're Homeland Security. We have a search warrant for the whole site."

"We need construction to cease immediately," the man says in the video. "We need all work to end on the site right now."

The Trump administration has undertaken sweeping ICE operations as part of a mass deportation agenda. Immigration officers have raided farms, construction sites, restaurants and auto repair shops.

The Pew Research Center, citing preliminary Census Bureau data, says the U.S. labor force lost more than 1.2 million immigrants from January through July. That includes people who are in the country illegally as well as legal residents.

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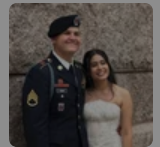
The Hyundai site is in Bryan County, which saw its population increase by more than a quarter in the early 2020s and stood at almost 47,000 residents in 2023, the most recent year data is available. The county's Asian population went from 1.5% in 2018 to 2.2% in 2023, and the growth was primarily among people of Indian descent, according to Census Bureau figures.

[Camilo Montoya-Galvez](#) contributed to this report.

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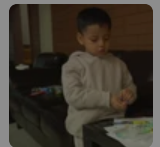
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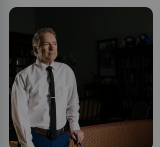
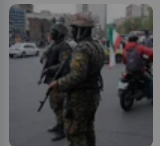
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