

NBC Nightly News with Tom Llamas

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6:31:20 p.m. [TEASE]

12 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Firestorm Over 5-Year-Old in ICE Custody]

TOM LLAMAS: At this hour, massive protests in Minneapolis. Plus, our reporter presses the Border Patrol commander on how that five-year-old ended up in ICE custody. His – his response tonight.

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6:41:51 p.m.

2 minutes and 30 seconds]

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Massive Protests And Outrage Over Kids]

LLAMAS: In Minneapolis tonight, massive protests against ICE immigration enforcement, part of an economic boycott in the state as we're getting new images from that controversial incident when a five-year-old ended up in ICE custody. Here's Maggie Vespa.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Thousands at Anti-ICE Protest in Minneapolis]

MAGGIE VESPA: Tonight, despite the brutal cold, a massive crowd of anti-ICE protesters flooding downtown Minneapolis. It's part of today's statewide boycott on work, school, and shopping.

ANTI-ICE MALE [CRYING]: What is wrong with you? What is – what is wrong with you that you would do that to a child?

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; New Details on Five-Year-Old in ICE Custody]

VESPA: This as we learn new details about the case of five-year-old Liam Ramos and his father Adrian Conejo Arias. New video showing ICE officers escorting the preschooler into a black SUV.

ANTI-ICE STALKER: Where's your humanity? That's a kid.

VESPA: DHS says officers were targeting the father, who was here illegally and had a deportation order, though a family attorney says he came lawfully and had applied for asylum. DHS tonight saying it has no record of an asylum claim, adding Arias ran from officers abandoning his son, and Liam's mother refused to take custody.

GREGORY BOVINO: Over those past four years, hundreds of thousands of children are trafficked across that border. [SCREEN WIPE] We're definitely the experts at dealing with children, unfortunately.

VESPA: We pressed Border Patrol commander Gregory Bovino, who stressed Liam and his father are together in a federal facility. [TO BOVINO] We still have people saying that they're outraged at the idea of little kids being held in custody at all. So – so what do you say to those people and what kinds of conditions are young children being held in?

BOVINO: As far as – that family has not been separated – [SCREEN WIPE] – that child is in the least restrictive setting possible.

VESPA: Tonight, a Texas congressman releasing video of the ICE facility where they're being held, showing libraries, schools, and basketball courts, all as a Minneapolis city councilman now says this two-year-old named Chloe is in ICE custody after her father was arrested as the pair were driving home from the grocery store.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; DHS Responds About Two-Year-Old in ICE Custody]

LLAMAS: Maggie, let's pick it up right there. The Department of Homeland Security is now responding to this new case?

VESPA: Yeah, Tom, that's right, DHS saying Chloe's father was indeed their target, that he was in the country illegally, and they add her mother refused to take custody and that the toddler is now with her father in a federal facility, Tom.

LLAMAS: Maggie Vespa for us.