

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

## What to do if ICE agents approach you in public:

Agents may call out your name. You don't have to say anything. Remain calm. DON'T RUN!

- Before anything else, ask, "AM I FREE TO GO?"
  - If they say YES: Say, "I'd rather not speak with you right now." Walk away.
  - If they say NO: Use your right to remain silent! Say, "I want to use my right not to answer questions," and then "I want to speak to a lawyer."
- If ICE agents try to search you say, "I do not consent to a search."
  - DON'T LIE or show false documents. Don't run or resist arrest.
  - DON'T ANSWER questions about your immigration status or where you were born. Keep saying you want to call your attorney.
  - DON'T GIVE THEM any foreign documents such as a passport, consular IDs, or expired visas. You can give them a Mercer County ID if you have one.
- If you are in criminal court, ask to speak to your lawyer.

## What to do if officers are at your door:

- Find out if they are ICE. Ask what they want. Ask if they have a warrant from a judge for you or anyone else who lives there. Examine the warrant. Call your attorney for advice before opening the door. If they don't have a warrant, don't let them in.
- Try to stay calm. Be polite. Don't lie.
- If they are local police, find out what they want. Local Princeton police do not do immigration work.
- If they are looking for someone else, ask them to leave their contact information. You do not have to tell them where to find the person. Do not lie.

## What to do if ICE agents enter your home:

- Tell them if there are children or other vulnerable residents at home.
- Ask them to step outside unless they have a warrant signed by a judge.
- If they came inside without your permission, tell them, "I do not consent to your being in my home. Please leave."
- If they start to search your home, tell them "I do not consent to your search."
- If ICE is arresting you, tell them if you have medical issues or need to arrange for childcare.
- Do not answer any questions. Tell them you are exercising your right to remain silent and ask to be allowed to call your attorney as soon as possible.

## If you are being arrested by ICE, you still have rights:

- You have the right to remain silent. You have the right to speak to a lawyer. Say, "I want to speak to a lawyer."
- You do NOT have to share any information about where you were born, what your immigration status is or your criminal record. Ask to speak to a lawyer instead of answering questions.
- You do NOT have to give them any documents or your passport unless they have a warrant for your arrest specifically.

# DO's and DON'Ts

- **DO NOT** open your door until you know who is outside.
- **DO NOT** let any ICE official into your home without a search warrant for that home or an arrest warrant for someone who is inside it.
- **DO NOT** fear local Princeton police. Local police are not ICE. They do not participate in immigration matters and only share information with ICE in criminal cases.
- **DO NOT** seek the advice of notaries or other so-called “immigration experts.” They are not authorized to represent you in immigration proceedings, and can get you into trouble. Ask for a business card. If they don't have one, or if it does not say “Attorney” or “Esq.” after the name, leave.
- If you have a case open with immigration, **DO NOT** ignore any correspondence you receive about your case. Discuss it with the attorney or agency representing you and respond before the deadline, if applicable.
- **DO** exercise your right to remain silent until you have a lawyer.
- **DO** consult with a competent immigration attorney or legal services nonprofit agency to get advice on how to either regularize your status or appeal your arrest. Check the list of legal service agencies authorized by the US Department of Justice at: <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/file/ProBonoNJ/download>
- **DO** ask your attorney to give you an emergency number you can call after business hours in case you are arrested.
- **DO** keep copies of all the documents related to your case in a safe place.
- **KNOW** your A# (case number). This is a 9-digit number preceded by the letter “A”.
- **DO** tell a trusted family member or friend where you keep your documents and the name and contact information of the attorney or agency familiar with your case.
- If you are deportable, **DO** make arrangements for children and other dependents in your home.

