

DOCUMENTING & RESPONDING TO ICE TRAINING

Presented by: States at the Core & Protect Rogers Park

Agenda

1. ICE Watch
2. Practical Advice for Documenting
3. Safety & De-escalation
4. Building for Community Defense

Agreements

1. Support the training team to get through to the end!
2. No unauthorized recording
3. Put relevant comments and questions in Q & A
4. Speak for yourself, from your own experience

NOTE: not all participants are vetted





What is new in this moment?

Deportation raids are not new but the scale & severity requires a new response.

- Administration seeking to generate cruel and chaotic imagery; normalize militarization
- Large shows of armed force, with multiple agencies, meant to intimidate
- Sweeping up anyone in the area of an immigration operation, not just the target
- Targeting of previously ‘sensitive’ areas like schools, churches, courts, hospitals
- Aggressive surveillance, arrest and prosecution of non-violent protesters



WHY ARE OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS BEING TARGETED SO AGGRESSIVELY?

- Immigrants and other marginalized groups of people are caught in the crosshairs of a dangerous escalation of authoritarianism.
- Authoritarian movements throughout history scapegoat immigrants and spread fear for their own power and profit.
- **This isn't about our immigrant neighbors, immigration is a testing ground for how civil rights will be comprehensively undermined for all.**



What is ICE / Migra Watch?



- ▶ ICE or Migra Watch is a tactic to document the immigration enforcement activity in our community
- ▶ ICE Watch is **NOT** about interfering
- ▶ ICE Watch is a **NON-VIOLENT** tactic
- ▶ It's not an individual activity - ICE Watch is about community
- ▶ It is an organizing tool to keep each other safe





- (1) DOCUMENT:** what they are doing in our neighborhoods, get a better understanding of ICE tactics, and documenting their activity that might run afoul of the law.
- (2) SUPPORT:** community members who are being targeted.
- (3) DE-ESCALATE:** diminish violence from any law enforcement agency.

We focus on documentation & response because:

- 1. It gets support to our neighbors in crisis.
- 2. We are learning about this new era of ICE enforcement.
- 3. We are all safer when we stick together.

What if you're the first to see something?



- S** **Size/Strength:** *of group of agents*
- A** **Actions/Activities:** *what are they doing*
- L** **Location:** *cross streets and any additional detail*
- U** **Uniform:** *How are they dressed and markers*
- T** **Time & Date of Observation:** *time is really important here*
- E** **Equipment and weapons:** *this includes the vehicles*





Frequently Asked Questions

► How many agents are on the scene?

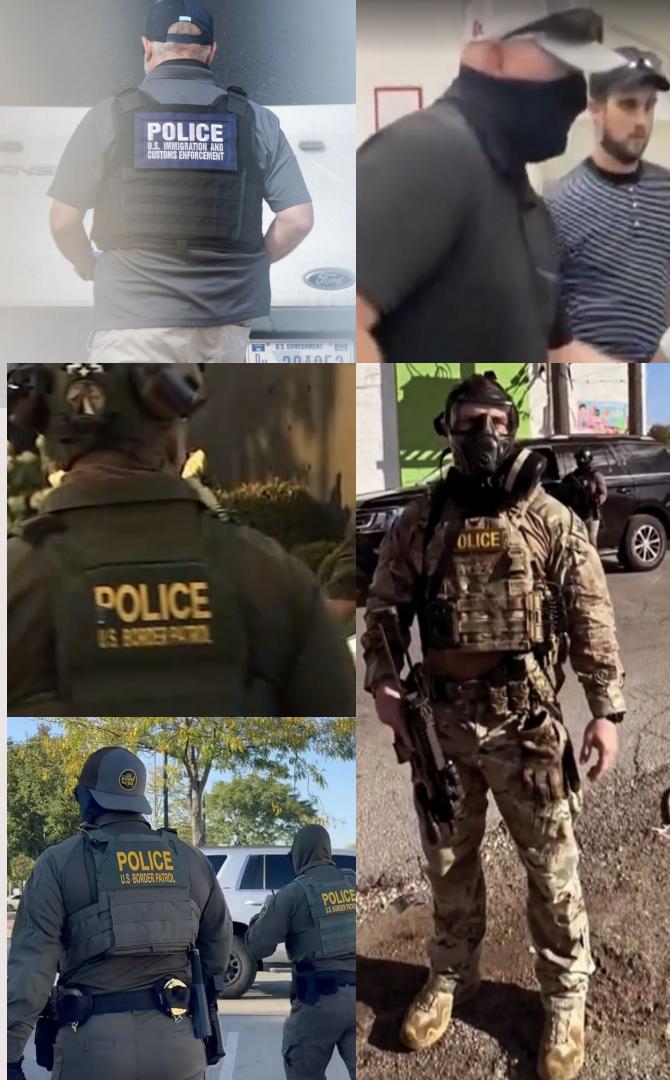
Anywhere from **two, four or six agents** for local operations targeting individuals in residential neighborhoods.

