

Know Your Rights for K-12 Education

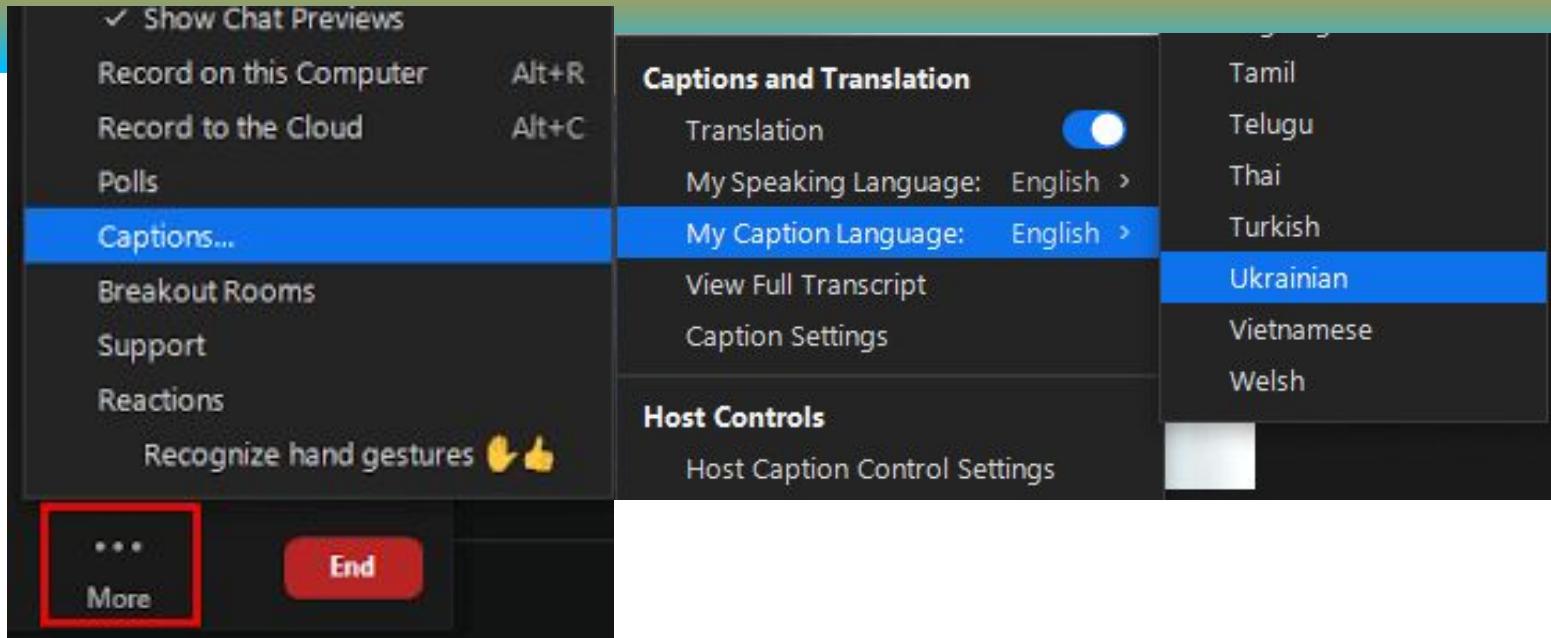
January 15th, 2026

6:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Presented by: Zina Carroll, Attorney with NWIRP (English),
Liz Oropeza, Legal Advocate with NWIRP (Spanish)

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Access translated captions



- If you need a language other than English, auto translated captions are available
- To access, click “More” button at the bottom of your zoom → click “Captions” → click button for “Translation” → select language

Moment of Silence

Parameters

*****Today's information is intended for educational purposes only*****

- The information provided today is only guaranteed to be updated through today (January 15, 2026)
- **Use the Q&A to ask questions, we will do our best to answer all questions there**
- Please do not share personal information, only ask general questions
- We recommend you obtain legal advice:
 - to evaluate your individual situation
 - before filing any USCIS forms or motions to immigration court
 - before signing any immigration-related documents
 - before making any decisions about your stay in the country
- **The slides and recording of this presentation will be available on our website at nwirp.org/news-events/events/webinars/**

Agenda

- Introduction to NWIRP
- Current events impacting schools and families
- Know your rights
- Family safety planning and emergency preparedness
- Resources

About the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project



NWIRP promotes justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community education in the State of Washington

