



CITY OF  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

## Immigration Enforcement and Bainbridge Island

February 10, 2026

The City of Bainbridge Island affirms the January 29, 2026 [joint statement on Public Trust and Immigration Enforcement](#) from the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC) and Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs (WACOPS).

The Bainbridge Island Police Department (BIPD) is accredited by the [Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs](#), recognizing BIPD's commitment to the highest professional standards in law enforcement.

Accreditation requires agencies to meet rigorous standards in areas such as use of force, training, records management, staffing, fiscal accountability, public safety practices, de-escalation and more, and must be renewed every four years following a comprehensive review and onsite evaluation.

In February 2025, the Bainbridge Island City Council reaffirmed its 2017 [resolution](#) and [ordinance](#) that designates [Bainbridge Island as a Welcoming and Inclusive City](#), one that embraces all people, regardless of identity, race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, mental ability, and physical ability. The ordinance also states that the BIPD cannot investigate, arrest, or detain any person based solely on immigration status or nationality.

Since the initial resolution, Washington State has also strengthened protections by passing the [Keep Washington Working Act](#) in 2019, declaring itself a [Sanctuary State \(RCW 10.93.160\)](#). This imposes restrictions on state and local law enforcement agencies and school resource officers in the enforcement of civil federal immigration law and includes:

- Not inquiring about a person's immigration status
- Not sharing nonpublic information with federal immigration authorities in a non-criminal matter
- Not detaining individuals solely for immigration-related reasons

BIPD's [policies](#) align with these protections, reinforcing the City's stance on ensuring Bainbridge Island remains a safe and welcoming place for all. While BIPD does not participate in immigration enforcement, BIPD does not have the authority to interfere with federal investigations. BIPD's primary focus is maintaining peace and public safety in the city. BIPD wants islanders to know that emergency services are available to everyone, regardless of immigration status. If you need help, call 911.

The City encourages anyone to contact their state representatives to ask questions, express concerns, and share input on federal and state level immigration-related policies.