

Your responsibilities:

Be polite, calm, and courteous.

Obey all lawful orders given to you by an official. You **ONLY** have to provide your name.

Never lie or give false information to an official.

Do not carry false ID.

What if I am arrested?

Carry the name and phone number of an immigration attorney who will take your calls.

If you do not have an attorney, ask official for the list of free legal services for your area.

You have the right to remain silent. Provide your name only.

Do not sign anything without talking to an attorney.

Never sign anything in a language you do not read.

You have a right to be treated with dignity and respect by officials. If you are beaten, threatened, called racist names, or otherwise mistreated by an official, you have a right to complain about that treatment.

To learn more about your rights, contact:

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project

1 (800) 445-5771

M-F, if you can identify the type of case

9:30 AM – 4:30 PM

T/Th if not, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

CLEAR 1(888) 201-1014

M-F, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

T, 3:15 – 6:00 PM

Free legal advice, if legal resident.

May be a long wait on the line.

Columbia Legal Services

1 (800) 542-0794

Mexican Consulate

1(206) 448-8417

Know Your Rights



What to do if the Border Patrol stops you under the following circumstances:

While you are in your car

When you pass through an immigration checkpoint

When you are stopped in an airport, bus station or while traveling by bus or airplane

What to do if an official comes to your home

Your rights:

In your car



- If officials signal you to stop your vehicle, you must pull over. If you refuse or speed up, the official will have a good reason to detain you.
- Officials may ask brief questions about immigration status, nationality, and travel plans. You **must** give your name. Then remain silent and give the official your rights card.
- Each person in the car has the right not to answer an official's questions, except for name.
- If an official asks to search your car, you may refuse to give permission.
- If the stop lasts for a long time and the officials have not learned anything suspicious, the stop may become illegal.
- It is illegal for an official to pick someone out for questioning because of his/her ethnicity.

At a checkpoint



- Officials may ask you questions about your travel plans, nationality and immigration status. You **ONLY** have to give your name. Then remain silent and give the official your rights card.
- A dog sniff of your car is permitted. However, if an official asks to search your car, you may refuse to give permission.
- You may be detained in a room, away from your vehicle, for questioning.
- If you are detained for a long time and the officials have not learned information showing that you violated the law, your detention may be illegal.

Traveling by bus or plane



- It is illegal for an official to pick someone out for questioning because of his/her ethnicity.

Just because you know your rights and choose to exercise them does NOT mean that the officials will respect those rights. So, remain silent and ask for an attorney.

In your home



- You do **NOT** have to allow an official to enter. You do **NOT** have to open your door.
- Do **NOT** allow a search without a search warrant.

In general

- You have the right to remain silent when an official asks questions, except you must provide your name.
- If detained, you have the right to call your consulate.
- If you do not want to talk to the official, you may hand the official your immigration attorney's card, or a rights card.

Sample rights card

To whom it may concern: Before answering any questions, I want to speak to an attorney. I will not speak to anyone, answer any questions about my immigration status, respond to any accusations, waive any of my legal rights, or consent to any search of my person, papers, or property, until I have first obtained advice of an attorney.