

PREPARATION & PROTECTION

Nine Ways to Protect Yourself

1. Learn about your rights in an enforcement situation. It is important to understand your rights when interacting with immigration officers. For instance:
 - If an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer comes to your home, *you may refuse to open the door until the officer presents a warrant* with your actual name and address on it. You can ask the officer to slide the warrant under the door.
 - *You have the right to remain silent* and do not have to answer the officer's questions.
 - *You can demand to speak to your legal counsel* and can refuse to sign any documents until you have spoken with your attorney.
 - Detailed information on immigrants' rights can be found in English [here](#) or in Spanish [here](#).
2. Organize your family's documents and points of contact. Gather identification documents, and documents related to any interactions with immigration officials, law enforcement, or courts of law. Make copies of these documents and confirm that family members or trusted friends can have access to them. Memorize or carry the phone number of a person you trust and, if applicable, your legal representative. Make sure children also carry a trusted contact's number.
3. Register with your local consulate.
 - *Mexico*: consulate information can be found [here](#). Call also this toll free number operated by Mexican government (185 54 63 63 95)
 - *El Salvador*: consulate information can be found [here](#).
 - *Honduras*: consulate information can be found [here](#).
 - *Guatemala*: consulate information can be found [here](#).
 - *Philippines*: consulate information can be found [here](#).
4. Register and begin to attend your local church, parish, or other religious or community center. Join a solidarity or support group if possible.
5. Make a family plan. Think through what your family will do in the event a family member is arrested, detained, or goes missing. For example, decide in advance who will take care of your children in an emergency.
6. Know your parental rights. Do you have children under the age of 18? Make yourself aware of your rights as a parent if you are detained. Learn more [here](#).
7. Set up family and friend contact chain. Determine who in your circle of family and friends will be called first in the event that you or a family member is apprehended.
8. Keep yourself informed about the latest immigration policy and advocacy updates. You can do this by joining the Justice for Immigrants email list. Sign up [here](#) today.
9. Continue to learn more about your rights. You can access more detailed Know Your Rights materials on the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) [website](#).