



## **FRAUD ALERT:** **'ICE' IMMIGRATION SCAMS**

There are reports of fraudsters posing as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents and demanding money from immigrants in order to avoid deportation.

**This is a scam.** ICE agents will never ask for money.

### How to report problems and fraud

- **Call Immigration Services Fraud Unit Hotline:** (866) 390-2992  
*The Attorney General's office will never ask for your immigration status or share immigration information with federal authorities if you contact this hotline.*
- **Or email [civil.rights@ag.ny.gov](mailto:civil.rights@ag.ny.gov)**

**For immigration and naturalization-related support,** call the New Americans toll-free, multi-lingual hotline that provides live assistance, regardless of citizenship or documented status. All calls to the hotline are confidential and anonymous.

Call 1-800-566-7636 (toll-free) anytime between 9:00am and 8:00pm Mon thru Friday.

### **Tips to avoid getting scammed:**

- Only work with a licensed lawyer or an authorized provider.
- Never sign blank applications or documents you do not understand.
- Do not make payments over the phone or via email.

## **Common Scams to Avoid**

**Fake ICE agents:** ICE agents do not have the authority to enter your household without a warrant signed by a judge. You are allowed to request to see their badge/identification. ICE will never ask you for money or threaten deportation or detainment if you do not pay them.

**Unsolicited calls from fake officials:** USCIS and ICE will never request payment over the phone. Be wary of scammers that ask for sensitive or personal information, demand payment and threaten deportation if you do not comply.

**Misrepresenting legal credentials:** Individuals may falsely claim to be attorneys and will take advantage of immigrants by making you pay exorbitant fees for their services. To verify an attorney, visit [www.nysba.org](http://www.nysba.org).