



Know Your Rights: A Guide for Immigrants in Washington State

1. Find out if you are you at risk for being deported

- ✓ You may be at increased risk for deportation if you came into the United States unauthorized on January 2nd, 2014 or later and/or you have been ordered deported since January 1st, 2014.
- ✓ ALL IMMIGRANTS SHOULD AVOID NEGATIVE CONTACT WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT. If you are taken to jail, you may be picked up by ICE. ICE has also been known to show up at court hearings, job sites and homes looking for people with orders of deportation after an arrest.
- ✓ If you are a Legal Permanent Resident, you may lose your status and/or be deported if you have been charged with or convicted of a crime **no matter how long you have been in the United States**.
- ✓ If you do not know if you are at risk for deportation, contact a licensed immigration attorney to get your immigration records and/or criminal records under a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

2. Find out if you have options to adjust your status with an Attorney

- ✓ If you have Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) status, apply to become a U.S. citizen if eligible
- ✓ If you are here on a visa, ask an attorney if you qualify for LPR status.
- ✓ If you do not have immigration status, ask an attorney if you may be eligible to get a visa or work permit.
 - If you have been a victim of a crime in the United States and you cooperated with police to report or prosecute the offender, you may be eligible for a U-Visa.
 - If you are married to a U.S. citizen, you may be eligible for LPR status.
 - If you have been in the U.S. less than a year and you are escaping violence or persecution in your country, you may be eligible for Asylum.
- ✓ If you have a criminal arrest or conviction, find out how it might affect your immigration status, or if there is a way to remove the criminal arrest or conviction from your record.

3. Create a Safety Plan for you and your family

- ✓ Designate an emergency contact who is an LPR or citizen to carry out your safety plan
- ✓ Always carry your emergency contact phone numbers and your attorney's phone number with you. **Never carry identification from other countries or false documents with you.**
- ✓ Have a folder with all your and your children's important documents in a safe place and tell your emergency contact where to find it. **Documents should include: proof of residency** (bank statements, rental agreements, bills in your name), **proof of identity** (birth certificates, passports, driver's license or identification) and **legal documents** (criminal records, court records, immigration applications and notarized documents)

Prepare your Children

- ✓ Update your child's emergency contact information to allow a designated adult to pick your child up from school if you are unable to do so.
- ✓ Obtain original birth certificates, Social Security cards, and US passport for every family member who is a US citizen,
- ✓ Your children's immunization records. If your child has any medical conditions and/or takes medications, write down detailed instructions for their care.
- ✓ Complete forms "Intention of Parents to Care for Minor Child" and "Temporary Parental Consent Agreement"

Make plans for your property and businesses

- ✓ Consider putting your property or business under the name of someone who is an LPR or citizen
- ✓ You can sign a **Power of Attorney** to give authority to that person to make changes or sell the property or business
- ✓ Assign someone to be authorized on your accounts (bank account, telephone bill, cable, etc....)

4. Know Your Rights when confronted by an Immigration Officer or Police

- ✓ **Do not open the door.** Ask the immigration officer if they have a **Warrant signed by a Judge** and ask them to pass it to you under the door or hold it up to a window.
- ✓ **Remain Silent.** You have the right to remain silent. If they confront you, say **"I am using my fifth amendment right to remain silent,"** if an officer enters and/or searches your belongings without your consent say **"I do not consent to this."**
- ✓ **Do not resist and do not run from officers.** Resisting arrest or running from officers can lead to more charges or physical harm.
- ✓ **Do not sign anything.** Do not sign anything that the immigration agent gives to you. Ask to speak with your attorney.
- ✓ **Document the Raid.** Take photos and videos of everything you see or assign someone to do this. Get the names of officers and license plates if you can. This information may help your lawyer fight your case.
- ✓ **Create a plan and fight back.** If immigration detains you or a loved one, look for an attorney you trust, request bail, ask family, friends and community members to write letters of support for you.
- ✓ **You are not alone! Seek the help of others to support and reunite your family.**
 - o Consult a family law attorney to discuss things like changing legal custody.
 - o Contact community groups about deportation defense
 - o Work with advocates to Know Your Rights

Please Note: This document is intended to provide general information. It is not a substitute for legal advice. For information about legal representation contact Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP) at 1-800-445-5771 or Colectiva Legal del Pueblo at (206) 931-1514.

Important Phone Numbers and Websites:

Find an experienced immigration attorney: www.aialawyer.org

Attorney's licensed in Washington: www.mywsba.org/LawyerDirectory.aspx

Immigration forms: <http://www.uscis.gov/forms>

Gives information on how much it costs to submit an immigration form.

ICE website: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/>

To locate someone that may be detained, make sure that you have the full name of the person detained, Birthdate and Country of origin or Immigration Number (A #)

Northwest Detention Center (NWDC) in Tacoma, WA: (253) 779-6000.

NWDC Message Line: (253) 396-1611

You can leave a message for someone detained at NWDC. Make sure you leave the full name of the detainee, their A#, your name and your phone number. The message will be given to the detainee so they can return the call within two days.

NWDC Visitation Information: <https://www.ice.gov/detention-facility/tacoma-northwest-detention-center>

Immigration Information System: 1-800-898-7180 24 hours a day

Automated system gives information about the next court date with immigration, the decision of an immigration court case, and dates of previous deportations. Before you call, make sure to have the A# of the person detained.

Free Information about Immigration: <http://www.nwirp.org/resources/forimmigrants>

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project offers a list of resources for people who are detained or people who have a loved one who is detained. Northwest Immigrant Rights Project phone number: 1-800-445-5771

Colectiva Legal del Pueblo: (206) 931-1514

Colectiva Legal del Pueblo is a non-hierarchical collective organization by and for undocumented and migrant communities with offices in Burien and Wenatchee. Colectiva Legal provides direct immigration legal services, community organizing, and legal advocacy to support people detained in the NWDC.



*This document was created by Colectiva Legal del Pueblo.
Adapted from the Immigrant Defense Project (IDP),
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