



Rapid Response Toolkit for #SacredResistance

Introduction

Over the last week the current U.S. administration has threatened mass deportation raids on immigrant communities living in major U.S. cities. Communities have been launched into anxiety, fear, and organizations have stepped up sharing resources and support. Given the existing network of houses of worship that have signed up to be part of the Sanctuary Movement, we have a moral obligation to step up and support the community during this time through #SacredResistance through opening the doors of our congregations.

As the faith community, we must continue to stand in solidarity with immigrants and refugees as increased attacks come down from the Administration. We know from Trump's announcements that immigration enforcement are increasing immigration arrests and dramatically expanded who is a priority for deportations that have led to small and large scale raids. This has taken place and will continue to take place through workplace raids, home raids, neighborhood-wide raids, and checkpoints. As faith allies, we are called to be in solidarity through rapid response mobilization to stop these raids, stop these deportations and support impacted communities. In the face of President Trump's extremist anti-immigrant agenda we must respond with a prophetic and bold voice.

Common Types of Law Enforcement Activity (And how long such activity usually lasts)

- Police Activity: Local police regularly engage in abusive policing which can put immigrants at risk of detentions and deportations (Usually ongoing) Checkpoints or Stops: Regular police, ICE, CBP, or DHS asking for immigration papers or targeting immigrants on roads, transit points, outside of schools, etc. (May last for many hours)
- Immigration Arrests: When ICE/CBP/DHS is searching for a particular individual at their home or workplace; They can and will arrest other immigrants they encounter in the same area (Often lasts less than an hour)
- Immigration Raids: ICE/CBP/DHS officers swarming a neighborhood, workplace, event or public space and arresting large numbers of immigrants (May last couple of hours)

This toolkit will help you to prepare for raids, take action immediately after raids to help families find their loved ones and remain together, and will explain how to put public pressure on elected officials after raids in order to demand an end to senseless deportations in our communities.

Goals

- Stand in solidarity and accompany families targeted by raids
- Respond to the Trump Administration's' attack on immigrants through faithful witness to disrupt raids and immigration enforcement through prayerful and prophetic presence
- Put public pressure on ICE and the Trump Administration to stop all raids and deportations.
- Counter this wave of terror through the immigrant community with a message of hope, faith and planned action in immigrant communities.

- Support the families who are victims of raids through service provision and necessary organizing capacity building among the broader community
- Increase the number of congregations involved in the Sanctuary movement and ways people of faith can take action in a concrete way.
- Continue to build a network of houses of worship that are willing to resist the raids through creating safe spaces to accompany partner organizations in deportation defense
- Accompany undocumented community members through public facing safe spaces that can provide shelter, food, clothing, legal service and assistance in family reunification when possible
- Complement local organizing efforts around rapid response that also encompass concrete ways to engage the faith community

Phase One: Preparedness

Preparedness refers to plans or preparations made to save lives and to help response and rescue operations. First steps for preparing for a raid include:

1. Make sure you are part of an organized network of faith communities who are working closely with immigrant-led organizations.
2. Identify or create communications mechanisms such as a hotline number or phone tree where faith allies can be reached in case of an emergency, but don't just wait to be contacted. Especially when there are rumors of raids, keep an eye on the social media accounts of local immigrant rights organizations and/or watch for key hashtags like #ICEin[city name] and #MigraWatch
3. Make a plan, in consultation with immigrant-led organization, for how allies can show up together to a raid and what you can do to help stop the raid from happening.
4. Make sure you know your rights and that you know the rights to which all immigrants are entitled (see below).

