

Immigration Updates

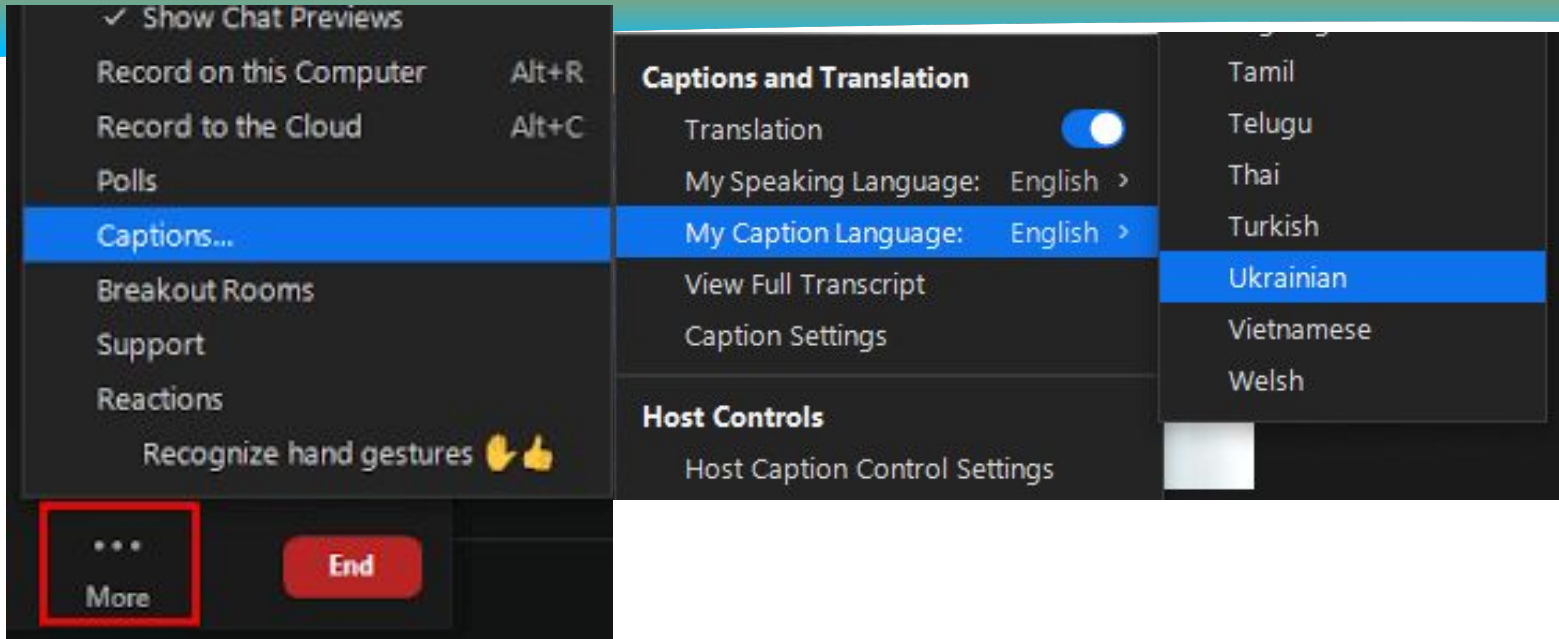
April 2026

Presented by
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Northwest
IMMIGRANT
RIGHTS
Project

- This webinar covers recent immigration related updates. We'll be sharing these in Spanish from 12:00 - 12:45 p.m., and then the same updates in English from 12:45-1:30 p.m.
 - *Este webinar estará proporcionando información sobre las más recientes actualizaciones migratorias. Estaremos impartiendo el webinar en español de 12:00 p.m. a 12:45 p.m. y después en inglés con las mismas actualizaciones de 12:45 p.m. a 1:30 p.m.*
- Please ask questions in the Q&A at any time. We will do our best to answer them by replying to them in the Q&A tab.
 - *Por favor hagan preguntas en el Q&A en cualquier momento. Haremos todo lo posible para responderlas en el Q&A de zoom.*
- This presentation will be recorded and available in English and Spanish at nwirp.org/webinars
 - *Esta presentación será grabada y estará disponible en inglés y español en nwirp.org/webinars.*

During English presentation: Access translated captions



- If you need a language other than English, auto-translated captions are available.
- To access, click “...more” button at the bottom of your zoom > *captions* > toggle on *translation* > then select which language you need.

