

## **Know Your Rights**

Presented by:

Iris Franco October 14, 2017

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# Kids In Need of Defense

- Representing Unaccompanied Children in Immigration Matters
  - Place cases with Staff Attorneys
  - Place cases with volunteer attorneys



## **Immigration Court:**

- There is no right to appointed counsel in immigration proceedings
- Adversarial hearings opposite a trained government lawyer, before an Immigration Judge
- Pleading to allegations set forth in a charging document
- Requesting relief under U.S. immigration laws
- Testifying under oath, including about traumatic events.



## **Notario Fraud**



- In the United States, a "Notario Publico" (Notary Public) is not an attorney.
  - A notary public in the United States is authorized only to witness the signature of forms
  - Problem is that a notary public in many Latin American/ European countries a Notary has usually received the equivalent of a law license and is authorized to represent others before the government.
- Be aware that there are a lot of notarios will tell you they can take your case, submit applications, and get you a work card
- Many times people who use notarios end up paying double or triple what they would have paid an attorney to fix the mistakes notarios made on their cases
  - Sometimes the mistakes notarios make bar people from relief

## **Notario Fraud Continued**



- Do not pay money to someone to refer you to an immigration lawyer
- Always ask to see the attorney's state bar license
  If they do not have one WALK AWAY!
- Never sign an application that is blank, has false information, or that you have not reviewed in the language you understand the best
- Always ask for proof that you papers have been filed - ask for a copy of anything filed and ask for a copy of the government filing receipt
- Get a copy of any contract that you sign and ensure that it spells out all fees and expenses
- If you are paying cash GET A RECIEPT
- Do not let anyone "find" you a sponsor/spouse to get you a green card – IT IS ILLEGAL

#### You have the right to REMAIN SILENT

You can refuse to speak to an ICE agent



- Do NOT answer questions especially about your birth place, immigration status or how you entered into the U.S.
- Say that you want to remain silent until you speak with a lawyer
- IF YOU START SPEAKING/ANSWERING THEIR QUESTIONS, you have waived your right to remain silent and will have to REINSTATE IT again

- You have the right to DEMAND A WARRANT before letting ICE/POLICE inside of your home
  - Do NOT open your door to authorities without a warrant
    - The only way you MUST open the door is if ICE/POLICE has a warrant that is (1) Signed by a Judge and (2) Has your specific and correct name and address on it
  - If ICE/Police say they have a warrant ask them to show it to you BUT DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR TO GET it – <u>have</u> them slip it under the door or through a window
    - The moment you open the door you are allowing them to enter your home

- AGAIN You have the right to DEMAND A WARRANT before letting ICE/POLICE inside of your home
  - If the Warrant that ICE/Police show you DOES NOT have any of the following DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR:
    - (1) your correct name or
    - (2) the correct address or
    - (3) the correct name of a currently inside of your home or
    - (4) Judge's signature

#### This is what an ARREST WARRANT may look like:



 This IS NOT A JUDICALLY ISSUED WARRANT – Do NOT let ICE/Police in if they show you this document:

| File No:        |
|-----------------|
| Date:           |
| zation Service: |
| ,               |
|                 |

- You have the **RIGHT** to:
  - (1) SPEAK TO A LAWYER and make a PHONE CALL
  - (2) **REFUSE TO SIGN ANYTHING** before you talk to a lawyer
    - DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING before talking to a lawyer because the documents you sign could:
      - eliminate your right to:
        - Speak to a lawyer OR
        - Have a hearing in front of a judge OR
      - Have you deported immediately without a hearing
- You have the right to refuse to show any documents before speaking with a lawyer



- Most importantly and the most difficult thing to do:
  - Remain calm and do not try to run away.
    - If you do, ICE or the police may use that against you.



# What can you do now to prepare in case you or a loved one is detained by ICE/Police?

- 1. TALK TO AN IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY OR IMMIGRATION SERVICES PROVIDER ABOUT YOUR IMMIGRATION OPTIONS
  - Knowledge is power! Find out what your options are
    - If you have a green card, see if you can become a U.S. citizen
      - If you are here on a visa, see if you can get a green card
      - If you do not have immigration status find out if you are eligible for a visa or work permit
      - If you have a criminal record **ANY TYPE OF OFFENSE** find out how it will affect your options OR see if you can have it erased from your record
        - Under this new administration the word "criminal" has broader meaning





# What can you do now to prepare in case you or a loved one is detained by ICE/Police?

- 2. Make a child care and family preparedness plan
  - Have emergency contacts updated at school your children are attending including who can and cannot pick up your children
    - Identify a person who will be your point of contact
      - Have a list of emergency numbers and contact information including an immigration attorney that you have identified and/or consulted with
    - Have a folder/file with important documents that you, your family or emergency contact person can access
  - Complete a caregiver's authorization affidavit so another adult can care for your children temporarily (available in CA)
  - Register your child's birth certificate with your country's government (consulate) if your child was born in the U.S.



### What documents should I have with me?

- A valid green card or work permit
- Only carry a valid State ID, Driver's License or City ID that was issued in the United States and contains NO INFORMATION AT ALL about your immigration status or country of origin
- If you have an immigration attorney their business card
- DO NOT CARRY:
  - Any document about your country of origin
  - False identity documents (it is a crime)
  - False immigration documents (it is a crime)



## What else can I or witnesses do?

- Report and Record
  - Take photos, videos, notes of badge numbers, type of car, and exactly what happened
  - Unless on Federal Government Property
- Do NOT give ICE any documents unless it's a letter from a lawyer
- Do NOT provide false documents.

### **Priorities – Executive Orders**

- Under President Obama:
  - Priorities of who to deport
  - Focused mainly on immigrants with criminal records
- Under the New Administration:
  - Stated they will focus on immigrants with criminal records but seem to be targeting anyone that has had some contact with law enforcement

## **Update on DACA**

• On September 5, 2017 – President Trump ended DACA:

 Only INITIAL applications accepted by USCIS as of September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 would be processed



 All other INITIAL applications would be rejected USCIS would only process **RENEWAL** applications received before or by October 5, 2017 for applicants whose DACA expired between September 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018

If your DACA/Work Authorization expires after March 5, 2018 – are no longer able to renew but your DACA is valid until the expiration date

### Disclaimer

- This document is current as of October 14, 2017
- This document does not create an attorney-client relationship and should be used for general informational purposes only
- This document should not substitute for an individualized assessment of a given case by an expert
- Please consult with an immigration attorney about your case



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