

# Information for Patients in Preparation of an Immigration (ICE) Raid



This document provides information and resources for clinics, and their patients, in regards to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions, commonly known as ICE raids. The information in this document is not meant to provide legal advice or to substitute for the guidance, counsel or advice of legal counsel on any matters particular to a specific primary care clinic.

## If you are stopped for questioning:

- Stay calm. Don't run. Don't argue, resist or obstruct the police, even if you are innocent or police are violating your rights. Keep your hands where police can see them.
- Ask if you are free to leave. If the officer says yes, calmly and silently walk away. If you are under arrest, you have a right to know why.
- You have the right to remain silent and cannot be punished for refusing to answer questions. If you wish to remain silent, tell the officer out loud. In California, you're not required to give your name unless arrested.
- You do not have to consent to a search of yourself or your belongings, but police may "pat down" your clothing if they suspect a weapon. You should not physically resist, but you have the right to refuse consent for any further search. If you do not consent, it can affect you later in court.

## Your Rights

- You have the right to remain silent. If you wish to exercise that right, say so out loud.
- You have the right to refuse to consent to a search of yourself, your car or your home.
- If you are not under arrest, you have the right to calmly leave.
- You have the right to a lawyer if you are arrested. Ask for one immediately.
- Regardless of your immigration or citizenship status, you have constitutional rights.
- You have the right to contact your consulate or have an officer inform the consulate of your arrest.

## Your Responsibilities

- Do stay calm and be polite.
- Do not interfere with or obstruct the police.
- Do not lie or give false documents (Do not carry false documents).
- Do prepare yourself and your family in case you are arrested. We suggest you complete a caregiver authorization affidavit to allow family members to take your child to medical appointments and school (affidavit can be found in [English](#) or [Spanish](#). More information on the affidavit process can be found [here](#)).
- Do not sign anything without first talking to a lawyer.
- Remember your immigration number ("A" number) and give it to your family. It will help family members locate you if arrested.
- Keep a copy of your immigration documents with someone you trust.
- Do remember the details of the encounter.
- Do file a written complaint or call your local ACLU if you feel your rights have been violated.

**Sources:** American Civil Liberties Union: ["Bust Card"](#), Sacramento Court: [Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit and instructions](#), Immigrant Legal Resource Center: Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))