



## WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE APPROACHED BY ICE AGENTS

ICE stands for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.  
It is the enforcement arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

### If you are approached and questioned about your immigration status

**You have the right to remain silent.**

**You do not have to discuss your immigration or citizenship status** with them.

**You do not have to answer questions** about where you were born, whether you are a U.S. citizen, whether you have a criminal history or how you entered the country.

**Any information you give can be used against you in immigration court.**

**Do not lie about your citizenship status or provide fake documents.**

If you do, this can be used against you in court.

If you are uncomfortable with the questioning, **ask if you are free to leave.**

- If they say yes, calmly walk away.
- If they say no, immediately say that you are exercising your right to remain silent and that you won't answer any further questions without a lawyer.
- Do not consent to any search of your person.

### If ICE Agents come to your home

If police or immigration comes to your home, **you do not have to let them in unless they have a warrant.**

- **Ask for a copy of the warrant and some identification** to see if they are who they say they are. Officers may claim that they "just want to talk" or that they are there for some other purpose other than finding someone who is undocumented.
- **Remember your right to remain silent and to refuse entry without a warrant.**

**Ask the officer to slip the warrant under the door so you can inspect it.**

- **A search warrant** allows police to enter the address listed on the warrant, but they can only search the areas listed and for the items listed.
- **An arrest warrant** allows police to enter the home of the person listed on the warrant if they believe the person is inside.
- **A warrant of removal or deportation (ICE warrant) does not allow officers to enter a home without consent.**

Even if officers have a warrant, **you have the right to remain silent.**

- **If you choose to speak to the officers, step outside and close the door.**
- Even if officers have a warrant, do not discuss your citizenship status, whether you have a criminal history or how you entered the country.
- **Do not sign anything**, especially documents that are not in your native language. If they ask you to sign something, calmly refuse.

## **If ICE Agents enter your home**

- Firmly state: **“I do not consent to you being in my home, please leave.”**  
State: **“I do not want to talk to you and will not without a lawyer present.”**
- If agents start to search your home, firmly state: **“I do not consent to you searching my home.”**
- Making these statements may not stop agents from doing these things but it does preserve your rights for your immigration case.
- **Remember your right to remain silent.**  
Do not lie about a loved one’s whereabouts, as this may be used in the immigration case.
- **Do not give agents any personal information**, including a loved one’s phone number or any documents.

## **If you are arrested and taken into ICE custody**

- **Remember to exercise your right to remain silent.** Any statements you make can be used against you. State that you will **not answer questions without a lawyer** being present.
- Do not resist arrest or interfere in the arrest of a loved one. This can result in additional criminal charges and make the situation worse.
- **You have the right to a lawyer, but the government does not have to provide one for you.** If you do not have a lawyer, tell your family to start looking for a lawyer and to ask for a list of free or low-cost legal services.
- **Do not sign anything**, such as a voluntary departure or stipulated removal, without talking to a lawyer. If you sign, you may be giving up your opportunity to try to stay in the country.

## **Keep a copy of your immigration documents with someone you trust.**

Make sure your family gets a copy of any papers that ICE gives you.