**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) Response to the ICE Office of Public Affairs (OPA)**

May 16, 2022

**Background:** ERO has been asked to provide information on ATD phones issued to noncitizens. Below are a few questions from Rep. Thompson’s office.

1. **Can you please share details about the ATD smart phones being provided to noncitizens?**

   **Response:** U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) does not provide cell phones to noncitizens. SmartLINK utilizes facial verification to match participants with photographs taken during ATD enrollment. SmartLINK is an application that is loaded onto a device and is solely limited to the functions assigned for the purposes of participation in ATD. While the devices that the SmartLINK application are loaded on to look like smartphones, the devices are locked and unable to make telephone calls. All communication and messaging are contained within SmartLINK and only intended for purposes of immigration obligation compliance, part of ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations’ larger role to mitigate threats to public safety by performing interior enforcement of U.S. immigration laws. The devices do not possess call capability.

2. **What is the manufacturer and model?**

   **Response:** Mason is the manufacturer of the D215 and D450 smart device. Samsung is the manufacturer of the A42 smartphone.

3. **Are the phones provided to the noncitizens new or refurbished?**

   **Response:** The smart devices provided to noncitizens are both brand new and refurbished.