

Amazon Staff Demand Jeff Bezos Stop Selling Face-Scanning Tech to Police | Newsweek

By Jason Murdock

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Amazon workers called on the firm's CEO Jeff Bezos to stop selling powerful face recognition tech to U.S. law enforcement and cease providing infrastructure to government-linked software giant Palantir, and said they "refuse to contribute to tools that violate human rights."

The letter [circulated inside Amazon](#) after it emerged that several tech companies had sold software tools to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the federal agency at the center of a controversial family separation practice this week. It followed a May [ACLU report exposing](#) how Amazon face-scanning tech called "AWS Rekognition" had been sold to police and government agencies.

The staffers noted Palantir, the big data analytics company founded by Trump-supporting Silicon Valley venture capitalist Peter Thiel, takes full advantage of Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud technology to help "power its detention and deportation programs." In 2014, [Palantir was awarded](#) an ICE contract worth \$41 million to build an intelligence program that could allegedly aid deportations.

Source: [Amazon Staff Demand Jeff Bezos Stop Selling Face-Scanning Tech to Police](#)