



## **For the Community: Learn and Know Your Rights**

All persons, including noncitizens have rights

*Updated September 6, 2017*

### **In your home:**

- If immigration officers are at your door, do not open the door and ask the agents what they are there for.
- If ICE agents want to enter your home, ask for a signed warrant by a judge. An ICE deportation warrant from immigration authorities is not the same as a search warrant signed by a judge.
- If they have a signed warrant by a judge, ask them to slip it in under your door or hold it up to a window so you can see it. Look at the top and at the signature line to confirm that the warrant was issued by a court and signed by a judge.
- If ICE agents come to your door without a signed warrant by a judge, state: "I do not consent to your entry."
- You have the right to remain silent. You do not need to speak to the immigration officers or answer any questions.
- Never lie or show false documents. Never sign papers without speaking to an attorney.

### **In your workplace:**

- Immigration officers are not permitted to enter your workplace unless they have a search warrant or the consent of your employer.
- Once agents receive permission, they are free to ask you questions regarding your immigration status.
- You have the right to remain silent. In most states, you are not required to tell the agents your name but you may want to provide your name so that your family and attorney can locate you.
- You have the right to talk to an attorney before you answer any questions from the agents. You can respond: "I wish to talk to a lawyer," before responding to any of the agents' questions.
- You are not required to tell the agents where you were born or what your immigration status is.
- You are not required to show any immigration documents to the agents. If they ask to see your documents, you can respond: "I wish to talk to an attorney."
- Never lie or show false documents. Never sign papers without speaking to an attorney.

### **On the street:**

- You have the right to remain silent. You are not required to talk to immigration agents or answer questions before talking to an attorney.
- You may ask the officers if you are free to go. If they say no, be calm and exercise your right to remain silent.
- You are not required to tell the agents where you were born or what your immigration status is. You may refuse to show the agents any documents that indicate your country of citizenship.
- You have the right to refuse search by the immigration officers. If you are stopped for questioning by the agents, but are not being arrested, you have the right to refuse search of yourself and your belongings. An officer may do a "pat down" if he or she suspects you have a weapon.
- You have the right to speak to an attorney. If you have been detained or taken into custody, you have the right to contact a lawyer immediately. Even if you do not have a personal lawyer, you can tell the agents that you would like to speak to an attorney.
- Never lie or present false documents.
- You have the right to refuse to sign any document until you have had the chance to speak to an attorney.

**At a School, Hospital or Place of Worship:** DHS policy directs that immigration enforcement at sensitive locations should generally be avoided, and require either prior approval from an appropriate supervisory official or exigent circumstances. Sensitive locations include:

- **Schools**, such as known and licensed daycares, pre-schools and other early learning programs; primary schools; secondary schools; post-secondary schools up to and including colleges and universities; as well as scholastic or education-related activities or events, and school bus stops that are marked and/or known to the officer, during periods when school children are present at the stop;
- **Medical treatment and health care facilities**, such as hospitals, doctors' offices, accredited health clinics, and emergent or urgent care facilities;
- **Places of worship**, such as churches, synagogues, mosques, and temples;
- **Religious or civil ceremonies or observances**, such as funerals and weddings;
- **During public demonstration**, such as a march, rally, or parade.

### **Recommendations/Tips:**

- Carry a [know-your-rights card](#) and show it to an immigration officer if you are stopped.
- Memorize phone numbers of family members, friends, and attorneys. Organize documents and make copies of important paperwork relating to finances, health, etc. Plan ahead for childcare in case anything happens to you. Update your child's emergency contact information at school.
- Ensure friends and family are familiar with ICE's [detainer locator](#) or know how to call ICE if you have been detained.
- You and your children have [the right to an elementary and secondary school education](#).
- If you are Muslim, the ACLU has provided [what to do when faced with anti-Muslim discrimination](#).
- The DHS is no longer accepting new applications for DACA, or [Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals](#). However, DHS will still consider those who currently have a DACA renewal application pending or those who are current DACA beneficiaries whose benefits will expire between September 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018. Applications for renewal must be accepted by DHS by October 5, 2017.
- Report and document immigration enforcement activities, violations of the "Sensitive Locations" memo or incidents of discrimination.

### **Legal Services/Resources:**

- [Penn State Law's Center for Immigrants' Rights Clinic](#)
  - [Legal Service Provider's List](#)
- Centre County Women's Resource Center, [Civil Legal Representation Project](#)
- [American Immigration Lawyer's Association directory](#)
- The National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild's [online tool](#)
- [Non-profit organizations that provide low-cost help](#)
- The Department of Justice maintains [a list of lawyers and organizations](#) that provide free legal help

### **What about local police and government? Am I safe?**

- On January 9, 2017, the [Borough of State College](#) adopted a [resolution](#) on immigration enforcement affirming that immigration is a federal responsibility, opposing registries that track individuals based on race, religion and other impermissible factors, and supporting the police practice to not ask victims and witnesses about immigration status. [The State College Police Department](#) has been on record saying that State College Police does not ask witnesses or victims about immigration status as a general practice.
- On April 3, 2017, Ferguson Township adopted a [resolution](#) on immigration opposing policies that exclude or track individuals based on race, religion and other impermissible factors, and supporting the police practice to not ask individuals about their immigration status unless pertinent to an investigation or in the interest of public safety. [The Ferguson Township Chief of Police](#) has gone on record to confirm that the Ferguson Police will generally not ask witnesses or victims regarding their immigration status and that community members should not be afraid to call the police if they are a witness or a victim.

*This document is adapted from several sources, including American Immigration Lawyers Association, National Immigration Law Center, and the American Civil Liberties Union. All sources are hyperlinked. This document does not constitute for legal advice.*