- All contact with NWIRP (and other legal services providers) is confidential
- All NWIRP services are free
 - nwirp.org

NWIRP Offices and Contact Information

NWIRP is a statewide legal services organization, with offices in:

- **Granger:** 509-854-2100 / 888-756-3641
grangerintake@nwirp.org
- **Seattle:** 206-587-4009 / 800-445-5771
seattlefrontdesk@nwirp.org
- **Tacoma:** 253-235-9279
TSUintake@nwirp.org
 - Detained Persons - 253-383-0519 / 877-814-6444
detainedreferrals@nwirp.org
- **Wenatchee:** 509-570-0054 / 866-271-2084
wenatcheeintake@nwirp.org

NWIRP Service Regions

Granger Seattle Tacoma Wenatchee



Current Events Impacting Schools and Families



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Federal agencies and acronyms

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) = federal agency that oversees immigration enforcement and benefits
- Agencies operating under DHS that might conduct an immigration-related arrest:
 - Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
 - Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO)
 - Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)
 - Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
 - Authority within 100 miles of the border ([most of WA state](#))
 - US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
 - Now can make arrests, typically at USCIS interviews

Increased Detention and Deportation

Increased detention and deportation of community members

- Attending ICE or ISAP check-ins
- USCIS biometrics appointments
- Outside homes
- Outside schools
- During traffic stops
- Workplaces
- Immigration court
- Outside of county court and jails

It is important to prepare for this increased risk

Data-Sharing with DHS

Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

- TSA is sharing airline passenger information with ICE to cross-reference and deploy agents to airports for enforcement
- *If you have a removal order or otherwise uncertain immigration status, avoid traveling via air*

Medicaid Data

- A federal court held that ICE can use Medicaid data gathered by states for immigration enforcement
- What can be shared? Information of people without status: citizenship, immigration status, address, phone number, date of birth, and Medicaid ID
- *Assess your individual situation when determining whether to apply for benefits*
 - Weigh the benefits of accessing benefits to the vulnerabilities if the federal government obtains your data for immigration enforcement
 - If possible, provide a PO Box instead of a physical address
 - Provide the minimal amount of data possible for receiving benefits

Data-Sharing with DHS

Flock Safety automated license plate readers (ALPRs)

- At least 8 state law enforcement agencies enabled direct sharing of their automated license plate readers (ALPR) networks with CBP and federal agencies used that data to conduct immigration enforcement ([report](#))

Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL)

- UW Center for Human Rights verified 9 cases where drivers in WA were subjected to immigration enforcement while driving due to federal agents searching their license plate number in a WA DOL database through a national data-sharing platform ([report](#))
- *Assess your personal situation when registering or re-registering your vehicle*
 - Provide minimum data necessary
 - Speak with your family and/or an attorney regarding what is safe to provide in your circumstances

Remember: If DHS already knows your address, applying for benefits or registering your vehicle with that address does not increase your risk of detention or deportation

Why are people being arrested at schools?

End of “Protected Areas” Memo

- Previously, an ICE policy protected certain areas, like churches, schools, and hospitals, from immigration enforcement
- Trump Administration got rid of this policy

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What schools can do:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Understand public vs. private areas○ Train staff on how to respond to ICE presence○ Designate person to review warrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What individuals can do:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Emergency preparedness○ Know your rights• Advocate for the passage of the <u>SAFE Act in Washington, SB 5906</u>
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Know Your Rights



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Your Constitutional Rights

- Regardless of your immigration status, you have:
 - the right to remain silent; and
 - the right to not be unreasonably stopped, searched, or arrested
- You can assert your right to remain silent at any time and place
- The degree of protection of your right against unreasonable searches and seizures, however, depends on where you are:
 - **In public spaces** your right against unreasonable searches and seizures is at its weakest
 - **In private spaces** your right against unreasonable searches and seizures is at its strongest

Your Rights in Public

- Agents can approach you and ask questions
- You should not answer their questions or hand over documents
- Ask, “Am I under arrest?” and, “Am I free to go?”
 - If they say you are not free to go, say you wish to speak to a lawyer
- If you are a green card holder, you must show the immigration agent your permanent resident card
- To detain you, agents must have a warrant (administrative OK) or reason to suspect that you are in the country without permission
 - Running away can serve as reason

Your Rights in your Home

- Your home is your most private space, this is where your right against unreasonable searches and seizures is the strongest
- A federal agent cannot enter your home unless they have a judicial warrant or your permission

