

INTERACTING WITH FEDERAL IMMIGRATION OFFICERS ON CAMPUS

Everyone, regardless of immigration status, has basic rights when stopped, questioned or detained by law enforcement, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This document will help you understand those basic rights, provide some general guidance for responding in those circumstances and provide the Internet links to organizations providing additional information on this topic. This document is not intended as legal advice. You should contact your lawyer to get advice for your specific circumstances and to ask any specific questions you have related to your immigration status.

BASIC RIGHTS¹

You have the right to remain silent.

-
- You are not required to say anything or answer any questions about where you were born, about your nationality or about how you entered the United States.
- You have the right to speak to an attorney.
-
- You have the right to refuse to sign documents until your attorney reviews them.²
- An attorney will make sure you understand what a document says and means before you sign it.

GETTING HELP

- You can get legal help.
- The Office of Student Life maintains a list of providers of free and low cost legal immigration services. Contact the Dean of Students, Dr. Stu Cleek in Kerrwood Hall Room 214, by calling (805) 565-6028 or by emailing scleek@westmont.edu. If you are detained you can ask the officer or agent for a list of free and low cost providers.
- You can learn more about your rights.
- The [Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\) website](#) provides more information about the rights and resources related to immigration status.

PLANNING TOOLS

- If you have a valid work permit or green card, carry it with you in case you need to show it for identification purposes.
 - Keep important documents such as birth certificates and immigration documents in a safe place where a friend or family member can access them if necessary.
 - Memorize the phone number of a friend, family member, or attorney that you can call if you are arrested or detained.
 - Designate a trusted contact person and tell that person how to find you in the event you are ever detained by ICE. Provide your contact person with your alien registration number if you have a detainee locator if you are in immigration custody.
- Or they contact the local ICE field office responsible for Santa Barbara County, which is located in Los Angeles at 300 North Los Angeles St. Room 7631, Los Angeles, CA, 90012, phone: (213) 830-7911.

Policy Updated: November 2020

Policy Contact: Vice President for Student Life

General rules of law prohibiting warrantless search and seizure; search and seizure without reasonable suspicion of criminal activity; and rules regarding the right to counsel are different at international borders and airports and for those with certain immigration status and with certain non-immigrant visas. For guidance in those contexts and others visit National Immigration Law Center (NILC.org).

You can call the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) hotline number at 240-314-1500 or 1-800-898-7180 (toll-free) 24 hours a