

JAY TREATY BORDER ALLIANCE: KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING IMMIGRATION & CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

The following provides information and resources for both United States-born and Canadian-born American Indians about your rights regarding the United States Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE).

BORN IN THE US?

You are a United States citizen. ICE has no jurisdiction over US-born citizens on immigration matters. However, ICE has targeted Tribal citizens, so it's important to know your rights and have proper documentation (Tribal ID, state-issued ID or Driver's License, United States Passport).

BORN IN CANADA?

You are legally protected under the Jay Treaty. You have lawful status and are legally authorized to live and work in the United States under Section 289 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. §1359).

Documents that prove lawful status should be carried at all times:

Blood quantum letter confirming at least 50% of Native blood quantum, Secure Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) or Certificate of Indian Status (CIS), Long-form birth certificate, or Government-issued photo ID.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS:

David Flute,
Senior Tribal Advisor:
david.flute@hq.dhs.gov

Rodney Lockett,
Director of Tribal Affairs:
(202) 841-2065
rodney.lockett@hq.dhs.gov

DHS Tribal Affairs:
tribal.affairs@hq.dhs.gov

RESOURCES:

Know your rights if you are approached by ICE:
<https://narf.org/ice-resources-2026/>

If your rights are violated, call Native American Rights Fund: **(303) 447-8760**

Find a detained person:
<https://locator.ice.gov/odls/#/search>

ARE YOU SEEKING A BLOOD QUANTUM LETTER?

Call the SNGR Lands & Membership office:
(519) 445-4613

