

If you feel your rights have been violated,

CONTACT ACLU-VT

CALL US

802-223-6304

WEBSITE

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REMEMBER

- If you are stopped, detained, or harassed by Border Patrol, try to get the agent(s)' name, number, and any other identifying information.
- If you are detained or arrested by any law enforcement officials, you have the right to remain silent and the right to speak to an attorney. You do not have to provide information about where you were born, how you entered the U.S or how long you have been here.
- Videotaping or recording interactions with Border Patrol on private property, in vehicle stops, and at checkpoints, is not against the law. However, CBP prohibits videotaping or recording anything on government property at a port of entry.
- The government asserts that agents at ports of entry don't need any suspicion to search electronic devices like computers and phones. However, agents do need reasonable suspicion to hold a device for an extended period of time or do invasive searches of that device.
- Never provide fake documents or say you are a U.S. citizen if you are not.
- Border Patrol may board buses and trains to question individuals about their citizenship. Other than at ports of entry, agents boarding buses and trains may not search or even pat down luggage without consent or probable cause.
- Refusing a search does not give agents probable cause for a search.
- If you are approached on the street or in a public place, you do not have to answer agents' questions or provide identification. Ask if you are free to go. If you are not free to go, you are under arrest and have the right to remain silent.
- It is illegal for law enforcement officers to perform any stops, searches, detentions, or deportations based on your race, national origin, religion, sex, or ethnicity.