REMEMBER:

- **Prepare a plan** for the care of your children in case of an emergency.
- **Carefully choose a responsible adult** to care for your children and help you during an emergency.
- **Have a plan in writing** and discuss this plan with your children. If you have a person you trust, give them a **Power of Attorney**.
- **Have your documents ready**, especially your passport.
- Carry with you a **list of important phone numbers**, including your Consulate’s phone number.
- If you are detained by the police or immigration agents, you **have the right to remain silent and to call your Consulate**.
- Ask if there is an **alternative to detention**, so that you can return to your family while your case is processed by the immigration agencies and/or you are deported.
- Protect your parental rights by **maintaining contact with your children** and the person who is taking care of them.

Call today!

For a free and confidential consultation about your emergency family plan, or if you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact **Eliana Kaimowitz**, an attorney with California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation. (CRLAF)

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Protect your family!
Prepate a plan for the care of your children in an emergency.

In the last 5 years, the number of people who have been detained by immigration agents has been increasing. Undocumented immigrants have been stopped by local police, and then taken from the police station directly to an immigration detention center. Sometimes these people are parents with children waiting for them at home. Approximately, 5.5 million children in the U.S. live with a parent that is undocumented. The number of deportations has continued to increase. It is important to prepare a plan to protect your children from the trauma of a possible separation; which could happen given the current immigration laws.

Choose a Responsible Person
Minors should always be under the care of a responsible adult. Children who are left alone for a long time, or who get in trouble or are injured while they are alone, may be removed from their homes by Child Protective Services (CPS).

Before you find yourself in an emergency situation, choose someone you think is a responsible adult whom you could ask to pick up and care for your children if you are not able to.

Speak to this person and make sure they are willing to care for your children in case of an emergency. Discuss your emergency plan with your children.

Carefully select a responsible person so that you are sure that your children will be well cared for and will feel safe with this person. It is a good idea for this person to be listed as an emergency contact at your children’s school and your children should also have their information.

If you are detained by the Police or Immigration Agents

If you are detained by the police or an Immigration (I.C.E.) Agent, you have the right to remain silent and not answer any questions. You also have the right to call the Consulate from your country.

In the event of an emergency, request permission to speak to the person (caretaker) who will be picking up your children. If Child Protective Services (CPS) picks up your children, the authorized person may go to CPS to pick them up. They will need to show documentation identifying them as a relative of the child(ren) or an authorization from the parent(s) if they are not a relative.

Ask the police or I.C.E. Agent, if there is an alternative to detention, for humanitarian reasons, especially if you are a single parent so that you may ensure the care of your child(ren).

If you are going to be detained for an extended period of time, make sure that you stay in direct contact with your child(ren) through your assigned caretaker or agency. It is important that the child(ren) know that you are doing well and that he/she (they) hear your voice. If your children are under the care of CPS, contact the case worker in charge of your children as soon as possible. It is extremely important, since there may be court hearings that require your attendance in person or by telephone, or other processes or requirements you need to understand to protect your parental rights.

Legal Guardianship

If the child(ren) are going to stay in the U.S. without their parents, it is important that they remain under the care of a person that has the legal authority to make decisions for their well-being. A person who is not the father or mother of a child needs to be legally authorized to make important decisions, such as medical care, schooling, traveling outside the state or country, etc. for the child.

A legal guardian is a person who is temporarily or permanently designated by the Family Court in your county to care for your child(ren) through a court process called guardianship. Any interested person can request legal guardianship of a child but it is the Court who decides, after holding a hearing and investigating, to authorize the guardianship. The Court often gives preference to a child’s relatives.

If you do not want to get the Court involved, you may sign a private agreement with your chosen caregiver granting them custody of your child(ren). In certain situations, only a legal guardianship will allows this person to make the necessary decision for your child(ren).

Leave Your Wishes in Writing

Have a written plan indicating your wishes for the care of your children in case of an emergency. Choose a person you trust and give them a power of attorney, or any other legal document authorizing, them to care for your children.

If you want your children to return to your country of origin if you are deported, authorize this person to make the necessary travel arrangements through this legal document.

Have your Documents Ready

Each family member should have their documents (passport, birth certificate, medical records, etc.) ready in a safe place.

Carry with you a list of important telephone numbers, including your Consulate’s number.
Important Documents

- Passport
- Birth Certificate
- Immunization Records
- Property Deed/Title
- Social Security Card
- Identification Card
- Power of Attorney

If you are looking for someone that has been detained by the agencies of immigration (I.C.E. or U.S.C.I.S.) you need to know the legal name of the detainee and their immigration number (A#).

Local Detention and Deportation Centers

Yuba County
215 5th Street
Marysville, CA. 95901-5737
(530) 749-7740

Contra Costa County
5555 Giant Hwy
Richmond, CA. 04806
(510) 262-4200

Mail Detainee Correspondence to:
Same as above

P O Box 1031
Marysville, CA. 95901

You may also locate a detained person through this website:
https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do

LIST OF EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you are detained by the police or an immigration agent, you have the right to remain silent. Carry with you a list of phone numbers that you may call in the event of an emergency. Select a responsible person that will be able to care for your child(ren), in the event that you are not available.

Give each of your family members, including your child(ren) a copy of this list. Talk to your child(ren) and explain the importance of this list. It’s important that you list your official name that you use on your legal documents.

Make sure that your child(ren) is/are not left without someone to pick them up from school. Fill out the emergency contact form at school and maintain the school informed of any telephone and address changes for your chosen caregiver.

Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
Telephone: _________________________________________

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Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
Telephone: _________________________________________

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Name: ____________________________________________
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Telephone: _________________________________________