

# What To Do if Government (POLICE OFFICERS, FBI AGENTS, ICE, Agents ETC.) Show Up at Your Door

*Share this information with people  
you live with, even if they are not  
activists.*

## You Don't Have to Answer the Door

- \* If government agents are at the door to ask questions as part of an investigation or to gather information about a community, you do not have to answer.
- \* If they say that they have a warrant (either a search warrant or arrest warrant), ask them to slide it under the door and make sure it is accurate (correct name, address, etc. and issued by a court) before opening the door.
- \* If they have a warrant and you don't open the door, at this point they may break it down. However, still tell them that you do not consent to a search but do not interfere with the search unless you are willing to risk arrest or injury for doing so.

## Important Numbers

*Do not list any other numbers here as they may be discovered by police during a search or while the door is open.*

**National Lawyers Guild (NLG) Jail Hotline:**  
415-285-1011 from inside Jail  
415-909-4NLG (4654) from outside jail

**ICE Raid Hotline:**  
Alameda County (ACILEP): (510) 241-4011  
Contra Costa Rapid Response: (925) 900-5151

**NLG-SF FBI Hotline:** (415) 285-1041

**NLG-SF Bail Contact (Anti-Repression Committee):**  
<https://antirepressionbayarea.com/>

## If They've Already Approached You

- \* If you've opened the door before discovering that they are government agents, step outside and close the door behind you. **DO NOT INVITE THEM INSIDE.**
- \* If they've approached you on the street, at work, or somewhere else outside of your home, do not go anywhere with them (unless they arrest you).
- \* If they are following you then do not return to your home, work or a friend's place.

## What to Say

- \* If you find yourself in a situation of having to interact with government agents, take a deep breath and stay in control of your words. Be firm in communicating that you will not talk with them. Things you may say that invoke your rights and carry legal weight:
  - **"I DO NOT CONSENT TO A SEARCH."**
  - **"I'M EXERCISING MY RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT."**
  - **"I WANT TO TALK TO AN ATTORNEY."**
- \* Say nothing else, unless you are being taken into custody and need specific accommodations (e.g. medication).
- \* You may also ask for their card(s). If they don't have a card to give you, take note of their names and the government agency to which they belong. Write this information down as soon as they leave.

## After They Leave

- \* Write down everything you remember as soon as possible: what questions they were trying to ask you, who they were, how many of them, the car they were driving, etc.
- \* Contact the NLG for assistance

## Remember!

- \* Police officers and other government agents are **ALLOWED** to lie to you, and they make regular use of this tactic. However, you are not legally allowed to lie to them. **DO NOT TRUST WHAT THEY SAY TO YOU.** They will say things to try to make you talk, including about people you may know or things that they know about you.
- \* You do not have to answer any questions that government agents are using to investigate you or others, so don't. Even things that seem harmless can be used against you and others.



**Post this near your door or on your refrigerator. Someplace where everyone in the household can see it and look at it in case there is a knock on the door by law enforcement.**

