



COURTHOUSE DETENTIONS

If you are attending immigration court in person you should be prepared for the possibility of detention, regardless of what happens in the courtroom.

If you are afraid of being deported, you can tell the judge AND the ICE officers who detain you, as well as other ICE officers you encounter while in detention.

IN THE COURTROOM

1. If the ICE lawyer tries to dismiss your case without giving you status (like asylum or withholding of removal), you can stand up for yourself. You have the right to make it clear during your hearing that you are afraid of returning to your country, you do not want your case dismissed, and you would like to do the full asylum process. If this is true for you, you can tell the judge clearly.

You can also say you want ICE's motion to dismiss your case to be made in writing and you want time to respond.

2. Write down and remember what the judge's decision is and any deadlines they give you for submitting responses or materials. If you do not understand them, you can ask the judge to explain.

IF YOU ARE DETAINED — YOU STILL HAVE RIGHTS

1. You are entitled to make phone calls from detention. **Make sure you have the phone number of a trusted person outside memorized or written on you.** If you have given your own (unlocked) phone to someone, tell them to keep it charged so you can call them on it. **Hotline numbers you can call for help from detention are 9233# and 2150#.**

2. **You may be legally entitled to an interview if you are afraid of being deported.** If a judge or ICE tells you that a) your asylum case is no longer active, or b) you are in expedited removal, you may be eligible for a **Credible or Reasonable Fear Interview.** This interview can start or restart your asylum claim.

If you are afraid of deportation and interested in this interview, **say, "I am afraid to return to my country," to every ICE officer you encounter.** If they ask you why you are afraid, you can refuse to respond and say you wish to speak to a lawyer.

3. You have the right to refuse to sign any documents. You will likely be asked to sign a statement to give up your case and be deported. You can refuse. **Do not sign anything you do not understand.**

4. You **always** have the right to remain silent, not answer any questions, and work with your lawyer if you have one. You can also always tell ICE that you would like to speak to your lawyer before answering any questions.

YOU CAN APPLY FOR FUTURE HEARINGS TO BE HELD REMOTELY

You can request your future hearings be held remotely so you do not have to come to court. New Sanctuary can help you apply and help you attend the hearing remotely if the judge agrees. Speak to a volunteer or email info@newsanctuarynsc.org for more information.



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