

POLICE ENCOUNTERS, FOR NON CITIZENS

If you are undocumented:

- Don't provide government officials information about your immigration status.
- **Do not lie**—lying to an immigration officer and lying about your status carries serious punishment.
- **Do not give false documents** or carry false documentation. When asked for Identification it does not mean that you have to tell or provide your country of birth.
- **Do not carry papers** from another country. If you do, the government can use this information in a deportation proceeding.
- Always make sure to **make an emergency plan** with your loved ones.
- **Do not sign anything** without knowing what you are signing. If you do not understand make sure to ask for an interpreter. You can be signing your right to a hearing or bail away.



Important: Memorize or carry with you the phone number of an immigration lawyer, a community service organization, and your country's consulate number.

Do

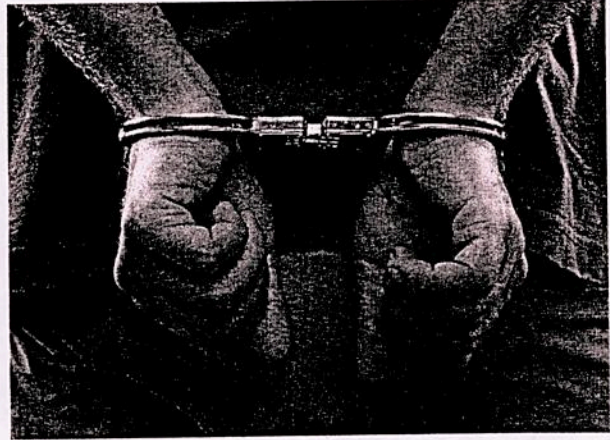
- ✓ Be respectful
- ✓ Be calm
- ✓ Give your name and address only
- ✓ Remain silent
- ✓ Ask for a lawyer every chance you have
- ✓ Ask for a receipt or a voucher when the police take your stuff

Do not

- ✗ Run
- ✗ Argue
- ✗ Resist Arrest
- ✗ Explain yourself
- ✗ Waive your right to a lawyer
- ✗ Answer questions unless your lawyer is there

If you are arrested by the police and are a non-citizen

- Ask your lawyer about the effect of a criminal conviction or plea on your immigration status.
- **Don't discuss your immigration status** with anyone other than your lawyer.
- While you are in jail, an immigration agent may visit you. Do not answer any question or sign anything before talking to a lawyer.
- **Read all papers fully.** If you do not understand or cannot read the papers, tell the officer you need an



interpreter. You could be consenting to waive your right to bail or to have an audience with a judge.

If you are arrested by immigration:

- Immigration officials are not obligated to provide you with free legal counsel, only a list of lawyers' contact information.
 - **Ask for a copy** of all your immigration documents.
 - In order to protect your rights, do not answer any questions that immigration officials ask you. **DO NOT SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS.**
 - Take advantage of your right to **call a lawyer and your consulate.** It is always good to memorize these numbers or to make sure that your loved ones have these numbers at hand when you call them.
 - **Contact your family immediately**—give them all the details of your arrest and the place where you are being detained. Also give them the name of the immigration official who is in charge of your case.
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