

Be Not Afraid
Resources for Congregations & Immigrant Families Fractured by Fear



What Are My Rights?

- **You have the right *not* to allow an official to enter your home without a warrant.**
Request a warrant if the police, FBI or immigration officials want to enter your home. A search warrant will specify the areas that the official has the right to search. An arrest warrant will specify the name of the person they are looking for. You also have the right to watch as they search.
- **You have the right to remain silent.**
It is your right not to answer any question. *Do not lie!* You may choose to say nothing or you may say, "I need to speak to my lawyer."
- **You have the right to speak to a lawyer before you answer any questions.**
You may tell the officer, "I want to speak to a lawyer," in response to any question the officer asks you.
- **You have the right to ask why you have been stopped if an official stops you on the street.**
If stopped by any official on the street, ask why you were stopped. Tell the officer, "I need to leave. Am I free to go?" If the officer says yes, you may calmly walk away. If the officer says no and states that you are under arrest, you may continue to answer his questions only with "I want to speak to a lawyer."
- **You have the right *not* to tell an immigration officer where you were born or your immigration status. (In some states you do have to give your name.)**
You may tell the officer, "I want to speak to a lawyer."
- **You have the right *not* to sign any document without speaking to your lawyer.**
You may tell the officer, "I want to speak to a lawyer."
- **You have the right *not* to show an officer your papers or any immigration documents.**
If the officer asks for your papers, you may tell him or her, "I want to speak to a lawyer."