

## U.S. Judge threatens contempt charges over deportation flights



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A U.S. federal judge has warned the Trump administration it could face contempt of court charges after violating an order to halt deportation flights to El Salvador. The flights, which carried over 200 people, were part of a mass deportation initiative and disregarded a court's directive to prevent their departure.

Judge James Boasberg expressed concern over the administration's failure to provide satisfactory

explanations for the violation. He emphasized that his decision was made after giving ample time for the administration to respond.

In response, the White House vowed to contest the ruling, with Communications Director Steven Cheung stating that President Trump remains committed to safeguarding U.S. communities from criminal migrants and terrorist threats.

The potential contempt charge marks a significant escalation in tensions between the White House and the judiciary. Boasberg stated that the administration could avoid contempt charges if it complies with the original order and provides a full explanation by April 23.

Despite a Supreme Court ruling that permits deportations under the 1798 Alien Enemies Act, Boasberg underscored that this did not justify ignoring his temporary restraining order. If the administration fails to comply, Boasberg may identify individuals responsible for the breach and recommend prosecution.

The deportations involved Venezuelan nationals accused of gang ties, and despite the court order, the flights continued. In response, President Trump labeled Boasberg a “troublemaker” on social media.

El Salvador accepted the deportees in exchange for \$6 million in aid.