

HOW TO GET SOMEONE OUT OF IMMIGRATION DETENTION

1. Try to get the person released on bond

- Find out whether the person is eligible for bond. (This is complicated, and you will need someone experienced in immigration law to help you.)
- Ask for a bond hearing with an immigration judge right away. (See “Know Your Rights in Detention”)
- Prepare for the bond hearing. (see “**Know Your Rights in Detention**”)
- **Arrange money for bond.** You have to pay the full amount. You can pay the bond at any ICE bond office. Bond must be paid by cashier’s check or a bank money order, payable to the Department of Homeland Security. The person paying the bond **MUST** have some kind of immigration status, identification and a social security card! Immigration Bail Bond companies are available, but review their terms **VERY** carefully.



2. What if the bond amount is too high for our community members?

Call or send a letter (on your letterhead) to the Field Office Director or the Detention Officer of the detainee asking them to consider reducing the bond amount. In the letter, provide information about your personal knowledge of the person and why they will not be a danger to society or a flight risk.

3. Get documents to support a request for bond– See Appendix C

Appendix C: DOCUMENT AND INFORMATION COLLECTION (SOME IDEAS)

AT THE RAID: Record any information on civil rights violations: names of officers, time, what was said, names of witnesses. Be specific!

AT THE IMMIGRATION DEPORTATION OFFICE (ICE-DRO) and IMMIGRATION COURT

- ❑ Notice to Appear
- ❑ Complete Immigration File
- ❑ Complete Criminal History (no matter how long ago the conviction): include complaint and disposition
- ❑ Collect evidence in support of bond (if you are eligible). Must show you are not a flight risk or danger to the community
 - Affidavits and statements of support from family members
 - Pictures of children and family
 - Letter from employer describing responsibilities, work history and satisfaction with work
 - Tax returns
 - Letters from family members, community leaders, religious leaders highlighting connections with family and community and opinion that individual will not run away
 - Proof of rehabilitation (e.g. letter showing successful completion of anger management class or letter from parole officer)
 - Evidence of service in the Armed Forces
 - Letters from family members showing financial dependence on the family member detained (e.g. detained family member was the breadwinner)
 - Letters of support from friends, family, religious groups, local elected official describing impact of separation or future separation on family, community, etc.
 - Letters from counselors (emotional distress or trauma) or doctors (health problems) showing the impact on detained person's health if he/she was deported
 - Evidence of property ownership (car, home, etc.)
 - School records (if currently attending school)
 - Community membership ties (e.g. Church group, etc.)
 - Awards



DETENTION

- ❑ Jail handbook - Provides information on how to make complaints and use grievance process in jail
- ❑ Detention Standards (See more on page 3)