NEW REPORT REVEALS DHS USE OF AI TO AUTOMATE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

New report, “Automating Deportation” uncovers the role AI is playing in determining immigration benefits and enforcement for millions of people in the United States.

Today, Mijente and Just Futures Law released a groundbreaking new report, “Automating Deportation”, that surveys Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) escalating use of artificial intelligence, pulling from years of research into AI tools at DHS and new information revealed by the DHS “AI Inventory.” The report highlights a number of concerning uses of AI by DHS and examines DHS’s failures in meeting legal and regulatory requirements for the use of AI, despite the potential negative impacts on millions of immigrants and migrating populations. While prior research focused on ICE and CBP use of technologies for detention and deportation efforts, these findings focus on a new and emerging use of AI to automate decision making, particularly at USCIS.

“Automating Deportation”, uncovers how DHS has prioritized the use of AI at an aggressive pace across its sub-agencies: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with little to no oversight or transparency. Key findings include:

- **USCIS uses AI to help make automated decisions on immigration relief and benefits for millions of applicants.** For example, USCIS created the AI tools “Predicted to Naturalize” to help decide which individuals should become U.S. citizens and the “Asylum Text Analytics” that automatically queries asylum and withholding applications to determine which applications are deemed fraudulent. USCIS is also developing an AI tool that will identify and deny immigration benefits to people that it labels fraud, public safety or threats.

- **ICE uses the “Hurricane Score” and the “Risk Classification Assessment” (RCA), seemingly AI-powered tools, to make decisions on whether to release a person from detention or determine the terms of their electronic surveillance under ICE’s Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP).**

Recently, the Biden administration announced substantial changes to U.S. citizen spouse and children immigration processing and asylum processing. DHS’ latest AI
tools will play a role and impact hundreds of thousands of people living in the U.S. Read the full report here.

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