

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WHEN DEALING WITH THE POLICE AND IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS

◆ WHEN DEALING WITH A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL:

You always have the right to remain silent. Give your complete name and nothing else.

- ◆ **AT HOME:** Do not open the door, and teach your kids not to open the door for strangers. You do not have to open the door for a police officer or immigration officer if they do not show you a search warrant.
- ◆ **ON THE STREET OR AT WORK:** Stay calm. If you run, you could be arrested. You do not have to answer questions about your immigration status or country of origin. Calmly continue what you were doing.
- ◆ **IN YOUR AUTOMOBILE:** Ask the officer why you were stopped. Show your driver's license, your registration and your proof of insurance. If you do not have any of these documents, the only information you must give the officer is your complete name. Without reasonable suspicion, a warrant, or your permission, they do not have the right to search your vehicle.
- ◆ **NEVER CARRY FAKE DOCUMENTS OR LIE ABOUT BEING A CITIZEN.** This can lead to significant legal problems.
- ◆ **IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP DOCUMENTATION OF WHEN YOUR RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED:** Write down what happened or what you observed including the names of the officers, the license plate numbers, the color of their uniform, the type of vehicle, and if the officers were working with other departments.
- ◆ **IF YOU ARE UNDER ARREST**
 - ◆ Ask if you are under arrest. If that is the case, you have the right to know the reason. Do not resist arrest and stay calm.
 - ◆ You have the right to remain silent; you do not have to reveal your country of origin, why or how you came here, or your legal status (even if you are in jail and you receive a call from an immigration officer). You only have to give your name.
 - ◆ You should not lie or present fake documents.
 - ◆ Do not sign anything if you do not understand it, or without talking to a lawyer about your options.
 - ◆ In the majority of cases, immigration officials have 48 hours to determine if they are going to: initiate a deportation process against you, continue to keep you in custody, or if you are going to be let out on bail. If this is not the case, contact a lawyer or an organization that deals with legal assistance.

With the Migra, keep both your door and your mouth shut!



If you do not know where a family member is being detained you can call:

1. Detention and Removal Office (DRO) in El Paso: (915) 225-1901
2. Mexican Consulate in Albuquerque: (505) 247-4177
3. Mexican Consulate in El Paso: (915) 533-4082
4. If the person is being held at the local jail in Albuquerque (MDC) for suspicion of a criminal violation, call (505) 839-8700

The constitution guarantees certain civil rights regardless of your immigration status:

- ✦ 5th amendment—You have the right to remain silent and the right to not incriminate yourself when dealing with government authorities.
- ✦ 4th—The right to not be searched or detained by authorities without just cause.