How to be Connected and Organized

- Connect with trusted, local immigrant rights groups who have been doing this work. A good place to find local organizations is [Informed Immigrant](#).
- Always stay linked to a trusted immigrants rights organization. There are many great networks such as [UWD](#), [FIRM](#), [NDLON](#), [Mijente](#), and [DWN](#), but it's always best to be connected to local organizations that will know your local context.
- To be a good ally, make sure to always engage with and take leadership from impacted people.
- Contact local members of the [The National Lawyers Guild](#) to see if they can be legal observers.
- Make sure you are meeting regularly and outreaching to new congregations interested in immigrants rights or the [Sanctuary Movement](#)

Sign Up to Join the #SacredResistance

Immigrants' rights organizers and impacted leaders have requested an easily accessible way to know which houses of worship are willing to open their doors to make safe spaces. When a house of worship signs up to be part of this Sacred Resistance they are agreeing to open their doors in times of rapid response events in the case of raids or deportations. If you can not open your house of worship to serve as a safe space please do not sign up for this. If your congregation is not prepared to be on the public sanctuary list, you can add your name to a non-public list to be provided on a one to one basis to immigrants' rights organizers doing deportation defense work. This would be a temporary commitment, not to be confused with providing long term Sanctuary for individuals that are fighting their deportation order.

[Sign here](#) to take the pledge to join the Sacred Resistance and/or to sign up as a Sanctuary Congregation. If you are already a Sanctuary congregation, but have not signed up to join the public list to resist raids, please do so today. If a public facing map doesn't make sense in your region, you can opt to be part of

private list for raid response. If you have questions or concerns please see FAQ and then consider reaching out for any additional discussions. You don't have to be a Sanctuary Congregation to be part of the Sacred Resistance effort to respond to raids, but the two efforts are intertwined.

A Sanctuary Congregation is one that chooses to take prophetic stance and protect people through various actions that range from housing immigrants in immediate danger of deportation to providing legal assistance, accompaniment to court, organizing alongside us, and much more.

Consider posting a sign or symbol to let people know that they are safe in your house of worship. A sample, editable poster is available [here](#).

Set up Local Hotline and Rapid Response Communication

- Assign a point person to alert the faith community in times of emergency through the following: set up a text thread, phone tree and/or hotline number. [Signal](#) is a recommended secure app to communicate via text.
- Make sure to coordinate with immigrants' rights organizations, there should only be one local hotline per region, and it should be widely publicized so the immigrant community knows to call if there is need for rapid response
- Create a way to rotate volunteers of people who are on-call for the hotline
- Some have bought a cheap cell phone and make sure it's staffed 24/7 by someone who can speak Spanish or any other language that might be needed in your region.
- Another way to set up a hotline is through [google voice](#). The number that people are given stays the same, but you can change the forwarded number on the back end.

Know Your Rights Resources for Immigrants

See Resources from [United We Dream](#)

1. DO NOT OPEN DOOR: ICE can't come in without a warrant. They can only come in if you let them come in.
2. REMAIN SILENT: Anything you say can be used against you in court. Plead the 5th amendment to remain silent.
3. DO NOT SIGN: Don't sign anything ICE gives you without talking to an attorney.
4. REPORT AND RECORD: If you see a raid happening call your local hotline, alert your community (national hotline is 1-844-363-1423). Record the badge numbers of agents, type of car, and exactly what happened.
5. STAND STRONG! Get a trustworthy attorney, engage the local community to advocate alongside you. If you are detained you may be able to get bail and be released, don't give up hope.

Also check out raid resources from the [Immigration Defense Project](#)

[Know Your Rights in Spanish from Immigrant Defense Project](#)

[Informed Immigrant Resources](#)

Know Your Rights for Congregations

1. As of the creation of this toolkit, ICE is still bound by its own policy against conducting enforcement actions at or near "[sensitive locations](#)" and this specifically includes houses of worship.
2. If ICE does come to your house of worship:
 - Ask for a warrant. A warrant is a document signed by a judge that authorizes officials to enter a home or workplace. If the agents have a warrant, review it to determine if they have searched an area that is not authorized in the warrant. To be valid, an arrest warrant must have the name of the person they are looking for. A valid search warrant must specify the address they are going to search, which places (in detail) they are going to search, and what they are looking for.

Enforceable Legally Binding Warrant

AD-01 (Rev. 01/07) Search and Seizure Warrant

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
Southern District of California

In the Matter of the Search of _____)
(Party)) and) Case No. '14 MJ 0 396
or item _____))
2943 Reynard Avenue)
San Diego, California)

SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT

To: Any authorized law enforcement officer

An application by a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government requests the search of the following person or property located in the Southern District of California (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location): See Attachment A-2.

