What is happening?

ICE officers are detaining some people at the immigration courthouses. If you have an upcoming hearing, connect with a trusted immigration attorney or legal services organization and let a friend or family member know your hearing time and location.

Who is being targeted?

Immigrants who have been in the U.S. for less than 2 years, regardless of their manner of entering the U.S., immigrants with a criminal history, and immigrants with final orders of removal are most at risk of being detained by ICE if their case has been terminated.

Generally, if a child was legally designated to be an Unaccompanied Child at the time of their arrival into the U.S., they should not be targeted due to specific protections given to this group.

Why is this happening?

The Department of Homeland Security Attorney is asking the Immigration Judge to dismiss the case. Once the case is dismissed, and the person no longer has future hearings, ICE arrests the person and places them into expedited removal proceedings. This means they can deport you very quickly.

What can you do about it?

You have a right to oppose the dismissal of your case and ask for time to consult with an attorney. If a new hearing is scheduled, make sure to obtain a hearing notice before you leave the courtroom.

If your case is dismissed, you have a right to appeal the Immigration Judge's decision and must tell the Immigration Judge you wish you appeal.

What can I do if I am arrested?

If you fear persecution or torture in your home country, verbally express that fear to the ICE officers and request a credible fear interview. Repeat yourself if necessary.

Do not sign anything without talking to a lawyer.

Immigrant Defenders Law Center Rapid Response Hotline:

- (213) 833-8283
- Mondays-Fridays 9AM-4PM

Immigrant Defenders Law Center Website: ImmDef.org

