

## CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

## **RESOLUTION NO. 37-25**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, MEMORIALIZING THE TOWNSHIP'S POLICY WITH RESPECT TO IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT AND THE ROLE OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS AND POLICE OFFICERS IN RELATION TO U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE).

WHEREAS, communities are made safer and stronger when every resident—regardless of their race, religion, gender identity or expression, national origin, nationality, preferred language, or immigration status—feels comfortable and safe contacting, seeking help from, and cooperating with local officials; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Cheltenham Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania ("the Board"), recognizes that a diverse and inclusive community is one of Cheltenham Township's most significant assets, enriching its society through the exchange of different perspectives and experiences; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to document and communicate its policies to encourage stronger and more effective communication between all residents and Cheltenham Township employees and officials; and

WHEREAS, all residents have the right to equal access to public services, educational opportunities, and police protection, regardless of immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners and staff of Cheltenham Township appreciates the trust and relationships it has built with members of the Cheltenham Township community over the years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Cheltenham Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, that:

- 1. Cheltenham Township declares itself a welcoming and inclusive community that embraces all residents and visitors and values the relationships and trust it has built with the community.
- 2. Cheltenham Township affirms its support for all residents and encourages all community institutions, including businesses, civic groups, and schools, to contribute to a welcoming environment.
- 3. All Township officials and police officers are directed to promote a fair and welcoming environment for patrons of Township services and provide services to all residents, regardless of immigrant status.
- 4. All Township officials and police officers are charged with enforcing local and state laws to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of all members of our community.

- 5. Cheltenham Township officials and police officers will investigate all crimes and work diligently to protect all victims and witnesses, regardless of their immigration status.
- 6. Cheltenham Township officials and police officers will follow the guidelines and best practices of modern policing as an agency accredited by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (PLEAC).
- 7. No Township official or police officer will ask about the immigration status of individuals during interactions or deny services based on citizenship or immigration status, except as required to comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- 8. No Township official or police officer is tasked or authorized to enforce federal immigration law and none will conduct immigration enforcement actions or detain individuals based solely on their immigration status except as required to comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- 9. Township officials and police officers will strictly adhere to all laws governing the sharing of personal identifying information with the public and other law enforcement agencies.
- 10. No Township official or police officer will honor detainer requests from ICE without a properly executed judicial warrant.
- 11. No government agencies shall be permitted to utilize Cheltenham Township facilities or properties to stage immigration enforcement operations.
- 12. Cheltenham Township and its Police Department value the relationships and trust they have established with the community and will not enter into ICE's 287(g) program, to empower local law enforcement to enforce federal immigration laws. Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility; Cheltenham Township remains focused on its core mission: serving and protecting all members of the Cheltenham Township community.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Cheltenham, County of Montgomery, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, was adopted at its meeting held at Curtis Hall, 1250 West Church Road, Wyncote, Pennsylvania 19095 on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, A.D. 2025, in the one hundred and twenty-sixth year of the Township of Cheltenham.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF CHELTENHAM BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Alyson Elliott

Township Manager and Secretary

Matthew Areman, President

If you or someone you know has questions about immigration status or needs assistance with immigration-related matters, Cheltenham Township strongly encourages you to seek help from a qualified legal professional or contact the Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center at (717) 600-8099 or visit their website at <a href="https://www.PIRCLaw.org">www.PIRCLaw.org</a>.