



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Committee for Public Counsel Services

Immigration Impact Unit

21 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143

ANTHONY J. BENEDETTI  
CHIEF COUNSEL

WENDY S. WAYNE  
DIRECTOR

## Your Rights In An Immigration Interview While in Massachusetts Jails or Prisons

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) agents work inside Massachusetts jails, houses of correction, and prisons and may try to interview you or ask you to sign documents. Other corrections officers working with ICE may also try to question you about your immigration or criminal history. Anything you say to an ICE officer or corrections officer working with ICE could cause ICE to start deportation proceedings against you. If any officer tries to question you or asks you to sign something, it is important that you know your rights:

- (1) **Immigration interviews are voluntary interviews.** You do not have to speak to any officer about your immigration or criminal history.
- (2) **You have the right to remain silent.** Anything that you say to ICE or correctional officers working for ICE (including simple information like where you were born) can and will be used against you in immigration court or criminal court.
- (3) **You do not have to sign any documents that ICE or other officers may give you.** Anything you sign at the request of ICE or correctional officers working with ICE can and will be used against you in immigration court or criminal court.
- (4) **Contact your lawyer** \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
to report any interview requests, questioning, abuse or problems you experience.

*What should I do if ICE or a correctional officer working with ICE comes to talk to me?*

If an ICE agent or other officer comes to talk to you and you do not want to speak to him/her without talking to an attorney first and/or having an attorney present, tell the officer that you want to remain silent and cannot speak to him/her without your lawyer. Give the officer the bottom half of this paper. This tells ICE to contact your attorney and that you will not answer questions without your attorney present. Do not say anything further to the officer. Tell your lawyer as soon as possible about this questioning.

*tear here* -----

### **To ICE Officer or Correctional Officer:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby invoke my right to remain silent for the purpose of any interview with immigration officials without my lawyer present. If you wish to speak with me, please contact my lawyer: \_\_\_\_\_

(attorney name, phone number, email address)