

6 RESOURCES TO HELP YOU IF YOUR TEAM IS CAUGHT BY I.C.E.



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During times of increased immigration enforcement it is especially important to know how to be a resource to help immigrants in times of need.

The following list is just a start of what is essential to know for clergy, social workers, teachers, employers, principals and other professionals who work with and help immigrants on a daily basis.



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1. KNOW YOUR KEY PHONE NUMBERS

The Immigration Court Hotline, 1-800-898-7180. If you know the person's "A number" (the nine-digit number posted on nearly all immigration papers), you can call this hotline and determine if they currently have a case in court, when the next hearing is, who the judge is, and whether or not there is a deportation order or appeal pending.

2. KNOW YOUR KEY WEBSITES

The ICE Online Detainee Locator. If someone is detained, ICE has a system to locate them. The locator is available here: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/> (ODLS = online detainee locator system). Since ICE is able to transfer immigrants to any detention facility in the country, this system is an especially important tool to try to figure out where someone was taken.

3. KNOW YOUR PROVIDERS

The Immigration Court system has lists of Pro Bono Legal Service Providers. The complete list is accessible online here.

<https://www.justice.gov/eoir/list-pro-bono-legal-service-providers-map> These are the lists of pro bono providers if in immigration court. There are many other non-profits that specialize in other issues (other than removal defense in court), it is a good idea to connect with the different non-profits and support them in their efforts.

b. has a "Find a Member" directory on its homepage which is the best tool to locate a competent immigration practitioner anywhere. Get to know private lawyers. The best immigration lawyers throughout the country belong to the American Immigration Lawyers Association www.aila.org. AILA is in the United States. It even allows for searches by language, by expertise, and by location.

4. KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Be aware and be able to explain the following rights available under the US Constitution – the right to remain silent; the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures (e.g. please don't consent to any search by opening the door to your home); the right to speak with your attorney or to have your attorney present.

5. FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE MOST BASIC IMMIGRATION OPTIONS

1. Asylum: For people who have a strong fear of persecution in their home country due to their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or their "membership in a particular social group."



U-visas: For people who have been the victim of criminal activity in the US, have suffered substantial harm, and have cooperated with law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of what happened.

Family Immigration: If a person is married to a US Citizen, or has a parent, sibling, or child who is 21 and who is a US Citizen, they may have options through a family-based petition, or potentially through Cancellation of Removal in court.

Cancellation of Removal: If in immigration court, if a person has 10 years of good moral character, has a US citizen or LPR spouse, parent or child who would suffer "exceptional and extremely unusual hardship" without the immigrant, he or she may qualify for a green card through "Cancellation of Removal" in court.

FOLLOW POLITICS AND BE AWARE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING

Currently ICE arrests are up, pressure on immigration judges is up, and the amount of cases getting denied is up. Given the political pressure by the executive branch, it is even more essential to give excellent immigration advice – and to be an excellent resource for our community.



★★★★★
"Mi esposa e hijos están finalmente conmigo"



★★★★★
"Estoy agradecido por su espectacular trabajo. Tuve al mejor equipo"



★★★★★
"Pelearon por mí como si fuera su único y primer cliente."



★★★★★
"Estoy agradecida con Otis y el equipo. Me siento más segura y tranquila para vivir mi vida libremente."



★★★★★
"Fueron muy profesionales y maravillosos, desde la recepción hasta los abogados."



★★★★★
"No tengo palabras para describir lo agradecido que estoy por Otis y su equipo."

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