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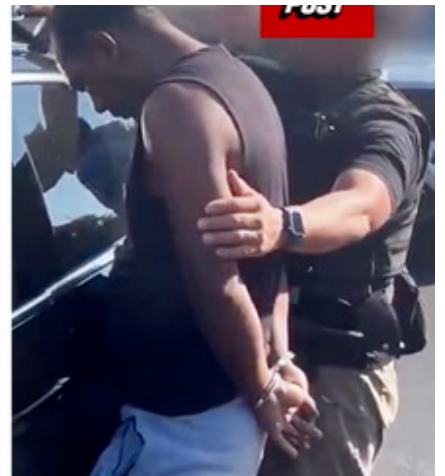
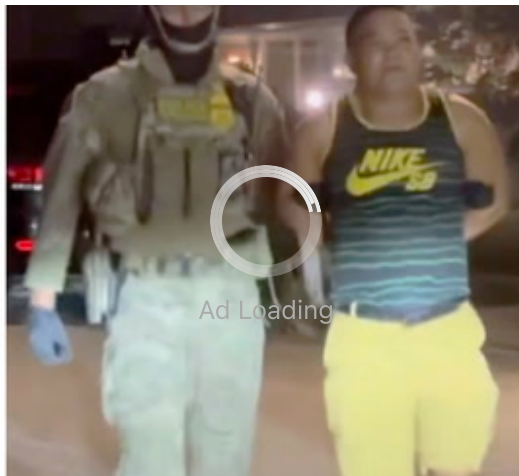
Ex-FBI Director James Comey indicted on charges of lying to...



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Published Sep. 25, 2025, 7:54 p.m. ET

ICE floods Chicago in Operation Midway Blitz — arrests dozens for assault, DUI, stalking



00:00 / 03:55

No bulba-sorry, here.

The Department of Homeland Security is not backing down after the owners of Pokémon pushed back against the Trump administration's use of the song "Gotta Catch 'Em All" in social media posts promoting ICE deportations.

"To arrest them is our real test. To deport them is our cause," a DHS spokesperson told The Post on Thursday, a play on words referencing the chorus of the immortalized theme song.

The trolling reply came after the parent company of the Japanese company issued a statement denouncing the use of the children's song in a video promoting arrests and deportations of illegal migrants.

"We are aware of a recent video posted by the Department of Homeland Security that includes imagery and language associated with our brand," Pokémon Company International told The New York Times.



DHS doubles down on 'Gotta Catch 'Em All' deportation video after pushback from Pokémon company

The video shared by Trump-administration accoutns mashed up the Pokemon theme song with actual footage from ICE arrests.

@DHSgov/X

“Our company was not involved in the creation or distribution of this content, and permission was not granted for the use of our intellectual property,” the statement concluded.

Both the official White House **TikTok account** and the Department of Homeland Security **X account** shared a one-minute video on Monday that spliced together live arrest footage with the main opening theme of the popular animated Pokémon show.

Footage of explosions, raids, and arrests conducted by ICE are edited together with clips of Pokémon protagonist Ash Ketchum from the iconic ‘90s theme song.



The video ends with several mock-up Pokémon cards that showed photos of criminal illegal aliens and listed out their felonious crimes.

Charges against the deportees included murder, human smuggling, child molestation, pedophilia, and child endangerment. Those arrest cards were also featured in several individual **posts** on the DHS X account.

Both videos remain up on their respective platforms.

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HOLLYWOOD INC.

Pokémon company protests Department of Homeland Security 'Gotta Catch 'Em All' post



Pokémon cards from a Burger King promotion in 1999. (Los Angeles Times)

**By Cerys Davies**Staff Writer | [Follow](#)

Sept. 25, 2025 11:54 AM PT

The company behind the popular Pokémon franchise says it doesn't want its characters used for propaganda.

The Department of Homeland Security uploaded a Pokémon-themed montage of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids to social media earlier this week. The connection to the franchise was clear, as the recognizable theme song played, the original animation appeared and its signature blue and yellow text materialized.

The video angered many fans. The Japanese gaming company said the federal agency was not authorized to use its original content.

“We are aware of a recent video posted by the Department of Homeland Security that includes imagery and language associated with our brand,” Pokémon Company International wrote in a statement to The Times. “Our company was not involved in the creation or distribution of this content, and permission was not granted for the use of our intellectual property.”

The Pokémon-inspired video remains on the [agency's X account](#).

The posted video included the anime theme song, with the lyrics “Gotta catch 'em all,” playing over segments of federal agents handcuffing people and imagery of a Pokémon character and the Pokéballs used to capture monsters in the game.

It concluded with [several mock-ups of Pokémon playing cards](#) with photographs of detainees, which included their full names, crimes they have committed and details about their convictions and sentencing.

The Department Homeland Security's social media feeds are full of provocative imagery and videos that borrow from popular media.

It used Jay-Z's “Public Service Announcement” last month. It reportedly received a copyright violation complaint and had to be taken down.

