

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pickets at Microsoft to Support Workers' Demand: End the ICE contract!

[New York, NY, June 25, 2018] -- Science for the People organizes Solidarity Picket at Microsoft's NYC flagship store (677 5th Avenue) TONIGHT, 5-8PM to support the demands outlined in <u>the petition circulating among Microsoft employees</u>. Demands from the petition:

1. Cancel the existing Azure Government contract with ICE immediately.

2. Draft, publicize, and enforce a clear policy stating that neither Microsoft nor its contractors will work with clients who violate international human rights law.

3. Commit to transparency and review regarding contracts between Microsoft and government agencies, in the US and beyond.

Due to pressure, the Trump administration claims to have tempered its most inhumane practices at the border. Yet, separated children are still arriving in detention centers around the country, including here in New York City, while others remain detained indefinitely with their parents in private prisons. For Microsoft's part, the \$19.4M contract remains in place despite opposition from its employees and the widely condemned criminal behavior of ICE agents wielding their technology.

Tonight's picket will be followed by actions in other cities later in the week. These pickets will show solidarity with the letter signers and support the growing movement across the tech sector to oppose human rights violations at the border. Pickets will also promote the national day of action against the Trump administration's immigration policies, scheduled for June 30th.

About Science for the People (SftP)

Science for the People is dedicated to building and promoting social movements and political struggles around progressive and radical perspectives on science and society. We are workers, educators, and students in science and technology-related fields committed to the democratic practice of science for the benefit of humanity and the planet.

Contact: Zach Zill / Colleen Baublitz Phone: (954) 234-8059 | Email: <u>sftpnyc@gmail.com</u> www.scienceforthepeople.org

Signers of the Microsoft workers' petition may be available for comment upon request. # # #