

# AntiFreeze

## Press Kit

Real-time, anonymous ICE sighting alerts that can't be pulled from any app store.

antifreeze.app · Press contact: [contact@antifreeze.app](mailto:contact@antifreeze.app) · Updated April 2026

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## At a Glance

<b>What it is</b>	A free, anonymous, community-powered alert system for reporting ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) activity. Users within 5 miles of a sighting receive an instant push notification.
<b>How it's distributed</b>	A Progressive Web App (PWA) installed directly from a browser — not the App Store, not Google Play.
<b>Why that matters</b>	ICEBlock and similar apps were removed from Apple's and Google's stores under federal pressure in October 2025. AntiFreeze was built specifically so that can't happen to it.
<b>Who built it</b>	Josh, a solo developer based in the U.S. Midwest, working on AntiFreeze as a hobby and civic-tech project.
<b>Users</b>	3,700+ as of late April 2026, growing organically with no paid acquisition.
<b>Languages</b>	English and Spanish — bilingual from launch.
<b>Cost</b>	Free. No ads, no data collection, no accounts. Optional donations accepted via Ko-fi and crypto — no paid features, no premium tier.
<b>Backed by</b>	Cloudflare Project Galileo — providing enterprise-level security and DDoS protection at no cost to projects serving vulnerable communities.

## The 30-Second Pitch

In October 2025, the Trump administration pressured Apple and Google to remove every ICE-tracking app from their stores. ICEBlock, the most-used app in the category, was pulled overnight. The communities that relied on those tools lost them in a single news cycle.

AntiFreeze was built to survive exactly that scenario. It's a Progressive Web App — a website that installs to your phone's home screen and behaves like a native app, including push notifications. There is no app store gatekeeper. There is no corporate intermediary that can be pressured into removing it.

A user sees ICE activity, opens the app, taps "Report." Their GPS location is captured, the report is anonymized, and within seconds, every AntiFreeze user within 5 miles gets a push notification. Users can also browse a live map of nearby sightings — or open the full nationwide feed with a tap.

No accounts. No emails. No phone numbers. No personal data is ever collected or stored.

## Key Facts for Reporters

### How it works

- **Reporting radius:** Anonymous reports are pushed to all users within a 5-mile radius in real time.
- **Browse view:** A map and list view shows all reports within 25 miles from the past 72 hours by default. A **See All Sightings** button on the map opens the full nationwide feed of every reported sighting in the past 72 hours.
- **Install:** Visit antifreeze.app on a phone browser → tap "Add to Home Screen" → done. Works on iPhone and Android.

### Anonymity & privacy

- No sign-up. No account creation. No email, phone number, or name is ever requested or stored.
- AntiFreeze identifies devices via an anonymous device ID — there is no link to a real-world identity.
- The project does not run ads or sell data. Voluntary donations are accepted via Ko-fi and crypto — there are no paid features, no premium tier, and donating doesn't change anything about how the app works.

### Why a PWA, not a native app

- Apple removed ICEBlock from the App Store in October 2025 after the Justice Department reached out demanding its removal.
- Google followed suit and removed similar apps.
- A Progressive Web App is hosted on the open web. There is no platform gatekeeper that can remove it on government request.
- This is the central design decision of the project: **ensorship resistance through architecture.**

### Infrastructure & security

- AntiFreeze is enrolled in **Cloudflare's Project Galileo**, which provides free enterprise-grade security to civic-tech, journalism, and human-rights projects facing politically motivated attacks.
- The app supports both English and Spanish, with full bilingual UI and notifications.

### Growth

- Launched March 2026.
- 1,500 users in the first 48 hours of broad public exposure.
- 3,700+ users as of late April 2026 — growing entirely through word of mouth, organic press, and community sharing.

# Founder Quote

All quotes can be attributed to **Josh, the solo developer behind AntiFreeze**. Josh prefers to be referred to by first name only in coverage.

## Primary quote

### ON THE CENSORSHIP ANGLE

*"ICEBlock didn't fail because the technology was bad. It failed because it had a single point of failure: the App Store. AntiFreeze was built so that the same phone call that killed ICEBlock can't kill this. It runs on the open web. There's no gatekeeper to pressure."*

## Alternate quotes (use as fits the angle)

### ON COMMUNITY AND PROTECTION

*"If ICE is spotted four blocks from your house while you're making dinner, your phone should buzz and tell you. That's it. That's the whole idea. People deserve to know what's happening in their own neighborhoods, and they deserve a tool to share that with each other that nobody can take away."*

### ON WHY A SOLO DEVELOPER BUILT THIS

*"I'm one person. I don't have a company behind me, I don't take money for this, and I don't run ads. I built it because the tools communities were relying on had a single point of failure, and that failure happened exactly the way everyone should have expected it to."*

### ON PRIVACY

*"There's no sign-up, no email, no phone number, no account. We use an anonymous device ID and that's it. We don't know who our users are, and we never will. That's not a marketing claim — it's the architecture. There's nothing to hand over because we never collected it."*

## Selected Press Coverage

- **Border Report (Nexstar):** "AntiFreeze: New mobile app tracks ICE movements, operations" — March 2026
- **NewsNation, KTLA, MSN, WGN Radio, CBS17, WKRG:** Syndicated coverage of the Border Report piece
- **Daily Kos:** "I built an ICE tracking app that can't be pulled from the App Store. Because it was never in one." — March 2026
- **Daily Kos follow-up:** "AntiFreeze hit 1,500 users in 48 hours. Here's what changed." — March 2026
- **Life on the Wicked Stage** (warnercrocker.com): Independent blog repost referencing the Daily Kos coverage, March 2026

A current list lives at [antifreeze.app/press](https://antifreeze.app/press).

## Suggested Story Angles

For reporters considering a piece, here are the angles other outlets have found compelling:

**The censorship workaround.** What happens when civil-society tools are removed from app stores under government pressure? AntiFreeze is a case study in architectural resistance.

**Community safety in the immigration crackdown era.** How communities are using mutual-alert technology to protect each other in a moment of escalated enforcement.

**The solo-developer civic-tech story.** One person, no funding, no team, building infrastructure that thousands of people rely on. Why this kind of project keeps emerging in moments of institutional failure.

**The privacy story.** AntiFreeze collects literally nothing. It's a working counterexample to the assumption that useful apps require user data.

**Built bilingual from day one.** AntiFreeze launched with full English and Spanish support — built in from the start to serve the communities most directly affected by ICE enforcement, not retrofitted later.

## Available Assets

The following are available for editorial use. Email [contact@antifreeze.app](mailto:contact@antifreeze.app) to request:

- Logo and brand marks (SVG, PNG, light/dark variants)
- App screenshots (home, report flow, map view, alerts) — English and Spanish
- Map of activity / usage geography
- Quotes from prior press coverage
- Founder interview (audio, video, or written) — by request

## About the Developer

AntiFreeze is built and maintained by **Josh**, a U.S.-based solo developer who works on the project independently and as a hobby. Josh prefers to be referred to by first name only in coverage. Available for interviews via email and Bluesky.

**Web:** [antifreeze.app](https://antifreeze.app) · **Email:** [contact@antifreeze.app](mailto:contact@antifreeze.app) · **Bluesky:** [bsky.app/profile/antifreeze.app](https://bsky.app/profile/antifreeze.app)