AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Know Your Rights: If ICE Comes to Your Work Place (Employee)

All people living in the United States, including undocumented immigrants, have certain U.S. Constitutional rights. If immigration officers (ICE) come to your work place, they must have a valid search warrant or the consent of your employer to enter non-public areas. If you are undocumented and immigration officers come to your work place, be aware of the following:

- **Do not panic and do not run away.** If you are frightened and feel like you need to leave, you can calmly walk toward the exit.
  - If you are stopped, you may ask if you are free to leave. If the officer says no, do not try to exit the building.
  - If you are questioned, you may tell them you want to remain silent.
- **You have the right to remain silent.** You do not need to speak to the immigration authorities or answer any questions.
  - If you are asked where you were born, or how you entered the United States, you may refuse to answer or remain silent.
  - If you choose to remain silent, say so out loud.
  - If they ask you to stand in a group according to immigration status, you do not have to move, or you can move to an area that is not designated for a particular group.
  - You may show a know-your-rights card to an officer that explains that you will remain silent and wish to speak to a lawyer.
  - You may refuse to show identity documents that say what country you are from.
  - Do not show any false documents and do not lie.
- **You have the right to speak to a lawyer.** If you are detained or taken into custody, you have the right to immediately contact a lawyer.
  - Even if you do not have a lawyer, you may tell the immigration officers that you want to speak to one.
  - If you have a lawyer, you have the right to talk to them. If you have a signed Form G-28, which shows you have a lawyer, give it to an officer.
  - If you do not have a lawyer, ask an immigration officer for a list of pro bono lawyers.
  - You also have the right to contact your consulate. The consulate may be able to assist you in locating a lawyer.
  - You can refuse to sign any/all paperwork until you have had the opportunity to speak to a lawyer.
  - If you choose to sign something without speaking to a lawyer, be sure you understand exactly what the document says and means before you sign it.

If you want more information about your rights or to learn if you might be eligible for immigration benefits or relief, speak to a reputable immigration lawyer. Go to www.ailalawyer.org to connect with a lawyer in your area.

The contents of this document do not constitute legal advice.

©2017 American Immigration Lawyers Association

#AILAStandsWithImmigrants