

YOUR RIGHTS

- You have certain legal rights, regardless of your immigration status or citizenship.
- You always have the right to remain silent when an official asks about your legal status.
- You do not have to consent to a search of your person, vehicle or home.
- If you are not under arrest, you have the right to leave.
- You have the right to a lawyer if you are arrested.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Remain calm and polite.
- Do not interfere with or obstruct the police.
- Do not provide false information or documents.
- Prepare yourself and your family in case of arrest.

IF YOU ARE STOPPED IN A PUBLIC PLACE

- Stay calm. Do not run. It is best to avoid arguing with the police. Always keep your hands where the police can see them.
- Ask if you are under arrest. If the officer says NO, you can walk away calmly. If you are being detained, you have the right to know why.
- You have the right to remain silent. You can tell the officer that you do not wish to speak and that you will not answer questions without a lawyer.
- You are not required to consent to a search of your belongings or your body, but the police can pat down your clothing if they suspect you have a weapon.

This information is not intended to serve as legal advice. Some state laws may vary. Different rules apply during vehicle stops and entry to the United States (including in airports). More information: aclu.org/know-your-rights or aclum.org.



IMMIGRANTS: INTERACTING WITH POLICE OR IMMIGRATION AGENTS

- Memorize telephone numbers for your family and your lawyer, as well as your immigration number ("A-number").
- Make emergency plans for your children. Decide who will take care of them if you are detained. Decide who can pick up your kids from school or other places, and share their names with these places.
- Store a copy of your immigration documents and your A-number with someone you trust.

PREPARE YOURSELF BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS

Massachusetts

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

ACLU

www.aclum.org

(617) 482-3170

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IF YOU ARE ASKED ABOUT YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS

- You do not have to talk about your status with the police or immigration agents. (Different rules apply at international border crossings and airports.)
- If you are not a U.S. citizen, and an immigration agent asks for your immigration documents, you must show them if you have them. If you do not have immigration documents, say that you would like to remain silent.

IF YOU ARE STOPPED IN YOUR VEHICLE

(Different rules apply at international border crossings and airports)

- Stop the vehicle in a secure spot as soon as possible. Roll down your window partway and place your hands on the wheel.
- If asked, you should show your driver's license and vehicle registration documents. Do not show false documents.
- Driver's licenses from certain foreign countries may be used to drive in Massachusetts for one year after entry into the United States. If you have been in the U.S. for less than one year, carry with you your driver's license and passport or other proof of date of entry.
- If you do not have a driver's license, do not lie or show false documents. If you do not have a license, you are not obligated to speak about your immigration status.
- Passengers do not need to show identity documents. If you are a passenger and you are asked for identity documents, you do not need to show them unless the police are accusing you of a crime.
- If law enforcement asks to search your vehicle, you can say no. The police can only search your vehicle without your permission if the official believes that the vehicle contains evidence of a crime.

IF YOU ARE ARRESTED FOR A CRIME

- You have the right to request a lawyer. You can say that you do not want to speak or answer questions, and that you would like a lawyer.
- You can request to make a local phone call and call your lawyer or your family.
- In Massachusetts, if you are arrested and pay bail, you cannot continue to be detained based on an immigration-related matter. Once you pay bail, you have the right to go free. If this does not occur, call the ACLU at 617-482-3170.

IF THE POLICE OR IMMIGRATION AGENTS COME TO YOUR HOME

- You do not need to let them in unless they have a warrant signed by a judge.
- You can ask the official if they have a warrant, and request that they pass it under the door or show it through a window. If the warrant is not signed by a judge (look for the words "Judge" or "Magistrate Judge"), you do not need to open the door. A deportation order ("ICE warrant") is not sufficient to enter your home without your permission.
- Even within your home, you have the right to remain silent, and you do not need to speak with the law enforcement agents. If you choose to speak with them, you can go outside to do it and keep the door closed.

IF YOU ARE DETAINED BY ICE

- You have the right to hire your own lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, you can request a list of providers of legal services. You can ask to speak to your lawyer before signing anything.
- You have the right to communicate with your country's consulate.
- If a loved one is detained by immigration agents, you can search for the location where they are being detained here: <https://locator.ice.gov/>