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## PROTECT YOURSELF: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

*February 6, 2017*

### ✓ **Don't panic!**

- Don't make hasty decisions: gather knowledge and know your rights.
- If you have a green card, find out if you qualify for citizenship.
- If you are in the United States on a visa, find out if you can get a green card.
- If you are not a U.S. citizen and have criminal convictions, speak to an immigration attorney to find out how it may affect you in the future.
- Make sure to not fall for scammers or “notaries” who will prey on those who may be confused or fearful.

### ✓ **You have the right to remain silent.**

- You may refuse to speak to immigration officers.
- Tell the immigration officer that you want to remain silent and do NOT answer their questions.
- Immigration officials are required to inform individuals of the right to remain silent or have an attorney present for any interview.
- Don't say anything about where you were born or how you entered the U.S.

### ✓ **Do not open your door.**

- To be allowed to enter your home, ICE must have a warrant signed by a judge. Do not open your door unless an ICE agent shows you a warrant *first*.
- If the ICE agent states that they have a warrant, ask them to hold it against a window or slide it under the door.
- If they provide the warrant, make sure it is valid. To be valid it must:
  - Have your correct name or the name of someone living at that residence;
  - Your address on it; and
  - Be signed by a judge. If the warrant is issued by ICE and not a court, it is not a valid search warrant so they cannot enter your home.
- You do not need to open the door to talk with an ICE agent. Once you open the door, it is much harder to refuse to answer questions.

### ✓ **You have the right to speak to a lawyer.**

- Tell the ICE agent “I cannot answer these questions. I need to speak to my attorney.”

- ✓ **DO NOT sign anything without talking to a lawyer.**
  - ICE may try to get you to sign away your right to see a lawyer or a judge. This can jeopardize your case.
- ✓ **Carry only appropriate documents with you.**
  - Carry a California driver's license or other identification that does not identify your country of origin.
  - If you have a valid work permit or green card carry it with you for identification purposes.
  - Carry the telephone number of an immigration attorney or nonprofit immigration legal service provider that you can call in an emergency.
  - Do not carry papers from another country with you that evidence your foreign nationality, such as a foreign passport. Such papers could be used against you in the removal process.
  - Do not carry any false identity documents or false immigration documents.
- ✓ **If you have children and think ICE is going to arrest you, let the officer know you have children.**
  - If you are the parent or primary caregiver of a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is under age 18, ICE may "exercise discretion" and let you go.
- ✓ **Create a safety plan.**
  - Memorize the phone number of a friend or family member that you can call if you are arrested.
  - If you take care of children or other people, make a plan to have them taken care of if you are detained.
  - Keep important documents such as birth certificates and immigration documents in a safe place where a friend or family member can access them if necessary.
  - Make sure your loved ones know how to find you if you are detained by ICE. They can use ICE's online detainee locator (<https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>) to find an adult who is in immigration custody. Make sure they have your alien registration number written down, if you have one.
- ✓ **Carry a Know Your Rights Card**
  - Cut out the following card or copy it onto a piece of paper and carry it with you.
  - Present the card to immigration or the police if you are arrested to exercise your right to remain silent and to request an attorney.
  - Cut out the following card or copy it onto a piece of paper and carry it with you.

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

Please be informed that I am choosing to exercise my right to remain silent and the right to refuse to answer your questions. If I am detained, I request to contact an attorney immediately. I am also exercising my right to refuse to sign anything until I consult with my attorney.

Thank you.

Add the phone# of an immigration attorney or nonprofit legal service provider/Agregue el número de teléfono de un abogado de inmigración o proveedor de servicios legales: \_\_\_\_\_

- If ICE shows up at your home and they do not have a valid search warrant, do not open the door and slide the following card under that door.

- ✓ *Usted tiene derechos constitucionales.*
- ✓ *No habra la puerta si un agente del servicio de immigration esta tocando la puerta.*
- ✓ *No conteste ninguna pregunta del agente.*
- ✓ *Entregue esta tarjeta al agente deslizando debajo de la puerta.*

I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment right under the United States Constitution.

I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment right under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door. I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment Rights.

I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.

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