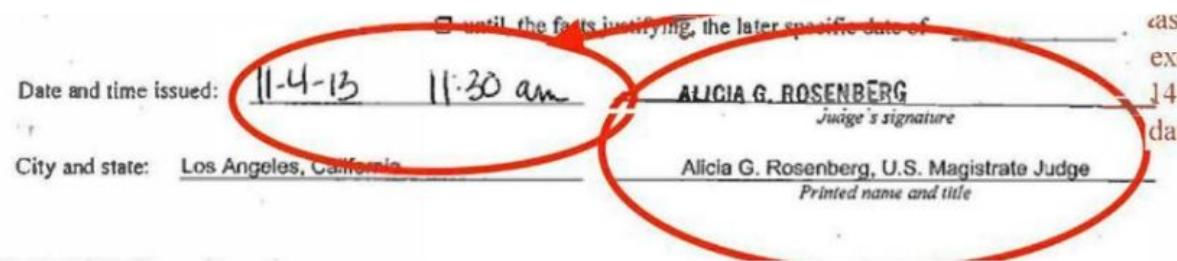
If Federal Agents Come to Your Home

- Do NOT open the door
- Ask them to show you an ID and **judicial warrant** through a window or by sliding them under the door
- Confirm the correct address and names are on judicial warrant
- Do not give the agent documents or information
 - You do not have to tell them how to find the person that they want to arrest if they are not there
- Try to be calm and respectful
- Don't run, lie, or show them foreign or false documents

Key Components of Judicial Warrant



Has the name of a court; the case number and says what kind of warrant it is



Specific date and time and signed by a judge

Administrative Warrant

- Agents will try to confuse you by showing you an administrative warrant, it is very important that you know the difference between an administrative warrant and a judicial warrant
- Key elements of an administrative warrant
 - A document prepared by a federal agency that names a specific person and a basis for arresting them
 - Allows a federal agent to make an arrest in public
 - Does not give an agent the right to enter your home or any private space

Key Components of Administrative Warrant

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Warrant for Arrest of Alien

File No. _____

Date: _____

Name of agency; says warrant for arrest of “alien”

To: Any immigration officer **authorized** pursuant to sections 236 and 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and part 287 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, to serve warrants of arrest for immigration violations

Authorizes immigration officer under INA

YOU ARE COMMANDED to arrest and take into custody for removal proceedings under the Immigration and Nationality Act, the above-named alien.

Signed by an immigration officer, NOT a judge

(Signature of Authorized Immigration Officer)

(Printed Name and Title of Authorized Immigration Officer)

Signed by an officer NOT a judge

Consent (Permission)

- You consent by allowing the agent to come into your home, opening the door is not the same as consenting to them entering your home
- If an agent enters your home without your permission:
 - State that you did not give them consent to enter
 - Remain silent
 - Do not show them any false or foreign documents
 - Do not sign any documents
 - Do not resist

Your Rights at Schools and other Workplaces

Public	Private
DO NOT need a judicial warrant or permission to access	MUST have a judicial warrant or permission to access
Agent can make an arrest with an administrative warrant or probable cause	MUST have a judicial warrant to make an arrest
For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parking lot• Lobbies open to the public	For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Break room• Classrooms

Clearly Designate Private Spaces

You can designate any area in your school or workplace as private. Put up signs to clearly distinguish private and public areas!



**A JUDICIAL WARRANT IS REQUIRED
TO ENTER PRIVATE AREAS**



THE CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES:



OUR RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT.



**OUR RIGHT TO RECORD YOUR ACTIVITIES FROM
A SAFE DISTANCE, WITHOUT INTERFERENCE.**

Your Rights at Schools: Scenarios

- **Scenario 1:** ICE is walking around the area outside reception of a school that does not require the public to be buzzed in and approach a student and their family
 - Public or private?
 - Warrantless arrest?

Your Rights at Schools: Scenarios

- **Scenario 1:**
 - Public or private? **This would generally be considered public, unless a sign states otherwise**
 - Can ICE make a warrantless arrest? **Unless a sign is posted, yes**

Your Rights at Schools: Scenarios

- **Scenario 2:** ICE is waiting on the sidewalk outside the school and stops a student as they walk out of the school
 - Public or private?
 - Warrantless arrest?