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In July, Homeland Security's X account [posted a video montage](#), which used audio from 2022's "The Batman" and displayed a Bible verse onscreen. Paintings, from artists such as [Thomas Kinkade](#), [Morgan Weistling](#) and [John Gast](#) have also been used by the federal agency.

[Comedian Theo Von](#) recently complained about being used in one of these videos. Homeland Security used a video of him saying, "Heard you got deported, dude," as he nods his head in disappointment, in one of their video edits.

On Tuesday, he posted on X, saying, "And please take this down and please keep me out of your 'banger' deportation videos. When it comes to immigration my thoughts and heart are a lot more nuanced than this video allows. Bye!"

The video has since been taken down.

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Theo Von succeeds: DHS takes down a video using an unauthorized clip of the comic

Sept. 24, 2025





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Pokémon did not give permission for ICE deportation video

17 hours ago

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Emma Saunders Culture reporter



Getty Images

Pokémon has said it did not give permission for the use of its theme song and other footage to be used in an ICE deportation raid video posted by the US government.

"We are aware of a recent video posted by the Department of Homeland Security that includes imagery and language associated with our brand," Pokémon Company International said in a statement to the BBC.

"Our company was not involved in the creation or distribution of this content, and permission was not granted for the use of our intellectual property."

The video, [posted by the Homeland Security X account](#) and [the White House on TikTok](#), shows several arrests made by border patrol and ICE agents alongside Pokémon's slogan "Gotta catch 'em all".

It also features footage from the opening credits of Pokémon's anime TV show with main character Ash Ketchum.

The video ends with images of fake Pokémon trading cards featuring the mugshots of men and women arrested by ICE and their alleged crimes, including murder, paedophilia, burglary, murder and child endangerment.

ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) has been carrying out raids across the US following Trump's migration policy to provide the "largest deportation programme of criminals in the history of America".

'Keep me out of deportation videos'



Comedian Theo Von hosts the podcast This Past Weekend

Meanwhile, comedian and podcaster Theo Von has objected to another Department of Homeland Security video, which used a clip of him saying "Heard you got deported, dude - bye" to reveal the agency's deportation numbers.

"Yooo DHS i didnt approve to be used in this," Von wrote on X.

"I know you know my address so send a check. And please take this down and please keep me out of your 'banger' deportation videos.

"When it comes to immigration my thoughts and heart are a lot more nuanced than this video allows. Bye!"

On Tuesday, the department shared a 31-second video clip on X with the caption "Bye", although the post now appears to have been removed.

It kicked off with the clip of Von, followed by a claim that two million illegal immigrants had been deported in the first 250 days of President Trump's second term.

It then showed Trump saying "They simply stopped coming, they're not coming any more", before ending with a plane taking off with the words "Leave now" written over the image.

It comes after British singer Jess Glynne said in July she felt "sick" that the White House had used the viral Jet2 holiday advert featuring her song as the audio to a video promoting deportations.

The White House **posted a clip on X** showing handcuffed people being escorted by ICE on to a GlobalX flight.

Jet2's advert featuring Glynne's 2015 single Hold my Hand, and a cheery voiceover saying "nothing beats a Jet2 holiday" - which has become a meme - played over the video.

Jess Glynne calls White House deportation video with Jet2 song 'sick'

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Sep 24, 2025 11:58am PT

Pokémon ‘Not Involved’ With Homeland Security’s ICE Raid Video Using Theme Song: ‘Permission Was Not Granted’

By [Jordan Moreau](#) ▾

Pokemon

The Pokémon Company International has confirmed it was not involved in the Department of Homeland Security's ICE raid video that uses the "Pokémon" anime's theme song and footage.

"We are aware of a recent video posted by the Department of Homeland Security that includes imagery and language associated with our brand," the company said in a statement to *Variety* Wednesday. "Our company was not involved in the creation or distribution of this content, and permission was not granted for the use of our intellectual property."

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The video, posted by the Homeland Security X account Monday, shows a montage of arrests made by border patrol and ICE agents set to the "Pokémon" theme song,

which includes the lyrics “Gotta catch ’em all.” It also uses footage from the opening credits of the “Pokémon” anime TV show with main character Ash Ketchum. The video ends by showing fake Pokémon trading cards with mugshots of men and women arrested by ICE and their alleged crimes, such as manslaughter, pedophilia, burglary, murder and child endangerment.

Popular on Variety

 Gotta Catch 'Em All. pic.twitter.com/qCvflkJGmB
— Homeland Security (@DHSgov) September 22, 2025

This is the second time a company or celebrity was featured without their knowledge in a Department of Homeland Security video this week. [Comedian Theo Von posted a statement](#) Tuesday after the government organization used one of his audio clips in a since-deleted video about illegal immigrant deportations.

“Yooo DHS i didnt approve to be used in this. I know you know my address so send a check. And please take this down and please keep me out of your ‘banger’