

Know Your Rights.



A Guide for Survivors of Human Trafficking, Asylum Seekers, Parolees, and non-U.S. Citizens

This information is for educational purposes and should not be used as a substitute for legal assistance. If you or someone you know needs legal assistance, please contact an attorney.

Know Your Responsibilities

- Memorize the phone number of a friend, family member, or attorney to call if you are arrested.
- Make plans for the care of your children or other loved ones if you are arrested.
- Prepare people in your care (ex. children and older parents) on what to do if you are detained.
- Designate a trusted person to make financial and childcare decisions if you are unable.
- Keep your immigration documents, criminal records, and other important documents in a safe place where a trusted person can access them.
- Make sure your loved ones know your immigration number (A number) and how to find you if you are detained by ICE.
- Remember the details of an encounter with law enforcement, and film it if you can.

Know Your Rights

If you are arrested or detained

- You have the right to remain silent when questioned by law enforcement. You can say, **"I do not want to answer your questions."**
- If you are not under arrest, ask if you are being detained. If the answer is no, ask, **"Am I free to leave?"** If the answer is yes, calmly leave.
- Ask for an interpreter if English is not the language you are most comfortable with.
- You do not have to sign anything you do not understand.
- You have the right to call the consulate of your home country, and your consulate must be allowed to visit or speak with you.
- If you are detained by immigration officers, you have the right to seek an attorney, but the government does not need to provide one—ask for one immediately.
- If you are detained by the police for a crime, you have the right to a free attorney (public defender) during questioning.
- You have the right to appeal a deportation order or criminal conviction.
- Police and immigration officers should never ask you for money.

Know Your Responsibilities

If you are arrested or detained

- Stay calm.
- Do not run away, argue, resist, or obstruct a police or immigration officer, even if you believe your rights are being violated.
- Do not say anything to police or immigration officers.
- Keep your hands where police or immigration officers can see them.
- Do not lie about your immigration status or give false documents.
- If you are over 18, consider carrying a copy of immigration status documentation with you.
 - o Always keep a copy on your phone.
 - o If the officer asks about your immigration status, you have the right to remain silent by saying, **"I do not want to answer your questions. I want to speak to a lawyer."**

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