

Know Your Rights

What to Do If You Encounter ICE

This resource is for educational purposes only and is not legal advice. Laws and procedures may vary by situation. If you need legal advice, consult a qualified immigration attorney.

If ICE Comes to Your Home

- You do **not** have to open the door unless ICE has a **warrant signed by a judge**.
- You can ask officers to **slide the warrant under the door** or hold it up to a window.
- An **ICE administrative warrant (Form I-200 or I-205)** is *not* the same as a judge-signed warrant.
- You have the **right to remain silent**. You do not have to answer questions about where you were born or your immigration status.
- Do not sign anything without speaking to a lawyer.

Helpful phrase to use:

“I am exercising my right to remain silent and I would like to speak to a lawyer.”

If You Are Stopped in Public or in a Vehicle

- Stay calm. Do not run, argue, or resist.
- You have the **right to remain silent**—say this out loud.
- Ask: **“Am I being detained, or am I free to leave?”**
 - If you are free to leave, walk away calmly.
- You do **not** have to consent to a search of your body, car, or belongings.
- Do not lie or provide false documents.

If You Are Detained or Arrested

- Say clearly: **“I wish to remain silent and I want a lawyer.”**
- Do not sign any documents without legal advice.
- You have the right to make a phone call.
- Do not discuss your immigration status with anyone except your attorney.

If You Witness ICE Activity (Bystanders)

- You have the right to **observe and record ICE in public spaces**, as long as you do not interfere.
- If asked to step back, do so while continuing to record.
- Avoid escalating the situation or physically interfering.
- You may calmly remind individuals of their rights, such as:
 - “You have the right to remain silent.”
 - “You don’t have to sign anything without a lawyer.”
- Write down what you observed as soon as possible (time, location, number of officers, badge names or numbers if visible).

Preparing Ahead of Time

- Memorize important phone numbers.
- Keep copies of important documents in a safe place.
- Identify an emergency contact.
- Consider consulting a reputable immigration attorney.
- Create a family or emergency plan if needed.
- Print and complete the card template below and carry the information with you.

Important Reminder

This resource is meant to support emotional safety and informed decision-making. It is not a substitute for legal advice.

Cut out and fold the card below and keep in your wallet

<p>Emergency Contact _____ Emergency # _____</p> <p>Lawyer Name: _____ Lawyer # _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Deportation Defense Hotline 401-675-1414 RI Legal Services 401-274-2652</p> <p>Translation Service(DORCAS)401-784-8634</p>
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