



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT

PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

PARISH GUIDE FOR IMMIGRANT-WELCOMING PARISHES

NOTE: THIS IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE AND DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR CONSULTATION WITH AN ATTORNEY.

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut is committed to claiming and living into our identities as Christians and followers of Jesus Christ, standing for the very things Jesus stood for, lived for, loved for, died for, and offers to the world through his resurrection.

We will be a place where all are seen, loved, and treated as beloved children of God. Knowing that we have different immigration statuses and backgrounds, we will:

- **Welcome everyone**
- **Serve our neighbors**
- **Respect the dignity of all people**

While we cannot offer protection from all risk we face right now, we strive to be a place where we offer material and spiritual care and support to all who come to us.

An Immigrant-Welcoming Parish:

- **RESPECTS THE PRIVACY** of members of our congregation and other individuals who interact with our congregation, as to sensitive personal and legal matters. Except in rare cases (where there is a court order or consent), an Immigrant-Safe Parish:
 - **DOES NOT** ask for immigration status.
 - **WILL NOT** coordinate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
 - **DOES NOT** share records with ICE.
 - **DOES NOT** open its doors to ICE without a judicial warrant (see example on page 3).



An Immigrant-Welcoming Parish Provides Care and Support, Including:

- Providing shelter, food, or other services to a broad set of people, including citizens and noncitizens, regardless of immigration status.
 - *Absent rare cases, such as when a court order is at issue, a congregation that operates a shelter and other outreach programs is under no obligation to inquire or record information about identity or immigration status.*
- Holding legal information (or “know your rights”) sessions, host legal clinics, and make referrals for social services.
- Accompanying a person to an ICE check-in or immigration court.
- Keeping minimal confidential personal information about those you serve.

An Immigrant-Welcoming Parish Engages in Advocacy, Including:

- Adopting and making public statements about a policy of nondiscrimination at your place of worship and of welcoming and helping persons in need, regardless of immigration or citizenship status, race, ethnicity, gender identity, or sexual orientation, etc.
- Adopting a policy that respects privacy by not asking members of the congregation, or members of the public who interact with the congregation, about their immigration status, and adhering to a policy of not recording any information about any individual’s immigration status.
- Follow The Episcopal Church to stay informed and learn more about immigration matters.
<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/immigration-action-toolkit/>
- Supporting or working with local and state governmental authorities to adopt legislation and regulations that protect immigrants and refugees.
- Speaking out on behalf of immigrants’ rights, and expressing support for keeping families together and reforming the immigration laws to make it possible for undocumented immigrants to adjust to a lawful status.



An Immigrant-Welcoming Parish Does Not Open its Doors to ICE Without a Federal Judicial Warrant

- Post exterior and interior signs to make clear your status as a private property.
 - *Remember that you have the right to refuse entry into the property and remain silent. If you suspect a visitor may be an ICE agent (for instance, if they generally identify themselves as "police" or "law enforcement" without stating they belong to a specific law enforcement agency or, or an unexpected visitor/delivery), directly ask if they are from ICE or the Department of Homeland Security or Customs and Border Protection. If they won't give you a direct "no," proceed as follows:*
1. State that **you do not consent** to them entering the property, and that you will not say anything without an attorney. Then remain silent, even if they ask questions or try engaging you in conversation.
 2. *If and only if* they state that they have a **warrant**, ask if the warrant has been signed by a federal judge. Otherwise, continue to remain silent. If they have a warrant but it has not been signed by federal judge, that "administrative warrant" does not permit ICE to access or search the Parish without consent. If presented with an administrative warrant, tell the officers that you do not consent to their entry or search of the Parish.
 3. *If and only if* they state that the warrant has been **signed by a federal judge**, ask them to show you the warrant, along with an ID and badge, ideally by sliding them under the door or into a mail slot. If this is not possible, ask them to hand or show them to you while holding the door open only slightly ajar. Do not physically prevent them from entering. Just continue to tell them that you do not consent to their entry.
 4. *If they present a warrant signed by a federal judge*, then ICE may enter and search the areas specifically identified in the warrant.
 - Call a lawyer if you have access to one.
 - Help people remain calm while the agents perform their duties.
 - If available, make a video recording of everything that the officer does once they enter the building. Try to get their name and badge number on video.
 - **Be sure not to physically interfere with the actions of the officer.**

***Limits of Immigrant Safety:**

Do not represent to congregants, and persons at the church for feeding or other outreach programs or seeking pastoral care, that the church can assure their legal safety from apprehension by ICE.