The person or property to be searched, described above, is believed to conceal (identify the person or describe the property to be searched): See Attachment B-2.

I find that the affidavit(s), or any recorded testimony, establish probable cause to search and seize the person or property.

YOU ARE COMMANDED to execute this warrant on or before February 14, 2014 (Date of Issued 91 days)

in the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10 p.m. at any time in the day or night as I find reasonable cause has been established.

Unless delayed notice is authorized below, you must give a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the property taken to the person from whom, or from whose premises, the property was taken, or leave the copy and receipt at the place where the property was taken.

The officer executing this warrant, or an officer present during the execution of the warrant, must prepare an inventory as required by law and promptly return this warrant and inventory to United States Magistrate Judge Hon. David H. Barlick.

I find that immediate notification may have an adverse result listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2705 (except for delay of trial), and authorize the officer executing this warrant to delay notice to the person who, or whose property, will be searched or seized (check the appropriate box) for _____ days (not to exceed 30).
Cite(s), the facts justifying, the later specific date of _____.

Date and time issued: February 14, 2014 [Signature]
Judge's signature

City and state: San Diego, California Hon. David H. Barlick, U.S. Magistrate Judge
Printed name and title

Non-binding ICE Warrant

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY Warrant for Arrest of Alien

File No. _____
Date: _____

To: Any immigration officer authorized pursuant to sections 236 and 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and part 287 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, to serve warrants of arrest for immigration violations

I have determined that there is probable cause to believe that _____ is removable from the United States. This determination is based upon:

the execution of a charging document to initiate removal proceedings against the subject;

the pendency of ongoing removal proceedings against the subject;

the failure to establish admissibility subsequent to deferred inspection;

biometric confirmation of the subject's identity and a records check of federal databases that affirmatively indicate, by themselves or in addition to other reliable information, that the subject either lacks immigration status or notwithstanding such status is removable under U.S. immigration law; and/or

statements made voluntarily by the subject to an immigration officer and/or other reliable evidence that affirmatively indicate the subject either lacks immigration status or notwithstanding such status is removable under U.S. immigration law.

YOU ARE COMMANDED to arrest and take into custody for removal proceedings under the Immigration and Nationality Act, the above-named alien.

(Signature of Authorized Immigration Officer)

(Printed Name and Title of Authorized Immigration Officer)

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that the Warrant for Arrest of Alien was served by me at _____ (Location)
on _____ (Name of Alien) on _____ (Date of Service), and the contents of this notice were read to him or her in the _____ (Language) language.

Name and Signature of Officer

Name or Number of Interpreter (if applicable)

Form I-200 (Rev. 09/16)

- No warrant? If the agents enter without a valid warrant, ask for the names and badge numbers of the agents. You can state that you do not consent to the search.
- Set up a phone tree/mass text for your community. A witness to ICE activity at your place of worship can activate the phone tree so that faith community members, friends, and neighbors can immediately come to their church, synagogue, temple or mosque. Prophetic, peaceful community witness is powerful and dissuasive.

Phase Two: What To Do If You Witness or Hear About a Raid

If you witness an immigration raid, arrest or related activity:

1. Take a picture or a video (not the people being targeted) while ensuring your safety and safety of others around you. You have a right to be present, observing, bearing witness, praying, photographing and videotaping (though your right to videotape a law enforcement action may vary by state). If ICE warns you and asks you to step back while videoing/photographing, it is best to follow directions, as they may confiscate your camera.
2. Take note exact date, time & location
3. Call your local hotline (national hotline is 1-844-363-1423). Record the badge numbers of agents, type of car, and exactly what happened.
4. Share on social media with the above details

If it is not a first-hand report :

1. Do not share it publicly on social media if it is not verified (i.e. not from someone who witnessed it)
2. Reach out directly to organizations or in area who are trained to go out, document and verify the report

3. If you know directly affected people in the area, notify them to be aware of the possibility of ICE/CBP/DHS/police in the area. Clarify that the report is unverified. Be prepared to provide emotional support.
4. If you see others sharing unverified reports, refer them to these guidelines.

