

For more information, visit www.aclu-md.org/issues/immigrants_rights



Call the ACLU of Maryland at 410-889-8555
Visit the ACLU of Maryland online at www.aclu-md.org

IF YOU ARE CHARGED WITH A CRIME

- Criminal convictions can make you deportable. Talk to a lawyer about the effect that a conviction or plea could have on your immigration status.
- Do not agree to a plea bargain without understanding if it could make you deportable or ineligible for relief or citizenship.

- You have the right to call a lawyer or your family, and your lawyer can visit you in detention.
- Immigration officials must give you a list of free or low-cost legal service providers. You have the right to hire a private immigration attorney.
- You may be detained while your immigration case is pending. If you are denied release after you are arrested for an immigration violation, ask for a bond hearing before an immigration judge. In many cases, an immigration judge can order that you be released or that your bond be lowered.

IF YOU ARE DEPORTED

- Deportation can affect your eligibility for immigration benefits and could temporarily or permanently bar you from returning to the United States.
- Talk to a lawyer about "voluntary departure" and whether it can help you avoid some of those consequences.

IF YOU ARE ARRESTED

- Respectfully assert your rights. You do not have to answer questions. You can ask for a lawyer. You do not have to sign anything giving up your rights.
- Do not sign anything without reading, understanding, and knowing the consequences of signing it. If you do sign a waiver, immigration agents could try to deport you before you see a lawyer or a judge. Talk to a lawyer before saying or signing anything.
- If you are arrested for immigration violations, you usually have the right to a hearing before an immigration judge to defend yourself against deportation charges. But if you waive your right to a hearing, sign something called a "Stipulated Removal Order," or take "voluntary departure," you could be deported without a hearing. Always talk to a lawyer before signing anything.
- You can call your consulate or have the law enforcement officer tell the consulate of your arrest. Your consulate may visit you and could help you find a lawyer or offer other help.
- Call a friend or family member or ask an officer at the scene to do so if you have children with you at the time of arrest or if you have children in school or elsewhere.

IF YOU ARE DETAINED

- You have the right to call a lawyer or your family, and your lawyer can visit you in detention.

RIGHTS OF NON-CITIZENS GENERALLY


- Non-citizens generally have the **same constitutional rights as citizens** when law enforcement officers stop, question, arrest, or search them or their homes, but **there are some special concerns** highlighted in this booklet that you should pay attention to.
- Non-citizens include lawful permanent residents, refugees and asylum seekers, persons who have permission to come to the U.S. for reasons like work, school or tourism, and those without lawful immigration status.

IF YOU ARE STOPPED FOR QUESTIONING

- **You do not have to answer any questions**—with some exceptions at ports of entry such as airports and borders. See https://www.aclu.org/files/kyr/kyr_english_5.pdf.
- **You do not have to answer any questions about your immigration status**, unless you have nonimmigrant status (e.g. student, tourist).
- **Talk to a lawyer** before you answer questions about your immigration status.
- **Do not falsely claim U.S. citizenship.**
- **Do not show an officer fake immigration documents or ones that do not belong to you.**

IF THERE IS AN IMMIGRATION RAID AT YOUR WORKPLACE

- **You have the right to remain silent.** You do not have to answer questions about your citizenship, immigration status, or anything else.
- If you do answer questions and you say that you are not a U.S. citizen, you will be expected to produce immigration documents showing your immigration status.
- If you try to run away, the immigration officers will assume that you are in the U.S. illegally and you will likely be arrested.
- **The safest course is to continue with your work or calmly ask if you may leave, and not answer any questions you do not want to answer.**



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
ACLU of Maryland

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE STOPPED BY THE POLICE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR NON-CITIZENS

YOUR RIGHTS

- You have the right to remain silent in most circumstances.
- You have the right to speak to a lawyer. Immigration officials must give you a list of free and low cost attorneys.
- You do not have to answer questions about your immigration status unless you have a nonimmigrant visa (e.g. student visa).
- You have the right not to sign any papers giving up your rights.
- You have the right to a hearing before an immigration judge in most cases.
- If detained, you have the right to call your family, a lawyer, and your consulate.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Stay calm and respectful.
- If you are over 18 and have valid immigration documents, you must carry them with you at all times.
- You should never show an officer fake documents or falsely claim U.S. citizenship.
- Before signing any documents, make sure you understand their content and consequences.
- Know whether you are speaking to state or local police or to federal immigration agents.