

# 37TH LD DEMOCRATS

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

WHAT TO DO • HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS

09 FEBRUARY 2026

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# IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

- I am **not a lawyer**
- This presentation is **not legal advice**
- This information is for **general education purposes only**
- Content is based on guidance, materials, and prior trainings from trusted organizations, including:
  - **Northwest Immigrant Rights Project**
  - **ACLU of Washington**
  - **Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network**
- Laws and enforcement practices can change
- Individuals should consult a **qualified attorney** for advice specific to their situation



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“Situations like this are when we show ourselves who we are and what we believe. In Seattle, we practice solidarity.”

— Mayor Katie B. Wilson, January 8, 2026

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# WHY THIS MATTERS RIGHT NOW

- Many communities are experiencing increased fear and uncertainty
- Immigration and policing misinformation spreads quickly
- Knowing your rights helps prevent panic and escalation
- Informed neighbors help keep communities safer



# CORE RIGHTS EVERYONE HAS

No matter who you are:

- You have the **right to remain silent**
- You can ask: “**Am I free to leave?**”
- You can **refuse consent** to searches
- You can ask for a **lawyer** if detained or arrested

*Silence is a legal right — not an admission of guilt.*



South Sound  
STRATEGIES  
CLARITY AWAITS YOU

# IF YOU ARE STOPPED BY ICE/CBP

- Stay calm; do not run or argue
- Keep your hands visible
- Ask: **“Am I free to leave?”**
  - If yes → calmly walk away
  - If no → say you choose to remain silent
- You do **not** have to consent to a search



# IF YOU ARE STOPPED IN A CAR

- Pull over safely and turn off the car
- Keep hands on the steering wheel
- Show license, registration, and insurance if asked
- You may refuse a search
- Passengers can remain silent and ask if they are free to leave



# IF ASKED ABOUT IMMIGRATION STATUS

- You do **not** have to answer questions about:
  - Citizenship
  - Where you were born
  - How you entered the U.S.
- Do **not** lie or show fake documents
- If you have valid immigration papers and an agent asks, you should show them

***Different rules apply at airports and international borders.***



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STRATEGIES**  
CLARITY AWAITS YOU



# IF ICE COMES TO A HOME

- You do **not** have to open the door
- Ask to see a **warrant signed by a judge**
- You can ask them to slide it under the door or show it through a window
- An **ICE or administrative warrant is NOT enough**
- You may speak through the door without letting anyone inside



# WHAT MAKES A VALID JUDICIAL WARRANT

- A valid warrant must:
  - Have the **correct name**
  - List the **correct address**
  - Be **current (not expired)**
  - Be **signed by a judge**

*If any of these are missing → you do not have to allow entry.*



# IF SOMEONE IS ARRESTED OR DETAINED

- Do not resist
- Say clearly: **“I choose to remain silent and want a lawyer.”**
- Do not sign anything without legal advice
- Immigration detention does **not** include a free lawyer
- Ask for a list of free or low-cost legal services

## Washington Resource:

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project  
Tacoma Office: 253-383-0519



# WASHINGTON STATE PROTECTIONS

## **Keep Washington Working Act (KWW):**

- Limits state and local cooperation with federal immigration enforcement
- Applies to:
  - Police
  - Schools
  - Courthouses
  - Public health facilities
- These institutions must adopt policies to remain accessible to all residents



# SEATTLE'S RESPONSE TO ICE ACTIVITY

## What the City Is Doing

- Seattle is a **Welcoming City**
- Local police are **prohibited from assisting ICE** in most circumstances
- City laws limiting cooperation with immigration enforcement **will be enforced**
- The Mayor is working with:
  - Seattle Police leadership
  - The City Attorney
  - Immigrant rights organizations
  - Community leaders
- The City is using every available legal and public tool to protect residents, while acknowledging limits on local authority over federal agencies



# WHAT THE MAYOR IS ASKING OF THE COMMUNITY

## How Residents Can Help

- Stay informed and connected
- Sign up for **Washington for All ICE Mobilization Alerts**
- Share accurate information — not rumors or fear
- Raise your voice and hold elected officials accountable
- Practice solidarity and look out for neighbors

*“This is your city.  
You should be safe here.”*



# PROTEST & DEMONSTRATION RIGHTS

- Peaceful protest is protected speech
- Permits may be required for large marches or amplified sound
- You may protest in streets, sidewalks, and parks
- You may photograph police in public spaces
- You are not responsible for others' actions unless you direct them



# HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT VULNERABLE NEIGHBORS

## **What Helps:**

- Share accurate Know Your Rights information
- Help people make family or emergency plans
- Offer accompaniment, rides, or childcare support
- Be a calm, grounded presence

## **What to Avoid:**

- Giving legal advice if you are not a lawyer
- Filming or posting without consent
- Confronting officers or escalating situations





# TRUSTED WASHINGTON RESOURCES

- **ACLU of Washington**
- **Northwest Immigrant Rights Project**
- **Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs**
- **Immigrant Rapid Response Program:**
  - KYR trainings
  - Legal consultations and referrals
  - Family safety planning
  - Hotline to report enforcement activity
- The **[WA Immigrant Solidarity Network \(WAISN\)](#)** Reporting Hotline is now live. The hotline runs 7-days-a-week, from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM and will allow people to report when loved ones or friends have been detained by immigration agents or other instances of problematic behavior conduct by immigration officials.

**TO REPORT IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY ANYWHERE IN WASHINGTON, DIAL: 1-844-RAID-REP ([1 \(844\) 724-3737](tel:18447243737)).**



# CLOSING

Knowing our rights is how we protect our  
values — together.

Thank you for showing up for your  
community.



# THANK YOU!

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