



GitHub faces more resignations in light of ICE contract

Megan Rose Dickey

@meganrosedickey / 4:40 pm UTC • November 13, 2019



Microsoft-owned GitHub [i](#) has been under intense scrutiny as of late for its \$200,000 contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Now, another employee, engineer Alice Goldfuss, has resigned.



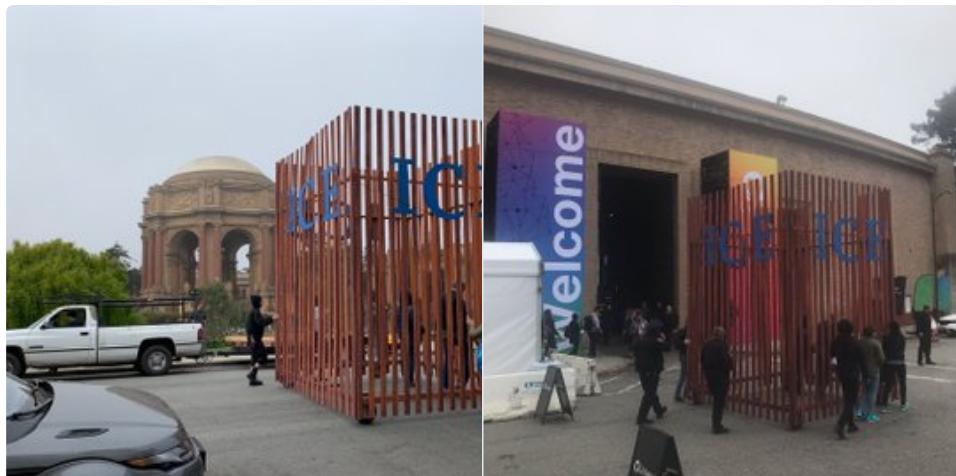
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We joined [@techworkersco](#) & [@githubbers](#) protesting the Github ICE contract at [#GithubUniverse](#) this morning in San Francisco.

Immigrant communities are under attack & tech companies are complicit.

They can no longer profit from our people without feeling the wrath. [#NoTechForICE](#)



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Last month, GitHub staff engineer Sophie Haskins resigned, stating she was leaving because the company did not cancel its contract with ICE, [The Los Angeles Times reported](#).

Last month, [GitHub employees penned](#) an open letter urging the company to stop working with ICE. That came following GitHub's [announcement](#) of a \$500,000 donation to nonprofit organizations in support of "immigrant communities targeted by the current administration." In that announcement, GitHub CEO Nat Friedman said ICE's purchase was made through one of GitHub's reseller partners and said



used with, but recognize it could be used in projects that support policies we don't agree and disagree with."

But some employees were not persuaded by Friedman's words.

"We are not satisfied with GitHub's now-public stance on this issue," GitHub employees wrote in an open letter. "GitHub has held a 'seat at the table' for over 2 years, as these illegal and dehumanizing policies have escalated, with little to show for it. Continuing to hold this contract does not improve our bargaining power with ICE. All it does is make us complicit in their widespread human rights abuses."

In response to that open letter, GitHub COO Erica Brescia said preventing ICE from using GitHub could "hurt the very people we all want to help," [The Los Angeles Times reported last month](#). Still, employees are not letting up, as illustrated by the action this morning.

When reached for comment about GitHub's stance on its contract with ICE, GitHub directed me to its blog post from last month. TechCrunch has sent a follow-up note to see if the company will comment on the resignation.

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Complete BS. ICE has become a media trigger acronym. Most of these employees have no concept of what is required to protect our borders, nor what ICE even does. They have been indoctrinated by far-left voices that get far too much attention, and are frankly dangerous. When and where did we come to such a divisive place? Border policies have not changed in decades. They are the same now as they were under the last 3 presidents -- at least. But, the tribal



Sean O · 7h ➔ Skip G



I really doubt that someone would go as far as to resign from their job over a "media trigger acronym". It sounds to me like you came to this article with some loaded opinions and decided to present them as fact. Simply because the problems with ICE have been exposed over the past few years, doesn't mean it was the right thing to do when previous presidents enabled them. It's just that more people know about it now and have been acting accordingly.

> We've always had border protection and we always will have border protection.

ICE doesn't often operate at the borders per se, but rather in communities within 100 miles of the border (or even further inland despite that not being their jurisdiction). On top of that, we did not have ICE prior to 2003, after the formation of the DHS, so it seems possible that we could go back to using USCIS as the main form of "border protection".

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