Take a deep breath...

We want to pause and recognize that our communities are undergoing assaults. During this presentation, we will cover difficult content.

We want our communities to be prepared with information, and we also acknowledge how heavy and unjust this is.

Let's take a deep breath and get started.

Please visit our website for more information
on our services across WA: www.nwirp.org

*****Today's information is intended for educational purposes only*****

- Individuals with immigration questions should seek the advice and counsel of a reputable and experienced immigration attorney
- The information provided today is only guaranteed to be updated through today
- To stay on top of immigration law updates, please go to:
 - Immigration Policy Tracking Project:
 - impolicytracking.org
 - Litigation Tracker:
 - justsecurity.org/107087/tracker-litigation-legal-challenges-trump-administration
- Please also join NWIRP's mailing list: www.nwirp.org/join/ mailing-list

Today's Agenda:

- DACA Updates
- New USCIS Policy Terminating SIJS Deferred Action
- Federal Appellate Court Rules ICE Cannot Use Crowd-control Weapons Against Protestors
- Washington Legislative Updates
- Bond Hearing Case Updates for NW ICE Processing Center (Tacoma) and Nationwide Class Action
- Travel Domestically and Internationally
- Asylum Cooperative Agreements
- Federal Judge Rules that DHS Illegally Revoked Parole Status of Those Who Entered with CBP One
- House Passed Bipartisan Bill to Provide 3 Years of TPS for Haitians
- Preventing Notario and other Fraud
- Large Scale Raid Response
- Resources

DACA Renewals are Taking Longer than Usual

- DACA renewals used to take **a few weeks**, but now USCIS reports DACA renewal requests are taking **3.5 months**
- **Why are DACA renewals taking longer?**
 - **Late filings:** USCIS recommends applying between 150 to 120 days before current DACA expires
 - **Biometric (fingerprint) appointments are back:** USCIS has restarted biometric appointments
 - **Decision pause for applicants from certain countries:** USCIS is pausing granting DACA renewal requests for people who are nationals of certain countries listed in [June 2025](#) and [December 2025](#) travel bans

DACA Renewals are Taking Longer than Usual

- **If you have DACA, what can you do?**
 - **Check your [case status online](#)** and save copies of any updates
 - **Follow steps in [NILC and ILRC's FAQ](#)**
 - If you did not apply at least 120 days before expiration, your options may be more limited.
 - **Contact your member of Congress and ask them to inquire about your case with USCIS on your behalf**
 - **Document everything:** Keep records of timelines, notices, and how the delay is affecting you
 - **Learn what options are available to you** that you can discuss with your employer **if your DACA and work permit are expiring soon**
 - More information
 - [NILC FAQ: DACA and Your Workplace Rights](#)
 - [NILC: Why Some DACA Renewals Are Taking Longer and What You Can Do](#)

New USCIS Policy Terminating SIJS Deferred Action

- Currently, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS deferred) action is still available because of an ongoing court case but with a catch:
 - If your SIJS petition was approved on or after June 6, 2025, it's much harder to qualify for deferred action than people whose petitions were approved before that date
 - This is currently being challenged in the case [ACR v Noem case](#)
- **HOWEVER:** On April 10, 2026, USCIS issued a [new policy memo](#) *re-terminating the SIJS deferred action policy*
 - Effective May 10, 2026; it applies moving forward only
- **File before Friday, May 8, 2026!** Those who file SIJS petitions (Form I-360) on or after May 10, 2026 will NOT be automatically considered for Deferred Action if and when USCIS approves their SIJS petition

Federal Appellate Court Rules ICE Cannot Use Crowd-control Weapons Against Protestors