Your Rights at Schools: Scenarios

- **Scenario 2:**
 - Public or private? **Public**
 - Can ICE make a warrantless arrest? **Yes**

Can ICE make an arrest without a warrant? Scenarios

- **Scenario 3:** A student is approached by ICE outside a classroom and the student gives ICE permission to enter the classroom, where they approach a student
 - Did ICE have consent to enter?
 - Can ICE make a warrantless arrest?
 - What about if instead of a student it is a teacher?

Your Rights at Schools: Scenarios

- **Scenario 3:**
 - Consent to enter if student? **Likely not valid consent**, officer must have reasonable belief that the person had authority to give consent
 - Can ICE make a warrantless arrest? No
 - Consent to enter if teacher? **Likely yes, unless posted sign says otherwise**
 - ICE could make a warrantless arrest

Your Rights in Your Car

- Cars are both in public (on the street) and private (interior of the car)
- Immigration enforcement agents do not need a judicial warrant to stop your car, they need “reasonable suspicion”
- Agents cannot search your car without a judicial warrant or your consent
- Agents can arrest you with an administrative warrant or if they have “probable cause” that you violated immigration law
 - Often, agents pull people over if they already have an administrative warrant for their arrest

What should I do if ICE stops my car?

- Hand over driver's license if you have it, registration, and proof of insurance and stay calm
- Do not lower the window any more than necessary to pass the documents
- Ask if you are free to go and if you are being arrested
 - If agent says you are not free to go, say you are remaining silent and want to speak to a lawyer
 - Say you do not give them permission to search your car
- Only the driver needs to show ID
 - However, agents can order the driver and passengers to exit the vehicle "for officer safety"

ICE'S Power to Detain

In the home



Judicial warrant or
consent to enter

**At work,
church,
hospital,
school, etc**



Can enter any
public space;
judicial warrant or
consent for private
spaces



Reasonable
suspicion to stop;
probable cause or
admin warrant to
arrest (also true on
the street)

In the car



Reasonable
suspicion to stop;
probable cause to
arrest; judicial
warrant to search
car

Bystander Rights & Risks

ICE arrests in public

Legal	Not legal
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Record• Ask for officer ID (name, agency, badge number)• Ask why a person is being detained• Remind person of their rights• Ask the person whom they want to contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physically interfere with the arrest• Disobey officer orders to stand back

For more information, see: aclu.org/know-your-rights/protesters-rights

Know Your Rights v. Know Your Reality

- Protections for non-citizens in deportation proceedings:
 - Can seek a motion to suppress and terminate removal proceedings
 - Civil lawsuits
- For other individuals:
 - Assess your own risk, such as any prior convictions and the effect a criminal prosecution might have on your life
 - Potential protections: suppression if criminal case, civil lawsuits

What are my rights if ICE detains me?

- You will almost always have the right to a hearing with an Immigration Judge and the right to have an attorney represent you
 - Exception: final deportation order, expedited removal
- Immigration agents cannot take away a LPR's status without immigration proceedings
 - Do not sign anything without consulting an immigration attorney
- Some statuses can protect you from deportation (e.g., DACA, TPS)
- You can file for certain protections to prevent your deportation

Forms of Protection from Deportation

- **Asylum and Convention Against Torture** - if you fear returning to your home country, make sure to tell the immigration judge & immigration officer
 - Applications filed with USCIS currently paused, but will still be processed for people who are in deportation proceedings
- **Cancellation of Removal** - for Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) who have had status for 7 years and been an LPR for 5 years, and non-LPRs who have been here for 10 years
- **Special Immigrant Juvenile Classification** - for youth under 21 – a court has found they should not return to their home country and cannot reunite with their parent(s) due to abuse, abandonment, or neglect by at least one parent
- **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Self Petition** – if you have been abused by USC or LPR spouse, parent (if <18), or adult child
- **T-Visa** - victims of human trafficking in the U.S.
- **U-Visa** - for victims of certain criminal activities in the U.S. that have suffered physical or mental abuse and have cooperates with law enforcement authorities

The Rights of Parents Who Are Detained

- Right to make decisions about the care and custody of their children at the time of arrest
 - Can demand to call family and make plans for their care
- Right to be kept near their children and stay in touch with them while in detention
 - ICE's policy says that they should not transfer parents to detention centers far from their children
 - Right to regular visits in detention

The Rights of Parents Who Are Detained

- Right to ask for help from designated workers in the detention center to help them make plans for their children such as:
 - Help to facilitate a conversation with a case worker
 - Help to set up a call with a lawyer
- Right to be a part of their child's welfare court case while in detention
- Right to decide whether the child will remain in the US and make care arrangements
- Learn more:
<https://www.clasp.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/ICE-know-your-rights-fact-sheet.pdf>

