



TRUMP'S IMMIGRATION CHANGES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT DO PRESIDENT TRUMP'S CHANGES IN IMMIGRATION POLICY MEAN FOR YOU?

The President has announced three major changes in immigration policy so far:

- **Expansion of Deportation Targets:** Trump has vastly expanded the number of immigrants who will be targeted for deportation. He can't change who can be deported under the law. Only Congress can do that. But the President can change who immigration agents go after. Trump says he will now target:
 - **Anyone who lacks lawful immigration status.** This includes people who are undocumented, have overstayed a visa, or have a lawful status like TPS or DACA that expired.
 - **Immigrants with lawful status who have certain criminal convictions.** This includes green card holders, refugees, TPS, DACA, and valid visa holders.
- **Muslim Ban:** Trump has announced plans to stop visitors and new immigrants from entering the U.S. if they come from one of six Muslim-majority countries (Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen). He also said he would temporarily stop all refugees from entering the country. Federal judges have put a stop to Trump's plans for now. If you are from one of these countries, talk to an immigration attorney.
- **Border Wall:** Trump plans to further militarize the U.S. Mexico border by building up the wall and hiring 5,000 new border patrol agents. He also pledges to expand immigration detention jails and to lock up people who come to the U.S. seeking asylum.

NOW THAT TRUMP IS TARGETING SO MANY IMMIGRANTS FOR DEPORTATION HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY?

If you believe you could be a target for deportation, you should:

- **Know Your Rights.** Be prepared in case immigration agents knock on your door or approach you in the street. Find out how to protect yourself at <http://www.immdefense.org/ice-home-and-community-arrests/>
- **Make a Plan.** Prepare your family for the possibility of separation by gathering emergency contacts, picking someone you trust to care for your children. Find out how at <http://www.immdefense.org/emergency-preparedness/>
- **Avoid contact with immigration.** Don't apply for immigration status or try to renew your green card and don't travel internationally without talking to a trusted lawyer first.
- **Avoid contact with the criminal justice system.** The police share your fingerprints with immigration authorities, even in NYC.

IS IT SAFE TO GO TO FAMILY COURT IF YOU ARE AN IMMIGRANT?

Yes. New York is committed to making sure that all people have equal access to the court system regardless of their immigration status. If you are an immigrant who is documented or undocumented you have the same rights as any other New Yorker in the Family Courts. This includes the right to file a petition with the Courts; to have court proceedings translated into a



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language you can understand; to access court-ordered services; and, in many cases, to have an attorney appointed to you if you cannot afford one.

But the Family Courts are not a sanctuary. Family Courts are a public place and anyone can walk in, including immigration agents. Everyone should have a plan for how to interact with immigration agents and everyone should have an emergency plan in the event of detention or deportation.

IS IT SAFE TO DISCLOSE YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS IN FAMILY COURT?

No. In general, it is not safe to share information about your immigration status or where you were born during an on the record proceeding. On the record means that everything that you say in court is recorded. Anything you share on the record can be used against you in deportation proceedings. If a judge, court officer, or case worker asks you about your immigration status or country of origin, you can tell them that you don't feel comfortable discussing it. You can also ask to talk off the record, which means the court has to stop recording your conversation.

However, **you can safely discuss your immigration status with your attorney.** If you don't want your attorney to share information about your status, let him or her know. Your attorney is required to keep your private conversations confidential.

WHAT IF YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS?

If you aren't sure of your immigration status, or whether you could be a target for deportation, contact ActionNYC for a free and confidential consultation. To make an appointment, call 1-800-354-0365 or call 311 and say "ActionNYC."