



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
December 9, 2025

Southern Missouri Immigration Alliance  
[Info@SMImmigrationAlliance.org](mailto:Info@SMImmigrationAlliance.org)

## **VIGILS TO BE HELD ACROSS MISSOURI FOR DONNA HUGHES-BROWN AHEAD OF DEPORTATION HEARING**

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, December 9, 2025 – On Saturday, December 13 at 4:30pm Southern Missouri Immigration Alliance (SMIA) in partnership with 50501MO and Greater Springfield Indivisible, will host a vigil for Donna Hughes-Brown, a legal permanent resident, married to a US citizen, and a pillar of Refuge Church in Missouri. The vigil comes one week before Donna's immigration court date to determine her deportation status.

Donna was detained at Chicago O'Hare Airport after returning from a funeral in Ireland. Her life here is one of deep roots, faith, family, caregiving, and contribution - and she, like many in ICE detention, deserves the chance to remain in the only home she's known since childhood. The vigil will also serve to witness and acknowledge the pain of family separation, the disruption of lives, inhumane conditions, and honor impacted immigrants, their families and communities.

**WHAT:** A vigil for Donna Hughes-Brown ahead of her deportation court date and to acknowledge the pain of family separation, raise awareness of inhumane conditions in immigrant detention, and honor impacted immigrant families and communities.

**WHO:**

- Donna Hughes Brown's story
- Those affected by ICE's cruel detention and deportation
- Community Members

**WHERE:** HSI Office, 222 S John Q Hammons Pkwy Springfield, MO 65806. Press can RSVP here.

**WHEN:** Saturday, December 13, 2025 from 4:30-6pm

Press are also encouraged to attend two other vigils for Donna Hughes Brown taking place this Saturday at the Old Courthouse in Troy, MO and at Cunningham Park in Joplin.

Take action. Get organized and informed. Raise awareness in your community. Support your neighbors: **REPORT ICE SIGHTINGS AT (417)-MELT-ICE.**

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