SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY & HAITIAN DEPORTATIONS
U.S. DEPORTATION INDUSTRY & SPORTS TRAVEL

SPORTS TEAMS & ICE AIR
Nationwide, Syracuse University is among the schools that most frequently fly their athletes on the same planes used by ICE for deportations.

ICE owns no planes of their own and must contract out air travel for deportation flights. Research has shown that through a web of private air travel contractors and subcontractors, ICE works with some of the same companies, like Omni Air and Swift/iAero, that are also used by many professional and collegiate sports teams.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?
Most athletes are unaware they may be sitting in a seat occupied just days earlier by a person being brutalized, or deported to face possible death; they, and the universities they play for, are not intentionally causing harm. But university travel helps keep these companies in business. There are other options. Since the US government has failed at every level to ensure safety and justice in its treatment of migrants, it’s time for our communities to stop sustaining a system that reaps profit from human suffering.

The plane below, N6255W, is one of twelve Swift/iAero planes that was used by both Syracuse to transport sports teams and ICE for deportation flights of Haitian asylum-seekers.

FEB 13, 2022
This plane was used by the Syracuse University men’s basketball team to fly the team from Roanoke, VA to Syracuse, NY.

PLANE TAIL # N6255W
OPERATED BY: SWIFT/IAERO

FEB 15, 2022
Two days later, this plane was used to deport Haitian refugees.

4 SYRACUSE SPORTS TEAMS
- Men’s basketball
- Women’s basketball
- Men’s lacrosse
- Football

have flown on at least 12 PLANES belonging to Swift/iAero, also used by ICE for deportations.

These planes have operated at least 39 DEPORTATION FLIGHTS OF HAITIAN ASYLUM-SEEKERS

By reconfiguring seating arrangements, charter airline companies like iAero switch planes back and forth between mass deportations for ICE and private flights for collegiate and professional athletes.

For Syracuse, this means athletes are sometimes sitting in a seat occupied just days ago by a refugee who, under Title 42, was denied the opportunity to apply for asylum in violation of international law.