

ABC's *Good Morning America*

01/23/26

7:01:12 a.m. [TEASE]

13 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Fallout; 5-Year-Old Boy Detained]

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: Outrage in Minneapolis. A five-year-old boy returning home from preschool detained by ICE agents. Agents took him and his father into custody, witnesses said it wasn't necessary, but Vice President Vance said [sic?] defending agents.

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7:11:26 a.m.

2 minutes and 7 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Fallout After ICE Agents Detain 5-Year-Old Boy]

REBECCA JARVIS: We're going to turn now to the fallout over the five-year-old boy detained by ICE in Minneapolis after returning home from preschool. Matt Rivers is in Minneapolis for us this morning. Matt.

MATT RIVERS: Good morning, Rebecca, the Vice President addressing this controversy yesterday in town, showing support for federal agents, but also, for the first time, saying that ICE agents could face discipline when appropriate. This morning, the haunting images sparking a firestorm. A preschool boy standing in the Minnesota cold, swept up in the ICE crackdown. Schools officials say five-year-old Liam and his father, Adrian Alexander Conejo Arias, had just pulled into their suburban Minneapolis driveway Tuesday when agents took that father into custody. The school then saying an agent "essentially used the five year old as bait," directing him to see if anyone else was home before taking the boy away. Witnesses say multiple people, including the boy's mother, offered to take him.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD CHAIR MARY GRANLUND: There was another adult who lived in the home who was there saying, I will take the child. I will take the child.

RIVERS: DHS telling a different story saying, "ICE did not target a child," claiming Liam's father is undocumented immigrant who "fled on foot - abandoning" his son in the driveway. During a visit here in Minneapolis Thursday, Vice President JD Vance say agents were protecting the child.

VICE PRESIDENT JD VANCE: What are they supposed to do? Let a five-year-old child freeze to death?

RIVERS: The attorney says father and son entered the U.S. legally.

MARK PROKOSCH: Liam and his dad did enter at port of entry to seek asylum and they have shared their information with the government and they were following the process.

RIVERS: Now, the school district says four students have recently been detained. We now know that Liam and his father are both being held together at a processing facility outside of San Antonio. Protests and a march are scheduled for later today in Minneapolis, but wind chills near negative 15 degrees right now. It remains to be seen, Deborah, how many will actually show up.

DEBORAH ROBERTS: We will see. Matt, thank you so much.