► Are they in clothing or uniforms?

Look for agents in tactical gear, fatigues, jeans, khakis or cargo pants. NOT uniformed municipal officers unless you are in a jurisdiction with a 287(g) agreement.

► What do agents' vests say?

You may see vests that say **POLICE ICE**, **POLICE HSI**, or **ERO** but they may have on jackets that just say **POLICE**. Increasingly they wear **no identifying markers**.





Frequently Asked Questions



► Vehicles and plates to look for:

Unmarked cars with dark tint & no plates.

Common models: Ford Explorer, Chevy Tahoe, Dodge Charger. They may be driving minivans or SUVs with government plates, but more increasingly pedestrian plates.

► Who else might I see?

DHS is allowing certain law enforcement components from the Department of Justice to carry out the "functions" of an immigration officer.



ALERT WHEN...



Border Patrol



National Guard



ICE

FBI, DEA, U.S.
Marshall, ATF , HSI

When you are out in the community
remember these uniforms; we're in this
together.. and WE PROTECT US!

Call the ICIIRR Hotline [\(855\)435-7693](tel:8554357693)

LOCAL POLICE



Chicago Police
Department



Cook County
Sheriff Police



Illinois State
Police



Forest Perserve
Cook County

Local law enforcement should not
cooperate with ICE and Federal Agents on
civil immigration matters through the
TRUST ACT.

Common ICE Vehicles
Chicago October 2025



Chevy Express (Van)



Chevy Silverado



Ford Expedition



Ford Explorer



Jeep Cherokee



Nissan Armada



Chevy Suburban



Chevy Tahoe



Ford F-150



Ford Transit / Transit Connect



Nissan Pathfinder



Nissan Rogue



Chrysler Pacifica



Dodge Caravan



GMC Yukon Denali



GMC Sierra



Subaru Outback



Toyota 4Runner



Dodge Charger



Dodge Durango



Hyundai Santa Fe



Jeep Wagoneer

What to do after SALUTE:



► I have a neighborhood ICE Watch group:

Once you have gathered SALUTE info, send all information to your group. Ask others to help confirm the sighting, get folks to the scene, and provide guidance to targeted neighbors.

THEN, communicate with an immigrant rights hotline.

► I do not have a neighborhood ICE Watch group but DO have a hotline:

Immediately call and provide all SALUTE info to your immigrant rights or rapid response hotline.

► I do not have a neighborhood ICE Watch group OR an immigrant rights hotline:

Google immigration or ICE hotline + your town/city/state, more are popping up each day.

If you know someone being held in an ICE detention center: Call NIJC at (312) 583-9721

Everyone can do ICE Watch!



YOU can do this with just a handful of neighbors.

If possible, work in threes. Communication is key!

- ▶ Priority 1: Recorder
- ▶ Priority 2: Supporter
- ▶ Priority 3: Monitor



ICE Watch Roles



Priority 1: Recorder

- ▶ Record the raid all the way through as long as it's safe to do so
- ▶ Narrate what you're seeing
- ▶ **DON'T** focus video on the person or people they are detaining

Priority 2: Supporter

- ▶ Try to shout out vital Know Your Rights info
- ▶ If someone is being actively detained, ask for their name, date of birth, and an emergency contact
- ▶ **DON'T** engage with ICE agents or interfere (even if you witness violence)