Immigrant students' right to attend public school

- All children, including undocumented children and young adults, have the right to attend public K-12 schools in the US
- All children in Washington are required to attend school until age 18 (in some situations, this may be 16)
- Public schools may not:
 - Deny someone admission because of their immigration status
 - Ask students or parents about their immigration status
 - Require proof of immigration status or social security numbers from students
 - Use policies or practices that discourage students from attending school

Family Safety Planning and Emergency Preparedness



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Immigrant Family Safety Plan



Immigrant Safety Plan for Youth and Children

January 14, 2025

LCYC
Legal Counsel for
Youth and Children

The LCYC ISP is a document and a collective community resource designed to help parents plan for the care of their children (with or without legal status in the United States) should they become unable to care for them, particularly if they are detained or deported.

- Choose a Caregiver or Agent
- Important Document Checklist
- Washington State Birth Certificate
- Social Security Cards
- U.S. Passports

LCYC Family Safety Plan - Virtual Appointments

- **Legal Counsel for Youth and Children (LCYC)**
 - Immigrant Safety Plan
 - <https://lcycwa.org/isp>
 - Virtual one-on-ones for those who live, work, or study in Seattle

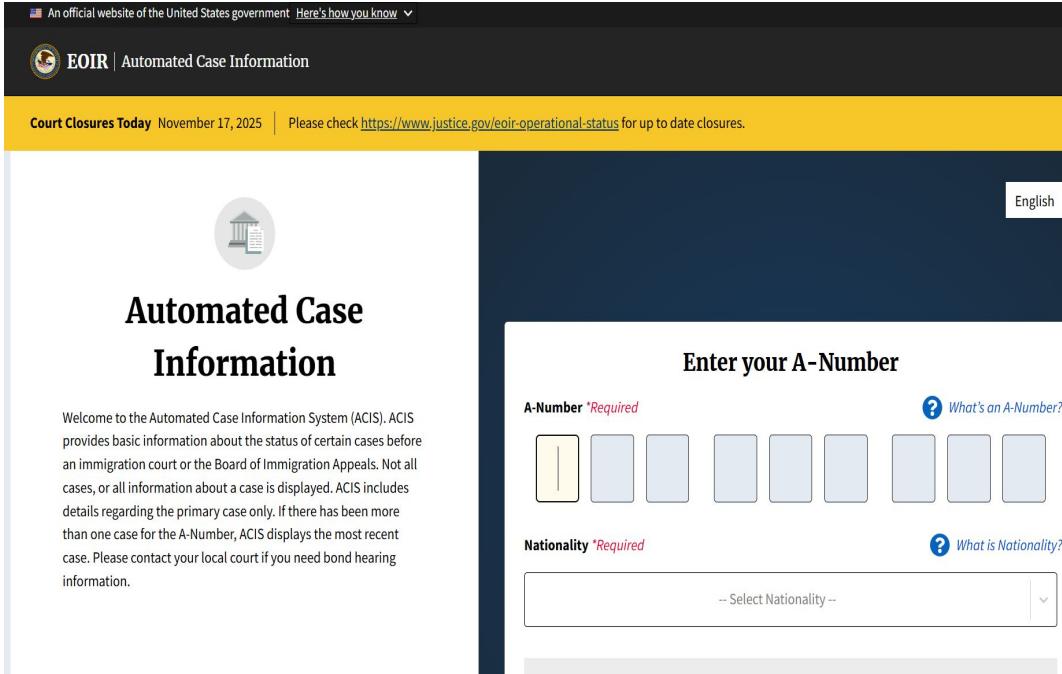
IMMIGRANT SAFETY PLAN



Emergency Preparedness

Stay updated on your immigration case

- Check if you have an upcoming immigration hearing or a removal order
 - Go to acis.eoir.justice.gov/es or call 1-800-898-7180
 - must have A-number
- Keep your address updated with the court or USCIS if you have a pending case or application
- Always attend immigration hearings, ICE check-ins, and biometric appointments
 - Attend with an attorney and/or US citizen