- The court affirmed a lower court's ruling that the Department of Homeland Security and Secretary Kristi Noem likely violated the First Amendment when federal agents opened fire on journalists and protestors during anti-ICE protests across Southern California in the summer of 2025
- For more read: [Ninth Circuit Affirms Protesters, Journalists and Legal Observers are Entitled to First Amendment Protections](#)

Protections for Immigrant Workers in WA

- The [Immigrant Worker Protection Act](#) requires
 - employers to inform their employees within five business days of receiving federal notice of I-9 document inspections
 - notifying workers of inspection results
 - protects against retaliation
 - imposes significant penalties on employers for non-compliance

Driver Privacy Act (Regulating “Flock” Cameras)

- Automated license plate readers (ALPRs or “Flock Cameras”) are devices that scan license plates and track where and when people drive
 - This bill regulates those cameras
- **How?**
 - **Bans use near sensitive places:** health care, immigration services, schools, places of worship
 - **Prohibits use for:** immigration enforcement, tracking health care access, or protected activities (like protests)
 - **Limits data sharing:** only allowed in narrow situations (e.g., court order)
 - **Requires a warrant** to get data from private companies and bans buying/selling data
 - **Requires audits and transparency** with real legal consequences for violations

Prohibiting Impersonating Law Enforcement and Banning Law Enforcement Masks

- [Prohibiting Law Enforcement Impersonators](#)
 - Bans individuals who are not law enforcement from wearing, displaying or possessing badges or other law enforcement insignias
 - Goal: increase safety and accountability
- [Banning Law Enforcement Masks](#)
 - Law enforcement (including federal immigration agents) cannot wear masks while on duty in Washington
 - To report violations email **immigration@ATG.wa.gov**



Bond Hearing Case Summary

NW ICE Processing Center (Tacoma)

- **Rodriguez-Vazquez**, is a case limited to people detained in Tacoma who are denied bond hearings because they entered without permission
- A judge found that the policy is unlawful and that class members are entitled to bond hearings
- Immigration judges have refused to comply with the order, forcing NWIRP to file weekly group petitions on behalf of class members
 - NWIRP has filed **59 actions** since September 2025, representing a total of **279 immigrants**
 - Most people have been granted either immediate release or a bond hearing
- The Administration appealed the judgment, and the Ninth Circuit heard arguments on the case in early March
 - We are awaiting the court's decision

Bond Hearing Case Summary

Nationwide Class Action

- **Maldonado-Bautista**, is a parallel class action that NWIRP filed in the Central District of California on behalf of the rest of the country. The court certified the **nationwide** class and declared the policy unlawful.
- DHS refused to comply with the court order, citing the Board of Immigration Appeals decision in *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*
 - NWIRP sought an order to force compliance and asked the judge to set aside *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*, which the judge did. However, the [9th Circuit](#) paused that order
- So, *Maldonado* class members are also forced to file habeas petitions **for release**
 - BUT: There are two bad decisions out of the [5th and 8th Circuit](#) - immigrants who entered without inspection in states in those circuits will have a harder time getting released

Bond Hearing Case Summary

Nationwide Class Action, Continued

- The [9th Circuit](#) noted that it was not addressing whether the no-bond policy is lawful because that is being addressed in our *Rodriguez Vazquez* case
- This means that everything in the 9th Circuit depends on what happens in *Rodriguez Vazquez*
- **In the meantime, everyone in the 9th Circuit needs to file individual habeas petitions**

Traveling Domestically

- The Presidential Administration has [deployed ICE officers](#) to more than a dozen U.S. airports
 - SeaTac airport is not currently included in the initial [list of airports](#) where ICE agents have been deployed
- ICE has arrested more than [800 people](#) across the country based on tips from TSA

Tips to Consider when Traveling by Air

- If you have a deportation order or are undocumented, it is best to avoid traveling by plane or going to the airport for any other reason
- Turn off biometrics on your phone, or power your phone down while going through security lines
- Print a paper boarding pass
- [Decline to participate in a biometric/face scan if you are a US citizen](#)
- Take steps to [make encrypted chats](#) on apps like Signal or WhatsApp more secure
- Discuss an emergency plan with your travel group and have emergency contact numbers written down