Priority 3: Monitor

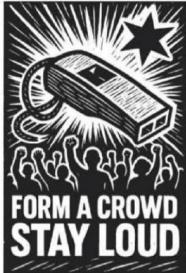
- ▶ Take note of everything that is happening
- ▶ Help direct people to engage safely
- ▶ **DON'T** interfere in any way



A Word About Whistles



H/T @PilsenArtsCommunityHouse for creating this template



ROGERS PARK WHISTLE PROTOCOLS

WHY A WHISTLE? ON THE STREETS

- A SIMPLE TOOL FOR FAST ALERTS.
- LOUD. RECOGNIZABLE. IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE.
- OUR VOICES ARE STRONGER TOGETHER.
- WHISTLES GUIDE PEOPLE TO:
- FOLLOW ICE CARAVANS
- CATCH UP WITH THE CROWD
- ALERT NEIGHBORS TO JOIN IN
- NOISE = VISIBILITY.

CODE I:
ICE NEARBY
BLOW QUICKLY IN A
BROKEN RHYTHM:
PRE—PRE—PRE!

→ ALERTS THE
COMMUNITY THAT ICE
AGENTS ARE IN THE AREA.

CODE 2:
CODE RED
BLOW THREE LONG BLASTS:
PREEEE—PREEEE—PREEEE!

→ ICE IS DETAINING SOMEONE.

FORM A CROWD, STAY LOUD.
DON'T STAY SILENT. STAY NONVIOLENT.

WHY IT WORKS

- INSTANT ALERT SYSTEM
- FASTER THAN SOCIAL MEDIA
- TURNS SILENCE INTO COMMUNITY ACTION

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- WEAR YOUR WHISTLE AROUND YOUR NECK
- TEACH FAMILY & NEIGHBORS THE CODES
- USE IT WHEN ICE IS SPOTTED
- PROTECT EACH OTHER, ALWAYS

TOGETHER, WE
KEEP OUR
COMMUNITY
SAFE.

**FORM A CROWD,
STAY LOUD.**

THIS FLYER DISTRIBUTED BY:
PROTECT RP
@PROTECTRP_

ORIGINAL FLYER CREATED BY:
@PILSENARTSCOMMUNITYHOUSE
INFO@PILSENARTSCOMMUNITYHOUSE.ORG



PROTOCOLO DE SILBATO DE ROGERS PARK

¿POR QUÉ UN SILBATO?

- UN SILBATO ES SENCILLO PARA ALERTAS RÁPIDAS.
- FUERTE. RECONOCIBLE. IMPOSIBLE DE IGNORAR.
- NUESTRAS VOCES SON MÁS FUERTES JUNTAS.

RUIDO = VISIBILIDAD.

EN LAS CALLES LOS SILBATOS GUÍAN A LAS PERSONAS A:

- SEGUIR LAS CARAVANAS DE ICE
- PONTE AL DÍA CON LA COMUNIDAD
- ALERTA A LOS VECINOS PARA QUE SE UNAN

CÓDIGO I: ICE CERCA

**SOPLA A UN
RITMO ROTO:
!PRI—PRI—PRI!**

→ ALERTA A LA COMUNIDAD
QUE HAY AGENTES DE ICE
EN EL ÁREA.

**CÓDIGO 2:
CÓDIGO ROJO**
**SOPLA TRES VECES LARGAS
EXPLOSIONES:
!PRIIIII—PRIIIII—PRIIIII!**

→ ICE ESTÁ DETENIENDO A ALGUIEN.
FORMEN UN GRUPO Y
MANTÉNGASE RUIDOSO.

SIN VIOLENCIA. NO TE QUEDES CALLADO.

QUÉ QUÉ PUEDES HACER FUNCIONA

- SISTEMA DE ALERTA INSTANTÁNEA
- MÁS RÁPIDO QUE LAS REDES SOCIALES
- CONVIERTA EL SILENCIO EN ACCIÓN

QUÉ PUEDES HACER

- LLEVA TU SILBATO ALREDEDOR DEL CUELLO
- ENSEÑA LOS CÓDIGOS A FAMILIARES Y VECINOS
- ÚSALO CUANDO SE ENCUENTRA ICE
- PROTEJÁMONOS UNOS A OTROS, SIEMPRE