The screenshot shows the homepage of the EOIR Automated Case Information System (ACIS). The top navigation bar includes a U.S. flag icon, the text "An official website of the United States government Here's how you know", and a dropdown menu. The main header "EOIR | Automated Case Information" is followed by a sub-header "Court Closures Today November 17, 2025 | Please check <https://www.justice.gov/eoir-operational-status> for up to date closures." A language selection box shows "English". The central content area features a large icon of a building with a gavel, with the text "Automated Case Information". Below this, a welcome message explains the purpose of ACIS: "Welcome to the Automated Case Information System (ACIS). ACIS provides basic information about the status of certain cases before an immigration court or the Board of Immigration Appeals. Not all cases, or all information about a case is displayed. ACIS includes details regarding the primary case only. If there has been more than one case for the A-Number, ACIS displays the most recent case. Please contact your local court if you need bond hearing information." To the right, a large form field is titled "Enter your A-Number" with a placeholder "A-Number *Required" and a "What's an A-Number?" link. Below it, a "Nationality *Required" field with a placeholder "Select Nationality" and a "What is Nationality?" link. The background of the right side is dark blue.

Emergency Preparedness

Keep at Home	Carry	DO NOT carry
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● IDs, passports● Birth certificates, marriage certificate● Medical documents● Immigration documents (A#)● Proof of power of attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Green card● State drivers' license (if driving)● ILRC Red Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Foreign documents● False identity documents

Emergency Preparedness

Identify an emergency contact person

- For example: family member, friend, or neighbor
- Plan with them in case of detention or deportation
- They should know your A-number, country of origin, name, and date of birth

Have contact information of trusted attorneys

- Consider memorizing your attorney's phone number
- Emergency contact can have list of who to call
 - NWIRP (see contact slide)
 - Private attorneys
 - ailalawyer.com

How to Locate Someone in Detention

- ICE online locator system
 - <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/#/search>
 - Can search using the person's A-Number and Country of Birth, or using their exact full name, country of birth and date of birth
- Visit NWIRP's webpage for more information on how to locate a loved one <https://nwirp.org/resources/nwdc/>

Contacting NWIRP for Someone in Detention

Email NWIRP's Detained Immigrant Advocates Unit (DIA) at
detainedreferrals@nwirp.org

- In your email please include as much of the following information:
 - Full name
 - A # (Government-issued ID)
 - Date of Birth
 - Country of Birth
 - Court date (if scheduled)
- If you are unable to send an email, please leave a voicemail with the information at:
 - Phone: 253.383.0519
 - Toll Free: 877.814.6444

Resources



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For teachers and administrators:

- Washington Office of the Superintendent guidance in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- [Attorney General's Guidance Concerning Immigration Enforcement](#) (pp. 34-37)
- [Seattle Public Schools Guidance for School Leaders and Staff](#)

For allies who want to organize:

- Join [“Activists Assemble! 2026” on Jan 25, 2026](#)
- [“Our Schools Our Power” Quarterly Organizing Meetups](#) (next, Feb. 13)
- [Learn more about the SAFE Act, SB 5906, and advocate for its passage](#)

Resources

For families:

- [Know Your Rights: Five Things Parents Detained by ICE Should Know | CLASP](#)
- [Legal Council for Youth and Children](#) Safety Plan for Youth and Children
 - English, Spanish, Amharic, Arabic, French, Mam Qyol Mam and Tigrinya
 - If you live, work, or study in Seattle, LCYC offers one-on-one appointments to fill out the safety plan: <https://calendly.com/isp-lcycwa>
- [More resources to prepare for possible deportation](#)

Resources

For everyone

- www.nwirp.org □ Resources
 - Asylum (videos in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese)
 - Know Your Rights
 - Recorded webinars
- If you want to stay up to date on immigration updates, join our monthly webinar: nwirp.org/news-events/events/
- Please also join NWIRP's mailing list: nwirp.org/join/mailing-list
- ILRC private area signs: <https://bit.ly/3KZR26y>
- ILRC red cards: ilrc.org/redcards

Local Response Teams



- <https://www.sircwa.com/>
- <https://www.cwjfon.org/>
- <https://www.wenatcheeforimmigrantjustice.org/>
- <https://www.jewishcoalition.org/>
- <https://tricityimmigrantcoalition.com/>
- <https://www.wwirc.org/>
- <https://waisn.org/>
- <https://pircoregon.org/>
- <https://yakimaresponsenetwork.org/>
- <https://eastsideforall.org/>

Questions?

Please do not share personal information



Slides and Recording

Available soon at:

nwirp.org/news-events/events/webinars/