Traveling Internationally

- Incidents at SEA Airport
 - [China tells citizens to avoid Sea-Tac after scholars denied entry](#)
 - [UW graduate student denied entry at Sea-Tac](#)
- These incidents reflect a broader CBP policy of searching for reasons to deny entry, rather than assist travelers in entering the US
- The Port of Seattle, which operates Sea-Tac airport, does not have control over operations or entry requirements for arriving international passengers, nor can they provide information on arriving passengers
 - *This process is exclusively controlled by CBP*
 - Still, the Port has policies in place to [reaffirm “its commitment to being a welcoming gateway for people and commerce”](#)

Asylum Cooperative Agreements (ACA)

- **What are they?** [ACA's](#) are agreements with “safe” third countries that allow the US to send asylum seekers to those countries (in theory, to seek protection)
- **How are they used?** DHS had a practice of filing motions in immigration court to “pretermite” (deny) asylum applications based on these agreements and deport people who otherwise could seek protection
 - But in March, DHS lawyers received a national directive to stop this
 - Unclear how this affects motions already filed or granted
- **What countries have ACAs?** The US has signed at least 6 formal ACAs - but so far, confirmed deportations only to Honduras, Guatemala, Uganda, and Ecuador
 - Several other agreements have been reported, but not confirmed
 - Most recently, the Congo says it will receive asylum seekers, there have been some [reports](#) that the DRC has begun to accept deportees

Federal Judge Rules that DHS Illegally Revoked Parole Status of Those Who Entered with CBP One

- During the Biden administration, migrants waiting in Mexico could schedule and interview to report to a port of entry along the US-Mexico border via an app called “CBP One”
 - After they were interviewed and vetted, they were “paroled” (allowed in) to the country while waiting for a court to hear their asylum claim
- In April 2025, the current administration **cancelled CBP One**, and sent emails to those who had been paroled under the program notifying them that their **status had been revoked** and encouraging them to leave the US
- **A federal judge found that this revocation of parole violated the law** and ordered the government to return those who were granted parole under CBP One to the parole status they held prior to the April 2025 termination email

House Passed Bipartisan Bill to Provide 3 Years of TPS for Haitians

- *What does the bill do?* Requires DHS to extend TPS for Haitians through January 20, 2029, granting them work permits and protection from deportation while TPS remains in effect
 - Remember: DHS terminated TPS for Haiti, effective in February, but that termination is currently blocked by litigation
 - The Supreme Court will hear arguments on this litigation at the end of April
- *What happens now?* The bill still has to pass the Senate, and will likely be vetoed by the President

Preventing *Notario* and other Fraud

- Only licensed attorneys or fully Dept. of Justice (DOJ) Accredited Representatives can represent you in immigration court, can provide legal services, and can give legal advice
 - Check credentials: Practicing attorneys have a State-issued bar license; DOJ Accredited Reps. can be searched here: [DOJ Accredited Representatives Roster](#)
- Do not sign documents that are blank, that you do not understand, or that have false information
- Do not pay money without understanding the process and obtaining a receipt and a copy of your retainer
- Do get copies of all applications or other documents prepared for you or filed on your behalf
- If the advice seems too good to be true, get a second opinion

Preventing *Notario* and other Fraud - continued

- Be alert to digital scams
 - Be skeptical of social media posts promising new or rapid immigration relief
 - There is no communication from the government via WhatsApp or social media
 - Generally, there is no communication by phone—with limited exceptions
 - Avoid sharing unverified information on social media
- Report *notario* fraud or other scams to the Attorney General's Office
 - Victims may file a complaint online at www.atg.wa.gov or call 1-800-551-4636 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays. Written complaints can be filed in Spanish at www.atg.wa.gov/en-espanol
- Client Flyer: Protect Yourself from Immigration Scams
 - AILA provides a [flyer](#) to warn clients and community members about the recent surge in immigration-related scams and how to protect themselves

