

Know Your Rights!

AS AN IMMIGRANT

All people in the United States have guaranteed rights under the Constitution, *regardless* of immigration status.

If federal immigration or other law enforcement agents **are at your door:**

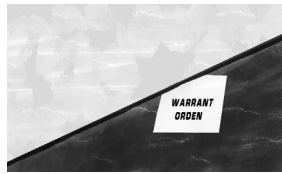


You do not have to open the door unless agents have a judicial warrant.

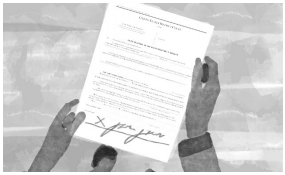


You have the right to remain silent.

You do not have to speak to agents or answer questions.



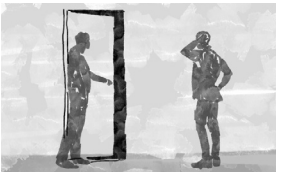
Ask “Do you have a warrant?” Ask agents to slip it under the door or show it through a window.



Check to see if it is a warrant signed by a judge and authorizes agents to either search a specific area or to arrest a specific person.



If they do not have a judicial search warrant, do not open the door. Tell them to leave their contact info for a lawyer to contact them.



If they have a warrant for someone's arrest, **send that person outside instead of allowing agents inside.**

If agents **have a warrant and enter your home:**

You have the right to record their actions.

Document what items they search.

You can state “I do not consent to this search.”

What is a **judicial warrant**?

A judicial warrant is a document signed by a judge that authorizes officials to **arrest someone** or to **search your house**.

A VALID SEARCH WARRANT MUST:



...describe in detail the area to be searched.



...state the correct address of the home to be searched.



...be signed by a judge, a justice of the peace, or a magistrate.

A DOCUMENT SIGNED BY AN IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL IS NOT A VALID JUDICIAL WARRANT!



American Friends Service Committee

Information last updated November 2025. None of the information in this document should be considered legal advice. Please speak to an immigration attorney or Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) accredited representative about your particular case.

If you are stopped on the street:

- ✓ **Stay calm and don't run.**
- ✓ **You have the right to remain silent.** You do not have to answer questions about where you were born, whether you are a U.S. citizen, or how you entered the country.
- ✓ **You do not have to consent to a search of yourself, your belongings, or your vehicle.** If ICE asks for your permission or starts searching you or your belongings, you can say, "I do not consent to this search."
- ✓ **ICE can only arrest you if they have probable cause.** In other words, if they have facts about you that make it probable that you are in violation of immigration law or federal law. They may stop you without having probable cause. Ask if you are free to leave: "Am I free to go?" If yes, walk away calmly and silently.
- ✓ **If you must provide identification, it is best to show a U.S. form of identification like a student ID, work ID, non-driver ID, or driver's license.** Do not lie or show fake documents. You do not have to show documents related to your status unless law enforcement shows you a valid warrant to see those documents.

If ICE is at your workplace or place of worship:

- ✓ **Stay calm.** Running away can give agents an excuse to make arrests.
- ✓ **You have the right to remain silent.** You do not have to answer any questions or provide any information to officers.
- ✓ **ICE or other enforcement agencies can only enter public areas of a business or place of worship, UNLESS they have a judicial warrant.**
- ✓ **You do not have to allow police or federal agents into any reasonably private areas** (for example, staff-only areas, offices, kitchens). Say, "I can't give you permission to enter. You must speak with a person in charge."
- ✓ **Ask to see a warrant:** Say, "This is a private area. You cannot enter without a judicial warrant signed by a judge. Do you have a judicial warrant?"
- ✓ If officials have a valid search warrant, **document whether they search only the areas described in the warrant.**
- ✓ **If agents present a warrant that names a specific person, you do not have to say whether that person is present, and you do not have to lead officials to that person.** Everyone has the right to remain silent and not answer questions.

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IF YOU ARE DETAINED

Create an emergency plan ahead of time for what to do in case you are detained.

EMERGENCY PLAN

- ✓ Attorney contact,
- ✓ Phone number of emergency contact (caretaker, family, other)
- ✓ Plan for finances, caretaking, and more

Ask someone to notify your attorney and your family. It may be helpful to have these phone numbers memorized.

You do not have to answer any agents' questions. This is known as the right to remain silent. You can say "I would like to remain silent. I would like to speak to an attorney."

You have the right to speak to an attorney, but you may need to find your own. Ask to be referred to a list of possible lawyers.

Do not sign anything without speaking to an attorney first.



FOR MORE RESOURCES, VISIT, [AFSC.ORG/KYR](https://afsc.org/kyr)