
CARING IN ACTION:

How We Protect One Another, Fight Back—and Fight Forward

We continue to face incoming attacks from the Trump administration, including devastating cuts to Medicaid, the Veterans Administration, union rights, and increasing threats of ICE escalation and the possibility of National Guard troops in our streets.

We are reaffirming our commitment to solidarity, to protecting one another, and fighting back as each of us is able. We will not be divided. We know that we have power through our union and through our commitment to coming together and fighting back for ourselves and those we care for. And, together, we will fight forward for the world we deserve.

In the face of a strong ICE and/or National Guard presence, here are ways we can help one another stay safe:

NOTE: We all face different threat levels and have different comfort levels for taking action in the present moment. Use your best judgment to decide what works for you.

Getting To Your Workplace—DON'T GO IT ALONE

- **Organize a carpool or public transit** buddy system with coworkers.
- **Check on each other**, get a partner or a buddy group to do check-ins on one another getting to and work safely, or share your location on your phone with a loved one.
- **Share family/friend contact information** with work/union buddies—so if someone is detained, you can call their contacts.

Keep Your Workplace Safe

- **Organize a Defend Your Rights Team** at your workplace to review safety protocols and share resources with fellow workers and community stakeholders.
- **Stay Vigilant—and Check. Then Report.** Verify info about presence of federal agents with other witnesses, immigrant justice organizations to the extent possible before sounding the alarm.
- **Report federal (ICE or National Guard) agents** by calling our Member Resource Center immediately at (866) 933-7348.
- **Report ICE agents** to the ICIRR Family Support Hotline at (855) 435-7693.

In Our Homes & In Our Communities: Staying Safe & Connected

- **Review your fundamental rights** and SHARE with your family, friends, co-workers and those you provide care for.
- **You always have the right to remain silent.** You do not need to speak to police or federal agents, or open the door. You do not need to answer any of their questions.
- **You have the right to say no** if someone asks to search you or your belongings, but police can pat down your clothing if they suspect a weapon.

- **You do not need to share your birthplace** or citizenship status.
- **You do not need to let officers or agents into your house** unless they have a warrant listing your address signed by a judge. The warrant must not be older than 14 days. Even with a warrant, you have the right to remain silent.
- **You have the right to ask** if you are free to leave.
- **The ACLU has shared** a “reminder to all federal and military officials that—no matter what uniform they wear or what authority they claim—they are bound by the U.S. Constitution and all federal and local laws.”

Keeping your family safe:

Create a family preparedness plan, even if you think you may not need it:

- **Talk with your family** through scenarios of what would happen if you or a loved one is detained.
- **Memorize at least one important phone number.**
- **Get notarized power of attorneys** and/or temporary guardianship paperwork.

If You Are STOPPED

- **Assert your fundamental rights** as listed above.
- **Stay calm, do not run.**
- **Record the interaction** without interfering.
- **Do not sign anything** without a lawyer present.
- **Keep lawyer contact information on you** in case you or a loved one are detained.

Knowledge + Action = Power

- **Our union is working to provide you with up-to-date information** and resources to protect yourself and your family, including organizing strategies, and opportunities for mass, peaceful resistance. seiuhciln.org/immigrantrights/
- **Sign up for our Fight Back, Fight Forward email list and action team.** → act.seiu.org/a/combinedfight
- **Connect with the MRC** for urgent concerns at 866-933-7348.
- **Other resources:**
ICIRR—Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. icirr.org/
- **List of community organizations for immigrants**
Your local library—citizenship information is available at every branch of Chicago.