**JUNTOS,
MANTENEMOS
NUESTRA
COMUNIDAD
SEGURA.**

**UNE A LA
COMUNIDAD Y
MANTÉNTE
RUIDOSO.**

FOLLETO ORIGINAL CREADO POR:
INFO@PILSENARTSCOMMUNITYHOUSE.ORG
@PILSENARTSCOMMUNITYHOUSE

DISTRIBUIDO POR PROTECT RP
@PROTECTRP_



What supplies do you need



- ▶ Video Camera / Phone Camera
- ▶ State or government ID

What is helpful to have:

- Whistles / noisemakers
- Neighborhood Map
- Flashlight (phone is fine)
- Know Your Rights Cards
- Extra battery/phone charger
- Flyers and tape

What should you **NEVER** bring to verify a raid or ICE Watch:

(act like you're going through security at the airport)

- Weapons of any kind
- Illegal (or any non prescription) drugs
- Open containers of alcohol or anything that is illegal to transport

Best practices for documenting abuses
and keeping yourself safe



Documenting public ICE and Border Patrol activity is legal & protected by the Constitution.

- ▶ Make sure to consult any local & state laws for additional laws about documenting as these will change from state to state, like distance from the activity.
- ▶ See [Reporters Committee for the Freedom of the Press](#) for state specific info.
- ▶ [Know your rights](#) before you begin watching.



Documenting Border Patrol & ICE...

Protects **you** by documenting your own actions to create a record of what you did and how you behaved during any encounter with ICE.

Helps your **neighbors** by capturing what occurs during a kidnapping to provide important information that may be helpful to the lawyers representing people who have been kidnapped.

Holds Border Patrol and ICE **accountable** when their actions are reviewed by the Courts.

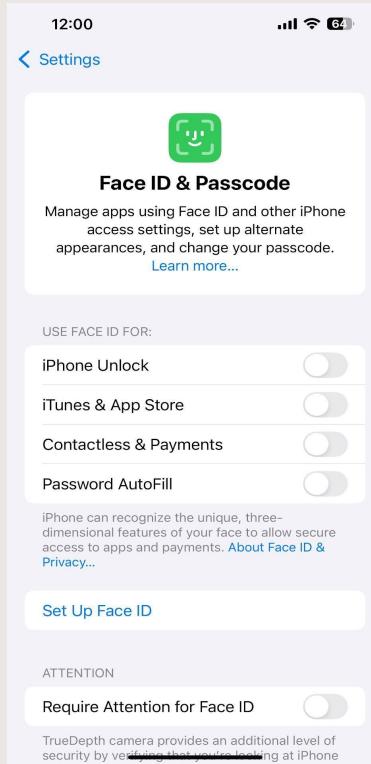




Turn off your biometric unlocking!

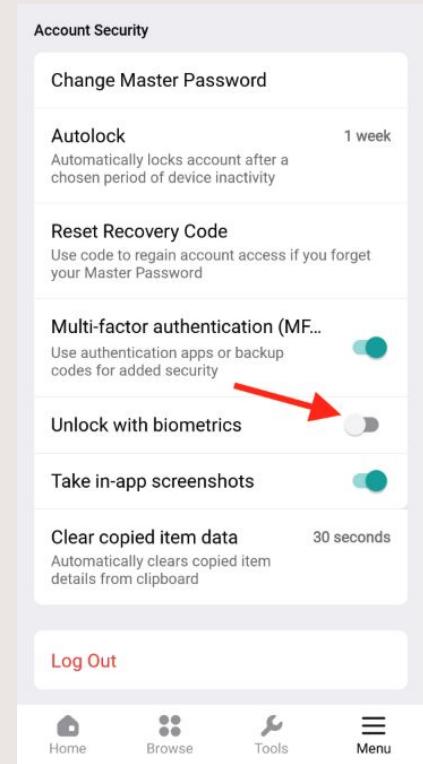
For iPhones

- Go to Settings, tap **Face ID & Passcode** or **Touch ID & Passcode**
- Enter your passcode when prompted
- Toggle off all “Use Face ID For:” settings



For Android

- Open the **Settings** app
- Tap on **Security & privacy**
- Select **Face & Fingerprint Unlock or Face recognition**
- Toggle off “unlock with biometrics”