Large-Scale Enforcement Action Response Collaboration

- **WAISN Hotline at 1-844-724-3737 and other local hotlines receive reports of potential ICE raids**
 - Plan: Hotline staff receive reports of a potential large scale raid and immediately communicate with NWIRP staff, including via ****largescaleraid@nwirp.org**** to determine potential raid location (before large-scale is confirmed)
****organizational partners can communicate directly with NWIRP****
- **Rapid Response Teams**
 - Trained rapid responders gather initial information, usually connected via local hotlines to verify that a large-scale raid (immigration enforcement action) is actively happening
- **NWIRP Legal Response Team (Staff and Volunteer Attorneys)**
 - NWIRP staff and volunteers are mobilized once large-scale raid is confirmed
 - Once on-site, provide legal assistance and information
 - NWIRP attorneys work with detained community; **free** immigration legal services

What can I do? - For Impacted Community

- Print a “know your rights” flyer to have at your home and/or workplace (<https://nwirp.org/resources/kyr/>)
- Create a safety plan with your family (leycwa.org)
- Create a sample defense plan, in addition to a family safety plan
 - See this resource specific to Colorado as an example:
 - https://coloradoimmigrant.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Family-Preparedness-Packet-2025-ENG_SPA.pdf
- Join community based groups to support each other (e.g. [Mijente](#), [Undocublack Network](#), [My Undocumented Life](#), [United We Dream](#), [NAKASEC](#) and others)

Resources when someone has been detained

- ICE operates the Online Detainee Locator System (ODLS) and members of the public to locate individuals who are detained by ICE
 - <https://www.ice.gov/factsheets/locating-individuals-in-detention>
- Immigration Client Locator
 - To download visit [this link](#)
 - Tutorial Videos in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
 - 1-pagers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
 - More detailed information in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- [About the NW Detention Center](#)

What can you do? - For Allies and Advocates

- Stay calm and informed & listen to and respect community needs
- Know your legal rights
- Offer to help immigrant community members that you know - be humble, ask what they need, let them lead the conversation.
 - Example: help them fill out a family safety plan (lcyewa.org)
- During an active enforcement action, document carefully
- Discuss with your workplace how to keep safe from ICE (search nilc.org for guides)
- Share resources and stay connected
 - Order/print Red Cards to have at your workplace, to share at businesses you frequent so they can make available to their customers (ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas)
 - Learn about and join efforts of existing community members for accompaniment (waisn.org, [JCIJ NW](#), [The Church Council of Greater Seattle](#)), or other ways to directly help (AIDNW.org, fairfightbondfund.org, [NDLON Adopt a Day Labor Corner](#))
- Review the Belonging Handbook: [The Belonging Handbook](#)

What can you do? - For Everyone

- Contact congressional senators and representatives
 - U.S. Capitol Switchboard 202-224-3121
 - Sample Script:
 - “Hi, my name is (NAME), and I’m a constituent from (CITY). ICE has taken the lives of our neighbors and is instilling fear in communities across the country. As our elected representatives, you are here to protect us, not fund this violence. Please block future ICE and CBP funding now. Thank you.”
- Contact state legislators
 - In Washington state:
 - From the [Legislators page](#), select a member to view their contact information and use our member email form to send them a message.
- Legislative advocacy - important to follow bills that would support and oppose bills that would harm our communities

LCYC Family Safety Plan - Virtual Appointments

- **Legal Counsel for Youth and Children (LCYC)**
 - Immigrant Safety Plan
 - <https://lcywa.org/isp>
 - As of March 1st, 2026, LCYC launched virtual Immigrant Safety Plan appointments (ISP) across Washington state.
 - (Previously they were only able to offer virtual appointments for folks who work, live, or go to school in Seattle). <https://lcywa.org/isp>

IMMIGRANT SAFETY PLAN



Upcoming NWIRP Webinars

- **May 2026 Community Immigration Updates Webinar**
 - Thursday, May 21, 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
 - English followed by Spanish
- **June 2026 Community Immigration Updates Webinar**
 - Tuesday, June 23, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
 - Spanish followed by English
- **Watch recorded webinars here:**
 - nwirp.org/webinars/

Thank you!