



ALERT: ATTORNEYS, ADVISE YOUR CLIENTS OF THEIR RIGHTS

Last Updated February 11, 2025

The Trump administration has been targeting immigrant and LGBTQ communities through a [slate](#) of Executive Orders designed to [erase](#) transgender, non-binary and intersex identities, decimate asylum and refugee protections, and fast track mass deportations. The orders are unprecedented in their scope. Many are blatantly illegal, some unconstitutional, but virtually all harm the LGBTQ and HIV-positive immigrants, families, and communities we serve.

Our clients are understandably worried. We have received questions from our pro bono partners on how to advise and best protect their clients in the wake of increased ICE enforcement. In response to these questions, we will continue to update the [Know Your Rights page on our website](#). However, here are a few important suggestions that you should communicate with your clients and other concerned community members:

- Do not carry foreign ID documents (e.g., passport or consular ID card) with you.
- If you do not have a State ID or a Driver's license, see if you can get a City/Municipal ID as proof of your identity.
- If you have filed an immigration application, carry proof with you that the application is pending, e.g., a copy of the application receipt notice or a court-stamped copy of the application. Do not carry the original receipt or application with you, only carry copies. You could have a photo of these items on your phone.
- If you have been in the United States for two or more years, carry proof of that with you. This proof could be copies of bank statements, tax returns, a lease agreement, etc. Do not carry the original receipt or application with you, only carry copies. You could have a photo of these items on your phone.
- If you have a work permit (also called an Employment Authorization Document or EAD), be sure to carry it with you as proof of your status in the US. Please take great pains to ensure that you do not lose your work permit.
- Be sure to timely send in any applications for renewing your work permit. We recommend filing an application to renew the work permit six months before the work permit expires.
- If you have an attorney, carry a signed G28 with you. If you are detained by immigration authorities, you can present the G28 and ask to contact your attorney.



- If you are detained by immigration authorities, and you fear returning to your country of origin, state that fear loudly and clearly at **every** opportunity that you have.
- If ICE contacts you by phone, email, mail, or text message, asking you to report to an ICE office for a “check-in,” contact your attorney immediately.

If you are an attorney in our pro bono program, here are a few things you should do:

- Please reach out to your clients and emphasize that they need to keep in touch with you.
- Ask your clients to immediately reach out to you if ICE contacts them and asks them to report for a check-in.
- Ask your clients to immediately report any interactions with law enforcement or ICE to you.
- Give your clients your business cards so they can try to contact you in case they are detained by ICE.
- Execute [a G28](#) (select ICE on page 2) and give your clients the G28 so ICE knows that your client is represented.
- If your client’s case is before an Immigration Judge, please be sure to check the Immigration Court Practice Manual (also called the OCIJ Practice Manual) before making any filings. EOIR has been updating their policy manual without notice, so please be sure to double check any requirements before filing. You can find the policy manual by clicking on “Policy Manual & Memoranda” at <https://www.justice.gov/eoir>.

We have been at the forefront of the fight for LGBTQ/H immigrants’ rights for 30 years. We were built for this, and are going to do what we always do: get to work. Thank you for being an indispensable part of that work with us.