Administrative Warrant of Removal

Issued by
DHS/ICE, not a
federal court

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
WARRANT OF REMOVAL/DEPORTATION

File No: _____
Date: _____

To any immigration officer of the United States Department of Homeland Security:

(Full name of alien)

who entered the United States at _____ on _____
(Place of entry) (Date of entry)

is subject to removal/deportation from the United States, based upon a final order by:

☐ an immigration judge in exclusion, deportation, or removal proceedings
☐ a designated official
☐ the Board of Immigration Appeals
☐ a United States District or Magistrate Court Judge

and pursuant to the following provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act:

I, the undersigned officer of the United States, by virtue of the power and authority vested in the Secretary of Homeland Security under the laws of the United States and by his or her direction, command you to take into custody and remove from the United States the above-named alien, pursuant to law, at the expense of:

Signed by an
immigration official,
not a federal judge

(Signature of immigration officer)

(Title of immigration officer)

(Date and office location)



Court-Issued Federal Arrest Warrant

AD 442 (Rev. 11/11) Arrest Warrant

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the _____

United States of America
v. _____
Defendant

Case No. _____

ARREST WARRANT

To: Any authorized law enforcement officer

YOU ARE COMMANDED to arrest and bring before a United States magistrate judge without unnecessary delay
(name of person to be arrested) _____,
who is accused of an offense or violation based on the following document filed with the court:

☐ Indictment ☐ Superseding Indictment ☐ Information ☐ Superseding Information ☐ Complaint
☐ Probation Violation Petition ☐ Supervised Release Violation Petition ☐ Violation Notice ☐ Order of the Court

This offense is briefly described as follows:

Date: _____

City and state: _____

Issuing officer's signature

Printed name and title

Return

This warrant was received on (date) _____, and the person was arrested on (date) _____
at (city and state) _____.

Date: _____

Arresting officer's signature

Printed name and title

Must list name of
person to be arrested

Issued by a federal
district court

Signed by a
judge (or other
court official,
like the clerk of
the court)



Court-Issued Federal Search Warrant

AO 93 (Rev. 11/13) Search and Seizure Warrant

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the _____

In the Matter of the Search of _____
(Briefly describe the property to be searched
or identify the person by name and address)

Case No. _____

SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT

To: Any authorized law enforcement officer

An application by a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government requests the search of the following person or property located in the _____ District of _____
(Identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):

I find that the affidavit(s), or any recorded testimony, establish probable cause to search and seize the person or property described above, and that such search will reveal (Identify the person or describe the property to be seized):

YOU ARE COMMANDED to execute this warrant on or before _____ (not to exceed 14 days)
☒ in the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ☐ at any time in the day or night because good cause has been established.

Unless delayed notice is authorized below, you must give a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the property taken to the person from whom, or from whose premises, the property was taken, or leave the copy and receipt at the place where the property was taken.

The officer executing this warrant, or an officer present during the execution of the warrant, must prepare an inventory as required by law and promptly return this warrant and inventory to _____
(United States Magistrate Judge)

☐ Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3103a(b), I find that immediate notification may have an adverse result listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2705 (except for delay of trial), and authorize the officer executing this warrant to delay notice to the person who, or whose property, will be searched or seized (check the appropriate box)
☐ for _____ days (not to exceed 30) ☐ until, the facts justifying, the later specific date of _____.

Date and time issued: _____
_____ Judge's signature

City and state: _____
_____ Printed name and title

Must list place, property, or person to be searched

Issued by a federal district court

Lists time and date within which the search must take place

Signed by a U.S. magistrate or district court judge