Know Your Rights: ICE Encounters

This information applies to everyone in the United States—including U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, visa holders, asylum seekers, and undocumented individuals.

Your Core Rights

Everyone has the right to:

- **Remain silent.**
- **Refuse consent** to searches.
- Ask if they are **free to leave.**
- Ask for a **lawyer if detained.**

These rights apply regardless of immigration status.

Clearly State:

"I choose to remain silent."

"Am I being detained or am I free to go?"

"I do not consent to any searches."

"I want to speak to a lawyer."

If ICE Comes to Your Home

- You **do NOT** have to open the door.
- ICE may enter only if they have **a judicial warrant.**
  - ICE administrative warrants **do NOT** allow entry.
  - You may say (through the door): **"I do not consent to entry. Please slide the warrant under the door."**
  - A valid warrant must say **"U.S. District Court" and must be signed by a judge.**
- **Do not open the door.**
- **Do not invite officers inside.**
- **Do not sign anything without a lawyer.**

If Stopped in a Car

- **Ask: "Am I being detained?"**
- You may **remain silent** beyond basic identifying information.
- You may **refuse searches** of your car or belongings.
- **Do not consent** to vehicle searches.
- **Do not lie** or show false documents.
- If given a ticket or citation, **you may accept it without answering questions.**

If Stopped on the Street

- **Ask: "Am I free to go?"**
  - **If yes:** Walk away calmly
  - **If no:** You may remain silent
- You **do NOT** have to answer:
  - Where you were born
  - Your immigration status
  - How or when you entered the U.S.
- **You may ask for a lawyer if detained.**

What You Should NOT Do

- Do not **run.**
- Do not **resist physically.**
- Do not **lie or provide false documents.**
- Do not **sign anything you do not understand.**

What To Carry With You

Visa holders and Lawful Permanent Residents **must carry proof of their lawful status, including their visa and "green card."**

U.S. citizens are not required to, but in this current political climate should consider, carrying their U.S. passport along with their driver's license.

This information is for educational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice.

Report an Incident

For free legal assistance, scan the QR code or visit ca.cair.com/legal-services

CAIR CALIFORNIA

ca.cair.com