

Family Preparedness Plan for Immigrant Families

Part I: Make a Child Care Plan

Have a plan so that a trusted adult can care for your child if you cannot. This plan should include emergency numbers, a list of important contact information and a file with important documents. If you wish for your child to accompany you to your country of origin in case you are facing deportation or you wish for your child to stay in the United States under the care of a trusted adult, you should arrange accordingly with anticipation.

- Verbal Agreement: verbally agree with them that they will carry out your wishes to care for your child if you cannot.
- Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit ("CAA"): allows them to make certain school and medical decisions on behalf of your child.
- Guardianship: The most formal arrangement is to have a court appoint a guardian for your child.

Part II: Find Out About Your Immigration Options

Knowing your legal options to obtain immigration status can be the best option to protect yourself and your family. During a consultation with an immigration expert, you can determine your eligibility for certain immigration protections currently available.

- The Immigration Advocates Network National Immigration Legal Services Directory lists nonprofit organizations that provide free or low-cost immigration legal services:
<https://ilrc.me/findhelp>

Part III: Know Your Rights

Everyone—documented or undocumented—has rights in this country. Make sure you, your children, your neighbors, and coworkers know your rights.

- ICE at Your Door. What do you do?
 - Do not open the door for ICE or any police officer without a signed warrant.
 - You do not need to open the door unless an ICE agent can show you a warrant *signed by a judge with your specific and correct name and address on it.*
 - If ICE knocks on your door, ask them to slide the search warrant under the door or show it through a window.
 - Make sure the warrant is signed by a judge and has your address on it.
 - If ICE or the police do not have this, then you do not have to open the door. Once you open the door, you lose certain rights.
- Talking to ICE. What do you do?
 - You have the right to remain silent and can refuse to answer ICE's questions.

- You have the right to refuse to sign anything before you talk to a lawyer.
- You have the right to speak to a lawyer and the right to make a phone call.
- Keep the following Know Your Rights message on you and by your door at all times:

I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution. I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door. I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights. I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.

You have constitutional rights:

- *DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.*
- *DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.*
- *DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.*
- *If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.*
- *GIVE THIS MESSAGE TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.*

Documents You Should and Should Not Carry with You

- Carry a valid work permit or green card, if you have one. If you do not have one, generally it is advisable to carry a municipal ID, state ID, or driver's license if it was issued in the United States and contains no information at all about your immigration status or your country of origin. Ask a local immigration advocate about what kind of documents are safe to carry in your area.
- Carry and show the above Know Your Rights message to exercise your right to remain silent in case you are stopped or interrogated by ICE or police officers.
- Carry the telephone number of someone who can put your plans and wishes into place, call your immigration attorney, and access your important documents in an emergency.
- Do not carry any documentation about your country of origin.
- Do not carry any false identity documents or false immigration documents.

This document is a summary of the "Plan de Preparacion Familiar" created by Immigration Legal Resource Center, ILRG.org. Summarized and translated from Spanish to English by the Community Safety, Health & Wellness Program at the City of Tucson.