



# **IMMIGRATION 101: KNOW YOUR BASIC RIGHTS**

## **If immigration officers approach you, here is what you need to know:**

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

- You may refuse to speak to immigration officers when asked questions about your immigration status.
- Remain silent until you can speak with an attorney.
- Do not say anything about where you were born or how you entered the United States.
- If you choose to speak, do not lie.

### **➤ Do not open the door if immigration officers appear at your home without a judicial warrant.**

- Immigration officers must have a warrant signed by a judge in order to enter your home.
- If you open the door, officials will consider that you are giving them permission to enter.
- An administrative warrant of removal or deportation does not allow immigration officials to enter your home.
- Even if presented with a judicial warrant, you retain the right to remain silent.

### **➤ If you are searched, stay calm and say, “I do not consent to this search.”**

### **➤ If you are stopped while driving your vehicle, follow all instructions.**

- Upon request, provide your license, registration, and proof of insurance.
- If searched while in your car, stay calm and say, “I do not consent to this search.”

### **➤ If arrested or detained by an immigration officer, do not physically resist.**

- You are considered under arrest if you are detained and are not free to leave.
- You have the right to speak to a lawyer.
- Do not sign any documents without first reviewing them with your lawyer.

### **➤ If applicable, always carry with you any valid immigration documents.**

- Examples include a work permit, DACA authorization or green card.

### **➤ Do not physically interfere with or obstruct an immigration officer in the performance of their duties, even if you believe they are acting unlawfully.**

### **➤ You may refuse to cooperate with immigration officers if asked to provide information about your students.**

- Refer immigration officers to school administration.



➤ **Additional Resources**

- [NEA Guidance on Immigration Issues](#)
- [Printable Know Your Rights card](#)

➤ **If you need a lawyer:**

- [Non-profit organizations that provide low-cost help](#)
- [Pro bono legal services list provided by immigration courts](#)
- [Search legal services in your area](#)
- [American Immigration Lawyers Association online directory](#)
- [The National Immigration Project's find-a-lawyer tool](#)
- [Immigration Law & Justice Michigan](#), providing free and low-cost immigration legal services