If you are documenting from your vehicle:

- Always have someone with you.
- Determine who will record encounters with ICE... in a car this should be the passenger. Begin recording as soon as you see a verified vehicle.
- If you're on a bike, try to stop as close to the sidewalk as you can. Put your hands up when it's safe to do so.
- If you are approached by agents in your car, lock your doors and roll the windows up. Once you're safely parked, put your hands up away from the steering wheel or gear shifter.
- *Narrate* that you're doing all of these actions.
- Loudly and clearly: ***"I am on a public road. I have a legal right to use this public road. I am not preventing you from using this public road. I am not impeding your movements on this public road."***

If law enforcement tells you to get back, take one or two steps back saying out loud that you are complying. **You have the right to observe as long as you are not interfering with law enforcement activity.** Turn your camera to the ground to document yourself moving back.



蝶 Script that might help

- ▶ If officers tell you to get back, take a step back and verbalize:
 - “I’m cooperating. I’m taking a step back. I’m not interfering. I’m just exercising my legal right to observe.”*
- ▶ To person being detained:
 - “Please tell me your name and date of birth. Is there a family member’s phone number so we can get help to you?”*



De-escalation Tips

De-escalation is a nonviolent response to conflict that aims to calm a tense situation.

Consider yourself, the individuals around you, and the person/people being targeted as you try to de-escalate

Three main components are:

- a. **Act:** Remain calm, maintain distance, and walk away when necessary
- b. **Communicate:** Think about your language, tone, and volume, set clear boundaries
- c. **Monitor:** Observe what's going on around you, respect personal space

Staying Safe



Stay 10 feet or more away from ICE*



- ▶ **Create distance** - make sure they have to walk towards you and you have distance to walk away
- ▶ **Hands up and empty** - repeated statements about rights and non-aggressive behavior
- ▶ **No name calling** – no aggressive verbal or physical behavior
- ▶ **Don't interfere** – ICE Watch is not a tactic for interfering with ICE activity, even if you witness violence towards neighbor from law enforcement

*Some states **require** 25 feet or more distance for recording ICE activity



Safety & Security Checklist



CHECKLIST

- Have an emergency contact and share important information with them
- Review de-escalation tactics to use purposeful actions, verbal communication, and body language to calm the situation
- Review your rights Know Your Risks (KYRs) - National Lawyers Guild
- Clear enough memory on your phone to have storage space for recording!
- Keep your phone charged and extra battery packs with you if possible
- Use encrypted communication





A model for a community defense network

Protect RP was started in Chicago's Rogers Park neighborhood in early 2017.

The goal has always been organizing neighbors to protect neighbors who are in danger of being targeted by ICE.

The three main components are:

- a. Train people on how to identify ICE incursions, how to respond in numbers to those incursions, how to organize, how to recruit others, and how to use direct action.
- b. Creation of a communication system that allows all the different parts of the group to coordinate well and succinctly
- c. Build a resilient community to resist all authoritarian incursions, whether by ICE or other law enforcement.

A Structure for Community Defense or School Safety



Find your people and make a thing!

Protect Rogers Park and other Chicago community defense networks utilize a hub and spoke model. The hub or core leads should be responsible for decision-making, coordination between the spokes, and coordination with other rapid response teams.





Twin Cities Community Defense Training



Join us Saturday morning at 10am Central to learn more tools to protect your neighborhood, school, daycare, or church.

We are stronger together!

A graphic featuring a QR code on the left and text on the right. The text reads "Twin Cities Community Defense" in large, bold, black letters. Below this, "Register Now!" is in bold, followed by the date and time: "Saturday, Dec. 6 10:00 am Central". A yellow arrow points from the text "Register Now!" towards the QR code. At the bottom, a smaller text box states: "Learn how to protect your neighborhood, school, daycare, or church. At this moment, everyone has a role in keeping our communities safe." The background of the graphic is a yellow and orange textured pattern.

Twin Cities
Community Defense

Register Now!
Saturday, Dec. 6
10:00 am Central

Learn how to protect your neighborhood, school, daycare, or church. At this moment, everyone has a role in keeping our communities safe.

Questions?



