



ICWC Immigration Center for
Women and Children

Los Angeles
634 South Spring Street
Suite 727
Los Angeles, CA 90014
Tel: 213.614.1165
Fax: 213.624.1163

San Diego
427 C Street
Suite 208
San Diego, CA 92101
Tel: 619.515.2200
Fax: 619.515.2211

San Francisco
3543 18th Street
Mailbox #32
San Francisco, CA 94110
Tel: 415.861.1449
Fax: 415.861.1681

Las Vegas
550 Charleston Blvd.
Suite F
Las Vegas, NV 89104
Tel: 702.430.7981
Fax: 702.617.9887

www.icwcclaw.org

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Everyone has certain basic rights, no matter who is president

Everyone living in the U.S. has certain basic rights under the U.S.

Constitution. Undocumented immigrants have these rights, too. It is important that we all assert and protect our basic rights. If you find you have to deal with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or other law enforcement officers at home, on the street, or anywhere else, remember that you have the rights described in this factsheet. The factsheet also provides suggestions for what you should do to assert your rights.

- ✓ **You have the right to remain silent. You may refuse to speak to immigration officers or ICE agents.**
 - Don't answer any questions. Do not lie or give false information. You may also say that you want to remain silent. However, you must tell police officers your name.
 - Don't say anything about where you were born or how you entered the U.S. and do not claim to be a US Citizen
- ✓ **Carry a know-your-rights card and show it if an immigration officer stops you.**
 - The card explains that you will remain silent and that you wish to speak with an attorney.
- ✓ **Do not open your door.**
 - To be allowed to enter your home, ICE must have a warrant signed by a judge. Do not open your door unless an ICE agent shows you a warrant. (They almost never have one.) If an ICE agent wants to show you a warrant, they can hold it against a window or slide it under the door. To be valid, the warrant must have your correct name and address on it.
 - You do not need to open the door to talk with an ICE agent.
Once you open the door, it is much harder to refuse to answer questions.
- ✓ **You have the right to speak to a lawyer.**



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

If you are stopped by immigration or the police:

- ✓ Hand this card to the officer, and remain silent.
- ✓ The card explains that you are exercising your right to refuse to answer any questions until you have talked with a lawyer.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Please be informed that I am choosing to exercise my right to remain silent and my right to refuse to answer your questions. If I am detained, I request to contact an attorney immediately. I am also exercising my right to refuse to sign anything until I consult with my attorney. Thank you.

- You can simply say, “I need to speak to my attorney.”
- You may have your lawyer with you if ICE or other law enforcement questions you.

✓ **Before you sign anything, talk to a lawyer.**

- ICE may try to get you to sign away your right to see a lawyer or a judge. Be sure you understand what a document actually says *before* you sign it.

✓ **Always carry with you any valid immigration document you have.**

- If you are an ICWC client you may have the following documents: ICWC ICE Letter, USCIS Receipt Notices, Prima Facie Notice, any Approval notice (including U Visa Waitlist Notice), a valid work permit, or green card. Be sure to have these with you in case you need to show them for identification purposes. We encourage you to make copies of these documents. You do not need to carry all of them. Carry the most recent of these documents, along with the ICWC ICE Letter.
- If you do not show your ID, you may be taken to a police station and fingerprinted.
- Do not carry papers from another country with you, such as a foreign identification. If you do show ID, it may be used against you in the deportation process.
- Do not carry fake identification or documents

✓ **If you are worried ICE will arrest you, let the officer know if you have children.**

- If you are the parent or primary caregiver of a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is under age 18, ICE *may* “exercise discretion” and let you go.

Because Donald Trump has made many anti-immigrant statements, ICE and other law enforcement officers may think they can get away with violating your rights. Therefore, you must obey US laws. If you are arrested, you may be deported. Sometimes ICE officers lie to people in order to get them to open their doors or sign away their rights. If ICE detains you or you are concerned that they will conduct raids in your area, this is what you can do:

✓ **Create a safety plan.**

- Memorize the phone number of a friend, family member, or attorney that you can call if you are arrested.
- If you take care of children or other people, make a plan to have them taken care of if you are detained.
- Keep important documents such as birth certificates and immigration documents in a safe place where a friend or family member can access them if necessary.
- If you are concerned about getting removed from the U.S. and wish to make plans for your family and children, please see ILRC’s Family Preparedness Plan here:

https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/family_preparedness_plan_v2.pdf

- Make sure your loved ones know how to find you if you are detained by ICE. They can use ICE’s online detainee locator (<https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>) to find an adult who is in immigration custody.

Or they can call the local ICE office (<https://www.ice.gov/contact/ero>). Make sure they have your alien registration number written down, if you have one.

- You can call the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) hotline number at 240-314-1500 or 1-800-898-7180 (toll-free) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to get information on your case's status.

✓ **Report and document raids and arrests.**

- If it is possible and safe for you to do so, take photos and videos of the raid or arrest. Also take notes on what happened.
- Call United We Dream's hotline to report a raid: 1-844-363-1423.
- Send text messages to 877877.



✓ **Find legal help.**

- Nonprofit organizations that provide cost help can be found at www.immigrationlawhelp.org.
- The immigration courts have a list of lawyers and organizations that provide free legal services: www.justice.gov/eoir/list-pro-bono-legal-service-providers-map.
- At <https://www.adminrelief.org> there is a search engine into which you type a zip code and then are given a list of all the legal services near you.
- You can search for an immigration lawyer using the American Immigration Lawyers Association's online directory, www.aialawyer.com.
- The National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild also has an online find-a-lawyer tool: <https://www.nationalimmigrationproject.org/find.html>.
- Call 211 to find an immigration lawyer in California.

✓ **Learn more about your rights.**

- Read NILC's tips on how to prepare for a raid—in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).*
- Read resources and booklets in English and Spanish by the American Friends Service Committee and Casa de Maryland: <https://www.afsc.org/category/topic/know-your-rights>.
- Read resources by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center: www.ilrc.org / call: 415-255-9499

ICWC thanks the National Immigration Law Center (www.NILC.org) for compiling and providing this information. We have add specific information for ICWC clients