



**Are You An Immigrant?**

**Do You Want to Protect  
Yourself and Your Family?**

**This Booklet Gives You Some Suggestions on  
How to Do It**

The information provided in this booklet does not constitute legal advice.  
If you need legal advice, please contact a lawyer directly.

This booklet was prepared by volunteers with the Information for Immigrants Project sponsored by the Boulder County Commissioners through the Community Services Department: [Info4Immigrants@bouldercounty.org](mailto:Info4Immigrants@bouldercounty.org)

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For more information or a digital version of this and/or the companion booklet, visit <https://goo.gl/sGvXmQ>.  
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## Everyone Has Certain Basic Rights...

# Know Yours

Everyone living in this country, regardless of their immigration status, has certain rights under the U.S. Constitution. They include the right to protection against discrimination and crime.

- The Boulder County District Attorney’s office says you should not be afraid to contact them, the police, or the sheriff if you have been the victim of discrimination or a crime. They have Spanish-speaking staff and will not ask about your immigration status or share information with immigration officials.
- The next page tells you how to report and get help if you or your family have experienced discrimination or a crime at school, at work, or in finding housing. For example, you can talk with these people if your employer has refused to pay you the wages he promised; if you have faced sexual or domestic abuse; if a landlord will not rent to you or demands extra payments because you are an immigrant; or if someone painted hateful words on your house or car.
- You can also call the Mexican Consulate in Denver, *Cónsul de Protección*, 1-877-575-5755, ext. 106, or *Centro de Información para Mexicanos*, 1-855-463-6395.



## Make a Family Preparedness Plan

If you are an immigrant, especially if you have children, follow the instructions in the separate booklet called “A Family Preparedness Plan.” It lists steps you can take right now to protect your family in case something bad happens. Everyone should do this, not just undocumented people.

## Know Your Rights

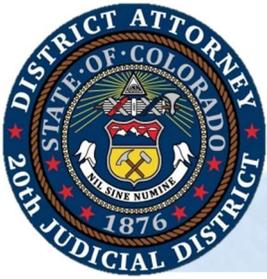
If you are an undocumented immigrant, or know someone who is, the first section below is important for you. It gives simple instructions for how to respond if officers of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) contact you.

## Get Immigration Information

The second section explains where to get information about some immigration issues and how to get legal advice from a nearby non-profit organization or a reliable immigration lawyer.

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## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

COMMUNITY PROTECTION DIVISION



MICHAEL T. DOUGHERTY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

## **BOULDER COUNTY COMMUNITY RESOURCES RECURSOS COMUNITARIOS DEL CONDADO BOULDER**

### **AT SCHOOL / EN LA ESCUELA:** (receptionistas bilingües)

Boulder Valley School District – 303-447-1010

St. Vrain Valley School District – 303-776-6200

### **HOUSING / VIVIENDA:**

City of Boulder Office of Human Rights – 303-441-4197

City of Boulder Community Mediation Service – 303-441-4364

City of Longmont Mediation Services – 303-651-8444

Colorado Fair Housing Hotline – 303-672-5437 or 1-800-877-7353

Colorado Civil Rights Division – 303-894-2997

HUD Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity – 1-800-669-9777

### **EMPLOYMENT, WAGES / EMPLEO, SALARIOS:**

City of Boulder Office of Wage Enforcement – 303-441-4197

City of Longmont Community and Neighborhood Resources – 303-651-8444

Colorado Department of Labor – 303-318-8441

### **GENERAL INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE/INFORMACIÓN Y ASISTENCIA GENERAL:**

City of Longmont Community and Neighborhood Resources – 303-651-8444

El Comité de Longmont – 303-651-6125

Boulder County District Attorney's Community Protection Division – 303-441-3700

### **LEGAL SERVICES / SERVICIOS LEGALES:**

Boulder County Legal Services – 303-449-7575

### **LGBTQ ISSUES / IDENTIFICACIÓN LGBTQ:**

Out Boulder County – 303-499-5777

### **MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS / CRISIS DE SALUD MENTAL:**

Boulder Area Mental Health Partners – 1-844-493-8255

### **REPORT A CRIME / DENUNCIAR ALGÚN CRÍMEN: EMERGENCY/EMERGENCIA: 911**

Boulder Police: 303-441-3333      Longmont Police: 303-651-8501

Boulder County Sheriff: 303-441-4444      Louisville Police: 303 666-8634

Erie Police: 303-926-2800      Nederland Police: 303 258-3250

Lafayette Police: 303-665-5571

# Know Your Rights!

If you have to deal with officers from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), remember that you have the rights described in this booklet, whether you are documented or not. Follow the instructions below.