BIG THANKS TO



- ▶ All the Rapid Responders who are working hard to protect neighbors!
- ▶ ICE Watch trainers everywhere
- ▶ YOU!



Donate to Protect RP through Venmo via Family Matters:
[@FMChicago1987](#). Please put “Protect RP” in the “What’s this for” line.

To support STAC’s work countering authoritarianism, donate here



Additional External Resources



ICE Watch Resources

How to Add this Web Page to Your Phone Home Screen

DOCUMENTING

How to Document ICE (Video)

Document ICE using SALUTE Protocol

SIZE | How many are there?

ACTIONS | What are they doing?

LOCATION | Cross streets or address

UNIFORMS | What are they wearing?

TIME | Timestamp Date & Time

EQUIPMENT | Weapons? Vehicles?

Documentation Process

1. Have someone record horizontally and speak as it's recording.
2. Report to your RR group using SALUTE.
3. Whistles - 3 continuous short blasts if you identify ice, 3 continuous long blasts if they are abducting someone.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

ICE Watch Resources Linktree

This will be continually updated



<https://linktree.com/icewatchresources>



Legal & Rights Resources

To Report Police & National Guard Misconduct: Free legal representation, community resources, report misconduct

- First Defense Legal Aid Hotline: 1-800-529-7374

If you are arrested at a protest or for political activity: Free legal representation while in police custody or court

- National Lawyers Guild Chicago Hotline: 872-465-4244

If you are active military & are uncomfortable with what you're being asked to do:
Confidential and free legal support for military members and families.

- GI Rights Hotline: 877-447-4487

National Immigrant Justice Center: [What to do if you or a loved one is detained](#)

ICE's 287(g)



- ▶ The **Jail Enforcement Model (JEM)** targets people already in custody. Local law enforcement can question people arrested under local or state charges about their immigration status. These officers may also hold non-citizens in jail for up to 48 hours under ICE's request.
- ▶ The **Warrant Service Officer (WSO)** program allows ICE to train, certify and authorize state and local law enforcement officers to serve and execute administrative warrants in their agency's jail.
- ▶ The **Task Force Model (TFM)** serves as a force multiplier, allowing state and local law enforcement agencies to enforce limited immigration authority with ICE oversight during their routine duties, such as traffic stops.

Wallet-Sized Know Your Rights Cards to Download & Print

- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese](#)
- [Dari](#)
- [French](#)
- [Haitian Creole](#)
- [Hindi](#)
- [Korean](#)
- [Polish](#)
- [Russian](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Ukrainian](#)
- [Urdu](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)
- [Somalian](#)

Digital KYR card:
<https://www.ilrc.org/redcards>

Local MN Information:

The COPAL helpline is (612) 255-3112 for confirmed sightings or information on impacted families



MN Immigrant Rights Action Committee (MIRAC) asks that you send documentation to miracmn@gmail.com



MONARCA Rapid Response Line
(612) 441-2881





THINK BEFORE SHARING

Pause before you share publicly or start livestreaming. Determine if you need to protect anyone's identity, including your own.

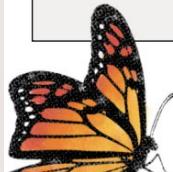
If posting online, be aware of what information the platform is collecting. For example, cellphones often capture GPS coordinates in the video's metadata. If this information is uploaded with the video, it could be used to trace the footage back to you.



PRESERVE YOUR MEDIA

Save the original file in a safe place. Never delete the original file or change the filename.

If you do edit, do it from a copy. Refer to our [archiving decision tree](#) for more key points.



LIVESTREAMING

WITNESS does NOT recommend sharing footage on social media or livestreaming without consent from the person involved and/or direct representatives including lawyers or family members.

- Livestreaming can expose people's identities and other sensitive information far more easily than recorded video, but **sharing any videos online – live or not – is risky**.
- Consider streaming to a **trusted set of viewers**, such as an attorney or legal observers on a private channel.
- It can be helpful to describe what's happening or recap what happened through factual commentary.
- **Work with a partner** to keep an eye on what's happening in the periphery and to check viewers' comments and questions.
- While some sites may let you save the video on their platform, others delete the video after a set time period. If you think your video contains evidentiary content, it's good to **download and preserve a copy** on your secure devices.

