




IMMIGRANT
DEFENSE
PROJECT

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Basics for
documenting ICE



 If you or a loved one could be at risk of an ICE arrest,
speak to an attorney for individualized advice. 



REGARDLESS OF YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS:

- It is legal to film ICE!
- Make sure to film openly - some states have laws prohibiting secret recordings.
- Do not physically interfere with the arrest or interaction.
- If directed to do so, backup! Not doing so may result in your arrest.



REMINDER

- Even if an ICE agents tells you to stop recording, you can continue to do so as long as you do not interfere with the arrest.
- While there are only a few instances where ICE agents can take your phone, be aware that they may do so regardless of whether it is legal.



REMINDER

- Assess the situation before you film. If you are concerned about your safety, or the safety of the person interacting with ICE, there are other ways to document an arrest.
- Share what you documented with any family or families of the individual arrested. Before posting on social media, reach out to local organizations that track ICE raids.



WHO'S AT RISK OF AN ICE ARREST? THE LAW ALLOWS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DEPORT:

Anyone without lawful immigration status, including a person who:

- entered without status
- overstayed a visa
- has a final order of removal

Anyone with lawful status with certain criminal convictions, including:

- Lawful permanent residents/green card holders
- Refugees and asylees
- Visa holders

ICE decides who to arrest and deport.

BE AWARE



If you have legal status in the U.S. and prior criminal convictions, you could be at risk, even if:

- Your conviction is from years ago;
- You didn't serve time in jail
- Your case was a minor or a misdemeanor
- You've had your green card for a long time
- Your family members are U.S. citizens

 If you or a loved one could be at risk of an ICE arrest, speak to an attorney for individualized advice. 



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH ICE

Get more resources at:

immigrantdefenseproject.org/kyr