## *You Have the Right to Remain Silent*

- If you are contacted by officers from ICE, no matter where it happens—at work, home, when you are in a car or bus, or at a grocery store or bank—refuse to speak to them.
- You do NOT have to answer questions from immigration agents, and they cannot force you to do so. It is the government’s job to prove who you are and where you were born, and you do not have to help them to do their job. It NEVER helps you to answer questions from immigration agents without first speaking to a lawyer about it.
- If you are confronted by an immigration officer
  - Do not answer any questions. Say that you want to remain silent.
  - Do not try to run away—this may give cause for ICE to arrest you!
  - Do not lie or give false documents.
  - Do not say anything about where you were born or how you entered the U.S.



## *Carry a “Know Your Rights” Card With You*

- Cut out the card below and always keep it with you.
- Show it if an immigration officer confronts you.

If you are contacted by an immigration officer, hand this card to the officer, and remain silent.

**To Immigration or Other Officer:**

Right now I am choosing to exercise my legal rights.

- I will remain **silent**, and I refuse to answer your questions.
- If I am detained, I have the right to contact an attorney **immediately**.
- I refuse to sign anything without advice from an attorney.

- Thank you

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# Know Your Rights!

## *Do Not Open the Door of Your Home for an ICE Agent*



- You do not need to open the door to talk with an ICE agent. Once you open the door, it is much harder to refuse to answer questions.
- Make sure that everyone in your household, including children, knows not to open the door. You may want to put a sign beside the door to remind them.
- If an ICE agent says he has a warrant, ask him to hold it against a window or slide it under the door.
- Ask the agent to show you his official identification that same way.
- Examine them both carefully before deciding whether to open the door.
- To enter your home without your permission, ICE must have an **search warrant** with your correct name and address on it, signed by a **JUDICIAL COURT JUDGE**, not an immigration judge. (They almost never have one.)
- If the ICE agent shows you an **arrest warrant** with your full name on it, signed by a judge, you must respond. But step outside the door to talk with the agent. Do not let him into your home.
- A “deportation warrant” or a “warrant for removal” is NOT the same thing, and does NOT require you to open the door. DON'T BE FOOLED!

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## *You Have the Right to Speak to a Lawyer*

- You are allowed to have your lawyer with you if ICE or other law enforcement questions you.
- You can simply say, “I need to speak to my attorney.”
- See below for how to contact a lawyer.



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## *Before You Sign Anything, Talk to a Lawyer*



- ICE may try to get you to sign away your right to see a lawyer or a judge.
- Do NOT sign anything that immigration agents give you if you are not sure what it means or what it says. They cannot force you to sign anything at all. You can tell them that you will take it and show it to a lawyer, but that you will not sign it right now.

# Know Your Rights!

## *Always Carry With You Any Valid Immigration Documents You Have*



- For example, if you have a valid visa, work permit, or Green Card, be sure to have it with you in case you need to show it for identification purposes.
- Do NOT carry papers from another country with you, such as a foreign passport. Such papers could be used against you in the deportation process.
- Do NOT carry any false identity documents or false immigration documents.

## *If You Think That ICE May Arrest or Detain You, Plan Ahead*

- Get the booklet on making a Family Preparedness Plan and take the steps it describes.
- Inform your family and emergency contacts how to find you if you are detained by ICE.
- Family members can use the ICE detainee locator: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>. Be sure your family and emergency contacts have a copy of your A-Number (your alien registration number found on your immigration documents from ICE) if you have one.
- Anyone detained by ICE in Colorado will be taken to the detention facility in Aurora, called the ICE GEO Aurora Facility, 3130 N. Oakland St., Aurora, CO 80010. Family members can phone their relatives there at (303) 361-6612 and ask for them by name. The guards at the facility may ask you for your family member's Alien Registration Number, or A-number. That is a 9-digit number that starts with the letter "A" and will be on any paperwork that your family member is given at the facility. Undocumented family members should not physically visit the facility to see detainees, nor should they try to come and see court proceedings there.

