

A Quick Guide for Church Personnel Who May Interact with Federal Agents

If an Immigration and Customs Enforcement or other federal agent arrives at your church, do not open the door without observing the following protocols:

DO

- Remain Calm
- Verify the identity of the federal agent(s)
- Close or lock your laptop or other computer immediately
- Inform all staff and visitors of the presence of federal agents on the premises
- Ask agents for a warrant
- Ask federal agents to slide all documents under the door/through the mail slot, etc.
- Remember you have the right to remain silent
- Remember you have the right to legal counsel

DO NOT

- Keep documents out in plain view
- Leave your computer open or unlocked
- Allow federal agents into the premises without a warrant
- Lie to agents
- Assist anyone to hide or escape from agents
- Obstruct or resist federal agents if their actions are within the bounds of a valid warrant
- Share any information without a warrant
- Sign anything

THINGS YOU CAN SAY

- "I am not authorized to speak with you."
- "I need to contact our attorney."
- "I do not want to answer your questions."
- "I do not consent to your entry."
- "Do you have a warrant? Please pass it under the door."
- "I do not give you permission to enter."
- "Am I being detained? Am I free to go?"