



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on April 25, 2025

Judges Arrested for Protecting Illegals. Wisc. Judge Obstructed ICE; New Mexico Judge Tampered With Evidence.

Federal agents have arrested another judge today for committing a crime in connection with aiding an illegal alien.

This time, the judge was Hannah Dugan, who, the Justice Department alleges, helped a previously deported illegal alien escape from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents during the illegal's appearance in her court. She has been charged with two felonies.

Yesterday, former Judge Joel Cano, a magistrate in New Mexico, and his wife were escorted to jail in handcuffs because he permitted an illegal-alien gang member not only to live at his home but also handle firearms. The couple has been charged with evidence tampering, but not, apparently, harboring an illegal alien.



Freer Law/iStock/Getty Images Plus

And those two far-left judicial activists are not the only judges to help illegal aliens avoid the law.

Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Hannah Dugan arrested, charged with 2 felonies in ICE case <https://t.co/t4lkEPQnKn> via [@DanielBice](#) and [@john_diedrich](#)

— Molly Beck (@MollyBeck) [April 25, 2025](#)

Dugan Case

Dugan's legal troubles began when she unwisely helped an Mexican illegal Eduardo Flores-Ruiz slip away from ICE agents last week. He was in court on three counts of misdemeanor battery, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel reported](#), for a fight with a roommate in which Flores-Ruiz punched someone 30 times then struck a woman who tried to break up the fight.

The Mexican miscreant was in court for a pre-trial hearing, the [newspaper reported](#):

Sources told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that Dugan directed the ICE agents to Chief Judge Carl Ashley's office. During that time, sources said, Dugan allowed the defendant to leave the courtroom through a side door, down a private hallway and into a public area.

But that description didn't quite tell the whole truth. Appearing on Fox News, U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi disclosed what the judge did. "This guy was in court being prosecuted by a state prosecutor for domestic violence battery," Bondi said:



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He had beat up 2 people, a guy and a girl. Hit the guy 30 times knocked him to the ground choked him, beat up a woman so badly they both had to go to the hospital.... You know, it's so rare for victims to want to cooperate. They wanted to cooperate. They were sitting in the courtroom with the state prosecutor. The judge learns that ICE was outside to get the guy.... He had been deported in 2013, came back in our country ... charged with committing these crimes. Victims in court.... Judge finds out. She goes out in the hallway, screams at the immigration officers. She's furious, visibly shaken, upset. Sends them off to talk to the chief judge. She comes back in the courtroom — you're not going to believe this — takes the defendant and the defense attorney back in her chambers, takes them out of a private exit and tells them to leave, while a state prosecutor and victims of domestic violence are sitting in the courtroom.

[.@AGPamBondi](#) describes the shocking interference by a Wisconsin judge in an ICE arrest of an illegal immigrant:

"The judge learned that ICE was outside ... She goes out in the hallway, screams at the immigration officers — she's furious, visibly shaking, upset — sends them off...

pic.twitter.com/qzmA6c4Uar

— Rapid Response 47 (@RapidResponse47) [April 25, 2025](#)

Thus, the arrest.

"Just NOW, the FBI arrested Judge Hannah Dugan out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin on charges of obstruction — after evidence of Judge Dugan obstructing an immigration arrest operation last week," FBI chief Kash Patel wrote in a now-deleted X post:

We believe Judge Dugan intentionally misdirected federal agents away from the subject to be arrested in her courthouse, Eduardo Flores Ruiz, allowing the subject — an illegal alien — to evade arrest.

A spokesman for the [U.S. Marshals told](#) the newspaper that Dugan faces charges of obstruction and concealing an individual. She was arrested this morning.

ICE agents caught Florez-Ruiz the same day, no thanks to Dugan.

Cano Case

Of the two, Cano might be worse.

As [The New American reported](#) early this week, the far-left Democrat resigned his post in March after ICE agents collared Venezuelan illegal Cristhian Ortega-Lopez at the judge's home. Authorities say Ortega-Lopez is a member of the Tren de Aragua terror gang.

Venezuelan Illegal With Alleged Tren de Aragua Ties Arrested for Possession of Firearm While Reportedly Living at Home of New Mexico Judge

Judge Jose "Joel" Cano abruptly resigned days after ICE HSI raid at his house in Las Cruces



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Full story coming... pic.twitter.com/UvkrAC2PDT

— Border Hawk (@BorderHawkNews) [April 18, 2025](#)

[Now banned](#) from ever serving as a judge, Cano and his wife [took the perp walk](#) yesterday.

The beginning of the end of Cano's career on the bench began on February 28, *The [Albuquerque Journal](#) reported*.

"Court filings state that agents recovered four firearms from a neighboring home owned by April Cano, who is identified in court filings as Nancy Cano's daughter," the newspaper explained:

A criminal complaint alleges Ortega-Lopez admitted to possessing and firing them, as seen in photos and videos posted on Facebook last December.

Ortega-Lopez was taken into custody along with other individuals described as roommates in court filings. On March 3, he appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Damian Martinez on charges of being an unlawful alien in possession of a firearm and ammunition. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison.

While the Canos face charges of evidence tampering, they don't, as yet, face charges of harboring an illegal alien.

Boston Judge, Homan, DOJ Promises

In 2019, federal authorities charged District Court Judge Shelly M. Richmond Joseph with obstruction for allowing an illegal alien [to escape arrest](#) by ICE at her courthouse. The Biden Justice Department [dropped the charge in 2022](#) but required Joseph to report herself to the Massachusetts Commission on Judicial Conduct.

In December, last year, [the commission charged](#) Joseph with willful misconduct, citing the federal indictment and the judge's turning off a courtroom audio recorder during the illegal alien's hearing. She "made false and misleading statements to the senior judge" about shutting off the recorder.

Border czar Tom Homan [has repeatedly](#) said those officials would face felony charges for harboring illegals.

And in January in a memorandum to DOJ employees, Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove [clearly warned](#) what would befall state and local officials — including judges — who obstruct the enforcement of immigration law.

Citing the federal Constitution's [Supremacy Clause](#), [Bove warned](#) that state and local officials must "comply with the Executive Branch's [constitutional] immigration enforcement initiatives":

Federal law prohibits state and local actors from resisting, obstructing, and otherwise failing to comply with lawful immigration-related commands and requests pursuant to, for example, the President's extensive Article II authority with respect to foreign affairs and national security, the Immigration and Nationality Act, and the Alien Enemies Act.

Bove threatened "potential prosecution" of mulish officials who defy the law. The charges would include harboring illegals, [conspiracy against the United States](#), and violating the Immigration and Nationality Act, [which criminalizes](#) blocking the enforcement of federal immigration laws.



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"President Trump has directed this to STOP," says [@AGPamBondi](#) after announcing action to hold New York and its officials accountable for violating federal immigration law.

"If you are a state not complying with federal law, you're next. Get ready."
pic.twitter.com/t0CO9tHrxN

— Rapid Response 47 (@RapidResponse47) [February 12, 2025](#)

I can confirm that our [@FBI](#) agents just arrested Hannah Dugan – a county judge in Milwaukee – for allegedly helping an illegal alien avoid an arrest by [@ICEgov](#).

No one is above the law.

— Attorney General Pamela Bondi (@AGPamBondi) [April 25, 2025](#)

In February, citing the Supremacy Clause, [DOJ sued](#) New York and New York City, [along with](#) Illinois and Chicago.

As for the arrest of the renegade judge in Wisconsin, Bondi repeated what hate-Trump Democrats said for years when trying to jail POTUS 45-47: "No one is above the law."



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