## *If an ICE Agent is About to Arrest You, Tell the Officer if You Have Documented Young Children*



If you are the parent or primary caregiver of a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who is under age 18, ICE may "exercise discretion" and let you go.

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# Know Your Rights!

## *Report and Document Raids and Arrests*

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- If it is possible and safe for you to do so, take photos and videos of the raid or arrest (unless you are inside a federal building). Also take notes on what happened, including officers' badge and car numbers and any other details. Get contact information for witnesses. If you are injured, take photographs of your injuries.
- Call an organization like CIRC (Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, 844-864-8341 a 24/7 hotline), El Comité de Longmont (303-651-6125), RMAIN (Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network, 303-433-2812), or the ACLU of Colorado (303-777-5482) to report the situation.

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**For more detailed “Know Your Rights” information**

**attend an in-depth training run by CIRC or other local immigrant organizations.**

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# Getting Immigration Information and Help From a Lawyer



## Getting Information About Immigration Issues

### Eligibility for Citizenship

- If you have been a legal permanent resident (with a Green Card) for at least 5 years, you may be eligible to apply for U.S. Citizenship. Sign up for citizenship preparation with an organization like El Comité de Longmont (303-651-6125) or CIRC (720-593-2075).
- You can also apply to become a Naturalized U.S. Citizen if:
  - You are married to a U.S. citizen and have been a legal permanent resident for at least 3 years.
  - Or, you are in the military, or your spouse or parents are in the military.
  - Or, any of your parents is a U.S. citizen.

Ask a lawyer if you can do any of the following things to help protect yourself and your family in the United States:

- If you are here on a visa, find out if you can get a Green Card.
- If you do not have valid immigration status, find out if you may be eligible to get a visa or work permit.
- If you have a criminal arrest or conviction, find out how it might affect your situation, or if there is a way to erase it from your record.
- If you are detained or put into deportation proceedings, ask for a hearing in front of a judge to get out of detention and fight your deportation.

To get information about your immigration options or protect you from deportation, contact a local, nonprofit legal services organization with lawyers who may be able to help you. Or you can contact a trustworthy private immigration lawyer. Keep a list of organizations and recommended lawyers in case you ever have a problem with ICE.

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## How to Get Help From a Lawyer (sometimes called an “Attorney”)

Part (a) below lists local organizations that offer free or low cost legal services to immigrants, including advice about their immigration status and in some cases criminal matters. All of them have Spanish-speaking staff. If you have already been detained or are in deportation proceedings, or if you need an individual lawyer for other hard legal problems, see the list of recommended lawyers in Part (b) below.

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### *(a) Local Non-Profit Organizations that Offer Free or Low Cost Legal Services for Immigrants (documented and undocumented)*

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Below is a list of organizations in or near Boulder County that offer free or low-cost immigration services. No endorsement or recommendation is made of any organization or attorney. The list is merely offered to help you in narrowing your choices when looking for assistance.

#### **El Comité de Longmont**

455 Kimbark St.

Longmont, CO 80501

Phone: (303) 651-6125

Email: [elcomite@qwestoffice.net](mailto:elcomite@qwestoffice.net)

Website: [www.elcomitedelongmont.org](http://www.elcomitedelongmont.org)

- Pro bono attorneys hold regular appointments in the El Comité office offering consultation in the areas of immigration, criminal, small claims, and bankruptcy law
- Provides referrals for legal services
- \$10 fee (or free if individual cannot pay)

#### **Immigrant Legal Center of Boulder County**

948 North St. #8

Boulder, CO 80304

Phone: (303) 444-1522

Fax: (303) 444-1667

Email: [belen@boulderayuda.org](mailto:belen@boulderayuda.org)

Website: [www.boulderayuda.org](http://www.boulderayuda.org)

- Offers private, legal consultations in Spanish and English relating to immigration and family issues
- Provides representation for cases including adjustment of status, consular processing, citizenship, temporary protected status renewals, and removal of conditions on residence
- Consultation Fee: \$50 (\$40 for Boulder County residents); other fees depend on services needed

