

Noem threatens legal action against CNN for report on 'ICEBlock' app

The Trump administration has routinely looked to exert pressure on media outlets.



Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and President Donald Trump on Tuesday suggested prosecuting CNN over their reporting. | Evan Vucci/AP

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07/01/2025 01:43 PM EDT



Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem on Tuesday floated prosecuting CNN for reporting on an app that would help users track activities of immigration detention officials, the latest broadside from an administration looking to

pressure media outlets.

Noem's threat comes amid the Trump administration's broader push to crack down on immigration across the country — and the president's ongoing battle with the press, which he has [repeatedly targeted with legal action](#) over people and stories he dislikes.

“We’re working with the Department of Justice to see if we can prosecute them for that, because what they’re doing is actively encouraging people to avoid law enforcement activities, operations and we’re going to actually go after them and prosecute them,” Noem told reporters when asked about CNN’s reporting during a tour of an immigration detention facility with President Donald Trump and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis in Florida, adding “what they’re doing, we believe, is illegal.”

Noem did not elaborate on what crimes the news network had allegedly committed in its reporting.

The DHS secretary's comments come after Trump administration border czar Tom Homan called for an investigation into CNN for publishing [a story about the creation of an app](#) that would alert users to ICE activity near them, as immigration sweeps and detentions have dramatically risen under the Trump administration's push to increase deportations.

“This is horrendous, that a national media outlet would be out there trying to forecast law enforcement operations across the country,” Homan told conservative podcaster Benny Johnson [in an interview](#) that aired on Monday. “I think DOJ needs to look at this.”

But CNN maintained that nothing about its report was unlawful, noting in a statement that the ICEBlock app is publicly available and the network's story did not promote its use.

“This is an app that is publicly available to any iPhone user who wants to

download it. There is nothing illegal about reporting the existence of this or any other app, nor does such reporting constitute promotion or other endorsement of the app by CNN,” a statement from a network spokesperson read.

After Noem discussed the possibility of legal action against the network over its ICEBlock story, Trump also jumped in to suggest that “they may be prosecuted also for having given false reports on the attack on Iran.”

Trump has long railed against the media for what he has claimed are “fake news” stories, recently targeting both CNN and The New York Times for reporting that the American bombing of three Iranian nuclear sites only set back the country’s program by several months, rather than entirely obliterating it, as the Trump administration has touted.

In a post to Truth Social last week, Trump claimed that “the Democrats are the ones who leaked the information on the PERFECT FLIGHT to the Nuclear Sites in Iran.”

“They should be prosecuted!” the president added, without clarifying who should be prosecuted, and for what.

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