

Resources if someone you know has been detained

We understand how difficult and stressful it can be when a loved one is in ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detention. Our goal is to provide you with resources and information to help you navigate this challenging time. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide you with legal advice, but we can share some resources for legal support.

How to find someone detained by immigration?

- Individuals apprehended by ICE may be released after processing or held in an ICE detention facility. It is important to know where they are being detained to maintain communication and provide support.
- You can use the [ICE Online Detainee Locator System](#) to find where your loved one is being detained. This system requires their A-Number (their immigration identity number) or full name and country of birth.

Can my loved one be released from detention?

- Some individuals who are detained can be released on bond. A bond is a payment that allows the individual to be released from detention while their case is pending. A bond may be set by immigration officers, and you have the right to have that decision reviewed by an immigration judge in a bond hearing. However, you will only be able to make this request from the immigration judge on time, so it is good to be prepared.
- To be released on bond, it helps to show strong family and community ties as evidence that you will continue to participate in your case after you are released. If bond is granted, it must be paid in full. Only someone who is a U.S citizen or has a lawful immigration status should go to the immigration office to pay the bond.
- Here is a [guide created by the PAIR Project](#) with more information on how to prepare to request a bond hearing in front of an immigration judge (bond information starts on page 9).
- What you can do now: gather any documentation your loved one may need for their bond hearing or court case, such as proof of family ties, employment, or community support.

What happens next with the immigration court case?

- After detention, your loved one's case will proceed through the immigration court system. This process can involve [multiple hearings](#), including a master calendar hearing (preliminary hearing) and an individual hearing (where the merits of the case are addressed). It is crucial to stay informed about hearing dates and court locations.
- What you can do now: check for any upcoming Immigration Court hearing dates: To stay updated on your loved one's court hearing schedule, use the [EOIR \(Executive Office for Immigration Review\) Automated Case Information](#) System. You will need their A-Number to access this information.
- Note: if your loved one already has a final order of deportation, they will not be scheduled for a hearing and may not be eligible to be released on bond. Share this information with an attorney as soon as possible if this is the case!

Where can I get more support?

- **Legal Support:**
 - Lawyers for Civil Rights has a free hotline to provide information and some legal advice - Immigrant Defense Hotline (617-988-0606)
 - [PAIR Project](#) provides free or low-cost legal assistance for detained individuals. For any inquiries from Plymouth or Wyatt, please send an email to detention@pairproject.org, complete this [form](#) or call their phone number 617-742-9296. The hours of operation are 11 am - 3 pm most days of the week.
 - You can search the directory of private immigration lawyers on the [American Immigration Lawyers Association](#) website
 - A list of private [attorneys](#) who specialize in removal proceedings with a low consultation fee.
 - MIRA Immigration Helpline (not legal advice): (508) 293-1871 or helpline@miracoalition.org
- **Other Types of Support:** It is normal to feel overwhelmed during this time. Consider reaching out to community organizations, support groups, or mental health professionals for additional help. If you need recommendations, please let us know.
 - [Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network \(BIJAN\)](#): Organization that provides accompaniment, which can include support in court or at ICE check-ins, legal referrals, fundraising for bond or legal fees, letters of support from the community, rides for families to visit loved ones in detention, and logistical assistance with paperwork or bond payments, and more. We also help with housing, transportation, and other immediate needs of people released on bond who have no other resources in the community.
- If you have any questions or need further assistance and you believe that we can help you inquiry further please contact the MIRA Immigration Helpline at (508) 293-1871

Additional Resources

- [Prisoner Legal Services of Massachusetts](#)
- [PAIR Project Detention Self-Help Manual](#)