

# POLICE AT THE DOOR

What to do if government agents—police officers, FBI agents, ICE, etc.— show up at your door because they “just want to talk to you.”

## FILL IN IMPORTANT NUMBERS BELOW.

Research the legal resources available in your area. Agree on an anti repression plan with those you share this home with! Keep in mind any personal numbers you put here may be discovered by police.

### National Lawyers Guild (NLG) Hotline

### ICE Raid Hotline

### Legal Contacts

### Bail Contacts

## 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. Note that there are exceptions to the warrant requirement. \*\*

## 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) and make sure that they do not follow you anywhere.

## 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, etc.
- Contact an attorney or a group providing legal support to connect you with an attorney.

## REMEMBER!

- **Police officers and other government agents are ALLOWED to lie to you**, and they make regular use of this tactic. Do not trust what they say to you. However, you are not legally allowed to lie to them.
- You do not have to answer any questions that government agents are using to investigate you or others, so don't. Take care of each other and maintain solidarity against State repression.