

Former private prison executive David Venturella will become ICE's acting leader

AP

WASHINGTON (AP) — David Venturella, a former executive at a private prison operator, will serve as the acting head of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Trump administration says, after the agency's current leader steps down at the end of the month.

A spokesperson for the Department of Homeland Security said late Tuesday that Venturella would succeed Todd Lyons, who led the agency through much of the administration's tumultuous crackdown on immigration. ICE did not immediately respond to an email seeking additional information Wednesday.

Venturella left the Geo Group in early 2023 and has been working at ICE

leading the division that oversees detention contracts, members of Congress wrote in a public letter earlier this year.

At the Geo Group, which houses around one-third of ICE detainees, Venturella served in a number of posts, including executive vice president overseeing corporate development, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing. He also oversaw removal operations for ICE in 2011 and 2012 after working for federal contractors, including one that specializes in security clearances and background checks.

Geo has benefited from President Donald Trump's mass deportation push, garnering big contracts to open three shuttered facilities. Among them was a \$1 billion, 15-year deal for

a detention center in New Jersey's largest city.

"Last year was the most successful period for new business wins in our company's history," Geo's CEO George Zoley said during an earnings call last week.

Geo owns and operates 23 ICE detention facilities, with about 26,000 available beds. Zoley also said that ICE's air transportation subcontract had continued to steadily increase and that it secured a new contract last year for electronic monitoring.

Venturella will lead ICE at a time when the public mood has soured on Trump's immigration crackdown, which sent surges of federal immigration officers into American cities to round up



ERIN HOOLEY — AP

FILE — A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent is seen in Park Ridge, Ill., Sept. 19, 2025.

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FARMERS

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their balance sheet, improving cash flow or helping them plan for the season ahead."

Farm Credit Mid-America is a farmer-owned

cooperative, meaning customers are also owners. Through patronage, a portion of the cooperative's earnings is returned to eligible customer-owners based on the level of eligible business they conduct with the Association. Patronage is an annual decision made

by Farm Credit Mid-America's board of directors.

"Over the last decade, we've returned more than \$1.75 billion directly to the people who make agriculture work," said Tara Durbin, chief lending officer of agriculture at Farm Credit Mid-America.

"A portion of that capital stays in Kentucky where it supports farms, families and rural communities, which is exactly what our cooperative system was designed to do."

Farm Credit Mid-America serves agricultural producers, rural homeowners

and agribusinesses across Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio and Tennessee. In addition to patronage, the cooperative invests roughly \$5 million annually in rural communities through education, leadership development, youth programs and support

for the next generation of agriculture.

To learn more about Farm Credit Mid-America's patronage program, eligibility requirements and customer-owner experiences, visit fema.com/patronage.

— Courtesy Farm Credit Mid-America

ANNIE

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tone, a bad day and a very unfortunate cup of tea? — Steeped in Hurt

Dear Steeped in Hurt:

After 44 years, one awkward sentence should not be allowed to burn down the whole teahouse.

You were sick, tired and tender, so her tone landed hard. She may have been rude, or she may simply

have been focused on the money in an ungraceful moment.

Say gently, "I know it was only \$4, but the way you asked made me feel like you didn't trust me. That hurt." Then stop talking and let

her answer.

Long friendships survive little bruises when both people are brave enough to name them and kind enough not to enlarge them.

"Out of Bounds: Es-

trangement, Boundaries and the Search for Forgiveness" is out now! Annie Lane's third anthology is for anyone who has lived with anger, estrangement or the deep ache of being wronged — because forgiveness

isn't for them. It's for you. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Follow Annie Lane on Instagram at @dearannieofficial. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

CORRECTION

Due to a production error, the sample ballot published in Tuesday's edition included an incorrect office category on page A8. The corrected version can be found below. The Commonwealth Journal apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused. Also, look for Land Posting to be published in Saturday's edition.

PURSUANT TO KRS 424.290, "MATTERS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED," THE FOLLOWING RACES WILL APPEAR ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS IN THE PRECINCTS LISTED IN PULASKI COUNTY FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 19, 2026.

NONPARTISAN CITY BALLOT	
CITY COUNCIL	
City of Somerset	
Ward Six	
(Vote for One)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Phyllis Orwin LAWSON
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike NEW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hobart GIRDLER

I, TIM PRICE, COUNTY CLERK OF PULASKI COUNTY, DO CERTIFY THAT THE PRECEDING FACSIMILE IS A TRUE COPY OF THE FACES APPEARING ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS IN THE PULASKI COUNTY, KENTUCKY. FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026.

TIM PRICE, CLERK
PULASKI COUNTY, KY

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HUFFAKER HARVEY'S HILL 22
and SOMERSET CITY
EAST 32; Part of OAK
HILL-SALINE 11. CANEY FORK
VAUGHT 31, SOMERSET
SOUTHEAST 41, PULASKI
EAST 42, PULASKI SOUTH 51
and BOURBON 52**