Confirm Raids or Enforcement Actions and Beware of False Alarms

- If your rapid response team receives too many false alarms, they can grow fatigued and start to not take the call to action seriously. It's important to get the most accurate information possible by confirming the reports, try and get photos if possible by witnesses who are present.

Traditional Media

- Consider advising friendly local media outlets to show up when there is a raid happening
- Make sure to assign a media contact and several media spokesperson who know their talking points ahead of time
- A sample [media advisory](#) and [talking points](#) are available.

Social Media

- Assign someone to record the entire rapid response through Facebook live or the [ACLU app](#)
- Create a common hashtag using the location + #Raids and #Free+name so that people can follow what's happening along with other more well known hashtags like #NoBanNoWall #SanctuaryNotDeportations #Heretostay
- Post photos and updates with ways for people to sign up for alerts so that others can see what's happening and join the struggle

Phase Three: Raid Confirmation and Immediate Response

- Response addresses immediate threats presented by the disaster, including finding where those who have been picked up and have been taking, meeting humanitarian needs of the family (food, shelter, clothing, public health and safety), case management of children who may be without family members, emotional and/or psychological support, and the start of resource distribution.
- Response is putting your preparedness plans into action and faith communities often become de facto relief centers.
- Raids create panic for families and "first responders" in these cases often include churches, immigration attorneys and other community advocates who scramble to provide legal aid, track down children and missing detainees, and stock food pantries.

What to do once you arrive to the raid

- Gather as a group at a distance.
- Assign roles: Lead, Family Liaison, ICE Liaison, Leader of ritual (or divide into parts), Song lead, Singers, Person filming, those risking arrest, neighbors
- Review plan
- Distribute banners and signs
- If there is a group ready to risk arrest to block a deportation from happening you should set up a specific training around that before moving forward with such plan
- See [action in Phoenix where a group blocked ICE van](#)
- You have the right to offer public witness, but on the sidewalk. If ICE or other law agencies tell you to move you should follow directions unless there is a group prepared and trained to risk arrest
- Consider having specific people designated to de-escalate, should conflict arise.
- You have a right to witness and video record the enforcement action. This will help create public pressure that could help stop the raid, though rights do vary by state, so make sure to [know your rights about video recording](#)

- Record badge numbers, license plates, and everything that happened in the incident by writing it down and video taping. As much as possible, try to learn and document what role ICE officers and local law enforcement played. For local advocacy, it is important to note the role of local law enforcement, including indirect support like blocking traffic.
- Make sure there is space on your phone to hold video recording, and download the ACLU video app to ensure the information is captured and disseminated regardless of what happens to your camera or phone: www.aclu.org/feature/aclu-apps-record-police-conduct

Immediately Following a Raid

1. **Assess the Situation:** Find out who all was impacted. Which children have been left alone? Finding out the names and Alien numbers (A#) of the people affected, especially parents of children is most critical, as they could also be the first to be released. Identify who needs shelter and prepare a local willing congregation to be headquarters for raid response and legal assessment.
2. **Legal Services:** Make sure that pro-bono lawyers and legal service providers have ample safe space to meet with family members to access who was taken in the raid, who has the possibility of being released, and how to launch a campaign to get as many people released as possible.
3. **Shelter and Basic Needs:** Identify the faith community that is willing to open up their space as a temporary shelter for families who are scared to go home. Begin collecting basic needs such as food and clothes as needed. Start a collection to support the families who will experience a loss of income from one of the providers being detained and possibly deported.

Phase Four: Post-Raid Response

- Rapid response is not just about trying to stop a raid, it's also about mobilizing and organizing people to help with the fall out of the raid, when families are being separated
 - Have a list of local pro-bono immigration lawyers that are willing and ready to provide services for people being detained
 - Be ready to show up and do a vigil at the ICE field office, detention center or jail where people are being held to advocate for those immigrants to be released on bail
 - Be prepared to launch a call in action to call on the ICE Field office to release the people who are being detained.
1. **Condemn the Raids through media:** As soon as possible organize a public witness event such as a vigil or press conference to send the message to the broader community and to the government officials that raids and deportation policies that create terror and separate families go against our faith tradition and should not be a tactic utilized by the administration. Sample [Extended Vigil Liturgy Resource](#)
 2. **Consider creating a raid response task force at your church** to continue to be sure that the needs of families are met long terms. Possible teams on the task force might include:
 - a. media (news)
 - b. volunteer coordinator
 - c. legal
 - d. ESL
 - e. program coordinators
 - f. hospitality
 - g. social Media information sharing
 - h. Finance teams (Two teams - One to manage funds and accounts another team to write checks for legal fees such as lawyer fees and retainers, DACA applications, birth certificate applications, work permits etc).
 - i. Fundraising Team

