With today’s political climate, it’s important that you know your rights. Here are a few things you should know if you are undocumented:

If you are detained, arrested, or questioned about your immigration status...

- Reduce risk to yourself: stay calm, don’t run or resist, and avoid arguing with officers.
- You have the right to remain silent. If you are not under arrest, ask if you are free to leave.
- If you are under arrest, you are required to disclose your name, address, and birthdate.
- If you are arrested, you have the right to an attorney.
- Do not discuss your immigration status with anyone other than your attorney. Anything said to the officer can be used later in court.
- Do not sign any documents without consulting an attorney.
- Read all papers fully. If you do not understand or cannot read the papers, ask for an interpreter.
- If police or immigration agents come to your home, you do not have to let them in unless they have a warrant signed by a judge.
- If they do have a warrant, be sure to also check that the address and name(s) on the warrant are correct.
- Even if officers have a warrant, you still have the right to remain silent.
- If they try to search you or your belongings, you can say no.

If you are a victim of a crime...

If you are a victim of domestic violence, or a crime that has occurred in the U.S., you may qualify for certain protections (such as U or VAWA visas) and should consult with an immigration attorney immediately.

Remember that an officer still has broad discretion to ask about your immigration status if they find it necessary to investigate, under probable cause, an offense or any other crime.

*Information courtesy of American Civil Liberties Union*