



Sanctuary City Laws in NYC



January 2025 English

MOIA's Immigration Legal Hotline



Call 1-800-354-0365Monday to Friday, 9AM to 6PM

Interpretation is available in your preferred language

For free and confidential immigration legal help immigrant New Yorkers can call the MOIA Immigration Legal Support hotline.

NYC 24/7 Hotline



Call 311

Say "Immigration"

Interpretation is available



Immigration law is complicated.
Beware of immigration legal scams or fraudulent providers who may indicate false promises.

Remember: A public notary who is not a licensed attorney cannot fill out or file immigration forms on your behalf. They also should not give you legal advice.

New York values the lives of all New Yorkers. Regardless of your immigration status, we want you to feel safe living here.



What does "Sanctuary City" mean?



New York City is a "sanctuary city" when it comes to immigration.



New York City's sanctuary city laws impose certain limitations on the City's ability to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement.



New York City's sanctuary laws do not mean that no one in NYC gets deported.

How do New York City's laws protect me?



Our sanctuary laws are about prioritizing public safety, due process, and trust over immigration enforcement.



The City has laws that are meant to protect your privacy.

If you have questions about how an agency plans to use information it is collecting from you, you may ask them.



New York City's laws set boundaries for all city agencies with respect to the extent to which City property, time, and resources may be used to help federal immigration enforcement.

How can I protect myself?





Make your family plan.



Choose an emergency contact and memorize their phone number. An emergency contact can be someone you trust – a family member, friend, community leader, or a lawyer.



Organize your documents and keep them in a safe place that your emergency contacts have access to.



Choose a standby guardian: someone you trust to take care of your child in case you are detained. Standby guardians have the power to make important decisions for a child in their care, including major medical decisions and decisions about where the child goes to school.



Avoid getting into trouble with authorities



Do not engage in any criminal activity.

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Notes:

www.nyc.gov/immigrants