

# Check-Ins:

## What You Need to Know

### KEY POINT

- **An ICE check-in is Not immigration court:** An ICE check-in is **separate** from your court hearing.
- **ICE officers do NOT decide your asylum or immigration case.**

### WHAT IS AN ICE CHECK-IN?

- A meeting (in person or virtual) with ICE while your case is pending **or** if you have a removal order.
- ICE checks:
  - Your address
  - That you are not breaking laws
  - That you are not avoiding authorities

### RISKS

- Some people **may be detained** at check-ins:
  - If they have a deportation order
  - If they have criminal records
  - If they have past immigration violations
- **Even if none apply, detention is still possible.**

### PREPARATION TIPS

- Bring:
  - Copies of all of your immigration applications and papers
  - Proof of the length of time you have been in the U.S. (such as utility bills)
  - Documents showing special family or medical circumstances
- Try to go with a U.S. citizen friend/family member who speaks **English**
- Eat beforehand & wear comfortable clothes.
- Memorize important phone numbers.
- Make sure your lawyer & trusted contacts have your full details such as your “A number”, birth date, full name & country of origin.

### IF YOU ARE DETAINED

- Tell ICE officers clearly and repeatedly:

**“I am afraid to return to my country and want to apply for asylum.”**

- This should trigger a Credible Fear Interview.

### REQUIREMENT

- If you get a **“Notice to Report”**, seek legal advice.
- Missing your ICE check-in may result in **detention or deportation.**

### IF YOU MISS YOUR CHECK-IN

- Contact ICE and explain why you missed the appointment.
- Contact an **immigration attorney immediately.**

### SUMMARY ADVICE

- Talk to an immigration attorney **before** you go.
- Bring your **immigration documents.**
- Have someone accompany you.
- **Do not sign anything that you do not understand.**