#### **RMIAN (Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network)**

3489 W 72nd Ave #211

Westminster, CO 80030

General phone number: (303) 433-2812

Hotline for detained individuals & family members: (303) 866-9308

Website: <http://www.rmian.org>

- Provides free immigration legal services to immigrant children and to adults in immigration detention

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## ***(a) Local Non-Profit Organizations that Offer Free or Low Cost Legal Services for Immigrants (documented and undocumented) - continued***

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### **SPAN (SafeHouse Progressive Alliance for Non-Violence, Immigrant Advocacy Program)**

835 North Street

Boulder, CO 80304

Office: (303) 449-8623

24-hour crisis line: (303) 444-2424

- Offers general information about immigration issues to domestic violence survivors and refers immigrants to immigration resources including legal representation
- Provides immigration clinics where SPAN clients can confidentially consult with an immigration attorney about immigration issues related directly or indirectly to abuse

### **University of Colorado Law School, Criminal/Immigration Defense Clinic**

Professor Violeta Chapin

University of Colorado Law School, Clinical Programs

Wolf Law Building

Boulder, CO 80304

Phone: (303) 492-5830

Violeta.chapin@colorado.edu

- Professor Chapin and her law students represent noncitizen clients who are dealing with both the criminal and immigration legal systems. The Clinic also assists people who currently have DACA status.
- The Clinic only operates during the academic school year, from late August-early May. Provides free immigration legal services to immigrant children and to adults in immigration detention.

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## ***(b) Individual Immigration Lawyers***

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If you have been arrested/detained or are already in deportation proceedings and need a lawyer to help with your defense, or if you have other serious immigration problems, here are a few lawyers recommended by local immigrants. These lawyers all speak Spanish. You will need to talk with them about how much money they will charge:

- Sandra Saltrese-Miller (Boulder and Lakewood): 303-442-8554, <http://bolderimmigration.com>
- Ian McKinley (Longmont): 720-386-4500, <http://www.mckinleylegal.com>
- Hans Meyer (Denver): 303-831-0817, <http://themeyerlawoffice.com>
- Catherine Chan (Denver, who also speaks Farsi): 303-586-5555, <http://www.chanimmigration.com>
- Kimberly Baker Medina (Fort Collins): 970-388-3332, <http://www.immigrationlawfortcollins.com>

For additional lawyers recommended by AILA (American Immigration Lawyers Association) whose office is near where you live or work, go online to: <http://www.ailalawyer.org/>.



## ***Warning! Protect Yourself From Fraud!***

Only a licensed attorney or accredited representative is authorized and qualified to assist you with your immigration case. Do not hire anyone who:

- Refuses to give you a written contract
- Charges you for blank immigration forms
- Promises you a good result because of their special contacts at Immigration
- Pretends to be a qualified lawyer or bonded immigration consultant
- Asks you to lie on a form or sign a blank document
- Charges you to “get on a waiting list” or “put your application in line.”  
There is no list. There is no line.

If you suspect fraud, report it to your consulate or the police, or contact the Federal Trade Commission to file a complaint in English or Spanish at 877-FTC-HELP (877-382-4357). Visit Stop Notario Fraud for more information and resources: <http://www.stopnotariofraud.org/>



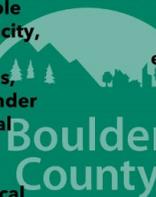






**WE ARE  
BOULDER  
COUNTY**

We **RESPECT**  
all aspects of people  
including race, ethnicity,  
national origin,  
immigration status,  
gender identity, gender  
expression, sexual  
orientation,  
socio-economic  
background, political  
affiliation, age, religion,  
body shape, size, and  
ability.



Boulder  
County

**RESPETAMOS**  
todos los aspectos de la  
gente incluyendo raza,  
etnicidad, origen nacional,  
estatus migratorio,  
identidad de género,  
expresión de género,  
orientación sexual, nivel  
socio-económico,  
afiliación política, edad,  
religión, forma corporal,  
tamaño y habilidad.



**SOMOS  
CONDADO  
DE BOULDER**