

If ICE Visits Your Home - A Guideline for Employees

- There have been reports of ICE Officers posing as local police. If government agents arrive to your home, keep the door closed and ask what agency the agents are from. Are they from immigration or are they local police?
- Know that **opening the door does not give government agents permission to enter your home**, regardless of whether they are ICE Officers or local police.
- Contact your attorney immediately if you have one.
- Ask the government agents why they have come to your home.
- If you cannot understand the agent, ask for an interpreter. This could be someone in your home or otherwise. If you do not have an interpreter, you can state that you do not understand and, if they do not have a warrant, the inquiry should end.
- If the agents want to enter your home, **ask to see a warrant**. You should have them **slip the warrant under the door or show it to you through a window**.
- If you feel you must open the door, step outside and close the door behind you, and then ask to see a warrant.
- Agents may show up to your home carrying a “Warrant of Removal/Deportation” for a particular individual. **With this warrant, the agents cannot enter your home without your permission**.
- If the agents tell you they have a warrant, ask to see it and make sure that the warrant was **issued by a court and signed by a judge**. The warrant must have your address on it and it must specify the name of someone inside the home. If the warrant **does not include all of this information, do not let them in, or even open the door at all**.
- If they do not have a warrant, inform the officer that they are not permitted to enter and that you are exercising your right to refuse unlawful searches. This may not stop them from forcing an entry, but it is important to refuse the entry if no warrant to preserve the defense later.
- If the agents **do not have a warrant at all, do not let them in**. Do not answer any questions and tell them: “I do not want to talk to you.” This may not stop them from forcing an entry, but it is important to refuse the entry if no warrant to preserve the defense later.

If the agents forcibly enter your home:

- Unfortunately, agents may try to enter your home regardless of whether you give them permission or whether they have a warrant signed by a judge.
- *Do not resist arrest as that can be a separate crime*. **Be calm and tell the agents:** “I am exercising my right to remain silent. I wish to speak with a lawyer as soon as possible.”
- Know that you have rights regardless of whether you have immigration documents or not. These rights are protected under the U.S. Constitution regardless of status.
- Know Your Rights flyers are available online at:
 - » <https://www.nilc.org/get-involved/community-education-resources/know-your-rights/>.
 - » <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/what-do-if-youre-stopped-police-immigration-agents-or-fbi>
 - » <http://www.aila.org/advo-media/tools/psas/know-your-rights-handouts-if-ice-visits>

- You can print out **Know Your Rights “Red Cards”** to keep in your wallet as a guide if you are approached by an officer. <https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards>.
- *You have the right to speak to an attorney.* Have someone contact your attorney immediately, if you cannot.
- *You have the right to remain silent,* even if the agents have a proper arrest warrant.
- *Everyone inside your home also has the right to remain silent.*
- **Do not provide any papers** to the agents without speaking to an attorney first.
- **Do not sign any papers** without speaking to an attorney first.

In case you are arrested and detained:

- Make **plans in advance to care for your family members** in case of arrest. The Immigration Legal Resource Center has a Family Preparedness Plan you should download and **prepare even before you have any interaction with government officers.**
- The **Family Preparedness Plan** is available at: https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/family_preparedness_plan_v3-20170323.pdf
- Have a family member/friend contact HR immediately with any information they have on you and your arrest.

Finding legal help:

- You can contact your local American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) affiliate to request legal assistance at <https://www.aclu.org/about/affiliates>.
- Nonprofit organizations that provide low-cost help can also be found at www.immigrationlawhelp.org.
- The immigration courts have a list of lawyers and organizations that provide free legal services at www.justice.gov/eoir/list-pro-bono-legal-service-providers-map.
- The National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild also has an online tool to find lawyers at www.nationalimmigrationproject.org/find.html.
- The National Immigration Detention Hotline:
 - » The National Immigration Detention Hotline is a free and confidential service offered to detained individuals, helping them connect with their families and providing them with resources.
 - » To learn more, visit the website for the National Immigration Detention Hotline at <http://www.endisolation.org/hotline>. The Hotline is available Monday - Friday from 12pm - 8pm PST. E: info@endisolation.org; T: 385-212-4842 (385-21-CIVIC)