



THE
SIKH COALITION

Immigration Know Your Rights: Interacting with Non-Law Enforcement Individuals

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This information is not formal legal advice. If you need specific and immediate legal aid, contact the Sikh Coalition.

Scan the QR Code for all of Sikh Coalition's Know Your Rights Resources.



- The Sikh Coalition has heard reports of individuals not affiliated with government or law enforcement asking Sikhs about their immigration status.
- If anyone is asking you about your immigration status, you can refuse to speak to them. You can also request to see their identification.
- If they do not have identification, you do not have to engage them in any conversation and you are free to walk away.
- If their behavior escalates, repeats, or includes the threat of violence, you may be able to report them for a hate crime if you wish to do so; you can do so by calling 911, calling or visiting your local police station, or reaching out to the Sikh Coalition.
- If you are reporting a potential hate crime—whether it is someone harassing you about your immigration status or something else—to any law enforcement officer and they ask about your immigration or citizenship status, you have the right not to answer. If you are asked about your immigration status while reporting a hate crime, you could say the following: *"I am here to report a crime against me. I do not wish to answer your questions about my immigration status or otherwise speak with you about that topic based on my 5th Amendment rights."*