- j. Government Outreach Team
 - k. Online Giving Platform and maintained website
3. **Continue to put pressure on local, state, and federal officials:** Just because the community slowly returns to a state of normalcy, does not mean that the impacts are over. Do not stop letting your elected officials know that your faith community supports families, workers, and will not let them be taken from your community.

Examples of actions at various levels include:

City Level Officials:

- Public statements from mayors and city council members to condemn ICE actions;
- Public statements from Police Chiefs clarifying that they do not collaborate with ICE;
- Eliminate the use of checkpoints as a policing tool, particularly in the wake of ICE activity in the area. The continued use of checkpoints terrorizes immigrant community members.
- Develop programs that specifically serve immigrant community members' needs, such as the need for legal representation;
- Establish Immigrant Advisory Committees to advise city government on issues related to immigration communities;
- Create an Office for Immigrant Affairs to promote civic engagement and eliminate language barriers in access to services

County Level Officials:

- Public statements from County Commissioners to condemn ICE actions
- Eliminate Sheriffs Departments' collaboration with ICE at all levels, including eliminating [287g agreements](#) or the practice of honoring ICE detainees
- Eliminate the use of checkpoints as a policing tool, particularly in the wake of ICE activity in the area. The continued use of checkpoints terrorizes immigrant community members.

School Officials:

- Public statements from schools clarifying that they welcome all students;
- Ensure that the district is respecting the right of all children to enroll in schools
- Adopt a Safe Zone policy for your district
- Educate school personnel about the rights of immigrant students and share know your rights information with students and parents
- Ensure that school personnel know about the "sensitive locations" policy and report violations of that policy if they occur
- Prioritize hiring bilingual and bicultural counselors, teachers, and other school personnel to effectively communicate with and provide support to immigrant students and parents.

Governor:

- Issue a public statement denouncing ICE raids and clarifying that all North Carolinians, including undocumented immigrants, have civil rights that will not be violated in our state.
- Eliminate the use of checkpoints as a policing tool by NC Highway Patrol, particularly in the wake of ICE activity in the area. The continued use of checkpoints terrorizes immigrant community members.
- Commit to vetoing any proposed bill that would further marginalize undocumented immigrants in our state.

- Commit to supporting inclusive policies, such as drivers licences and tuition equity for undocumented North Carolinians.

State Legislators:

- Public statements denouncing ICE raids, particularly in their districts.
- Commit to voting against any proposed bill that would further marginalize undocumented immigrants in our state.
- Commit to supporting inclusive policies, such as drivers licences and tuition equity for undocumented North Carolinians.

Congressional Representatives:

- Public statements denouncing ICE raids, particularly in their districts:
- Refuse to fund ICE and DHS in appropriations proceedings.

4. **Keep using the media to lift up positive stories of hope:** While raids can harden the hearts of some, immigration raids also highlight the many ways immigrants are part of a community's social fabric. Share stories of impacted workers and families who have been part of your community years. Likewise, after a raid volunteers from all walks of life stepped up to provide assistance. Public interest about the local immigrant population is sure to rise after a raid. Share positive stories of communities coming together with the media in order to push back against the negative narrative of undocumented immigration.
5. **Create new alliances:** Humanitarian responses can transform into political alliances through grass-roots action. Often, many of the volunteers who assist after a raid, do not consider the ways their [political beliefs can impact their own community](#). After a raid, do not be afraid to question human costs of the political fight over immigration policy, and how that interacts with our faith. Consider hosting a Bible study on immigration with another faith community, inviting immigrants to participate in your worship services, or preaching about immigration and the Bible.