

# Know Your Rights

## For Immigrants at Home and in Public

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**As Catholics and people of faith and goodwill,  
we take care of our communities and protect one another.**

**Everyone in the United States, including undocumented immigrants, has Constitutional rights.** Understanding these rights will help keep you and your community members safe when you encounter law enforcement.

*Note: This resource does NOT constitute legal counsel. In these uncertain times, please consult your attorney or local immigration advocacy groups for further guidance for your local area.*

### If ICE comes to your home:

1. **Do not open the door.** Remain calm. Do not say anything and do not open the door, even if they know you are inside.
2. **Do not say anything.** You have the right to remain silent. Say nothing unless an officer says they have a warrant.
3. **Check the warrant.** If the officers announce that they have a warrant, ask them to slide it under the door. **You only have to let them in if the warrant is a search warrant, signed by a judge, with your correct name and address on it.** An ICE deportation warrant is not the same thing as a search warrant.

### If ICE approaches you in public:

1. **Do not say anything.** In some states, you must confirm or state your name and date of birth when asked. **But you have the right to remain silent about your immigration status at all times.** You can say, "I choose to remain silent," or "I want to speak to a lawyer before answering questions."
2. **Ask if you are free to leave.** If the officer says "yes," walk away calmly and silently. If the officer says "no," ask to speak to a lawyer and then remain silent. **Do not try to run away.** Running away may give law enforcement cause to arrest you.
3. **You have the right to refuse a search.** It is important that you clearly announce, "I do not consent to this search," even if the officer continues to search you or your belongings. Do not physically resist.

**If you are detained, you have the right to speak to a lawyer.** Tell the officers that you want to speak with a lawyer and that you have their phone number. Do not sign any papers and do not answer any questions before you talk to a lawyer.

**Make a plan now.** Contact local immigration groups and **memorize a legal representative's phone number** in case you are detained.