Will University Police Officers work with federal immigration officers to apprehend and remove individuals from campus?

No!

- Jurisdiction over enforcement of federal immigration laws rests with the federal government and not with ECSUPD.
- Eastern Police are devoted to maintaining a safe and secure environment to support the University’s education and public service missions. The Eastern Connecticut State University Police Department will not divert their resources from this mission in order to enforce federal immigration laws.
- Campus police officers will not contact, detain, question or arrest an individual solely on the basis of suspected undocumented immigration status or to discover the immigration status of any individual, and will not undertake joint efforts with federal immigration enforcement authorities to investigate, detain or arrest individuals for violation of federal immigration.
- If other federal law enforcement agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) have reason to pursue criminal suspects on campus, University Police may cooperate with those efforts to enforce criminal laws.

Do immigration officials have to access campus?

Generally no!

- ICE and (Customs and Border Protection) CBP officers work for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and they are typically acting on civil, not criminal, authority.
- Immigration officials generally carry civil warrants to apprehend individuals. These administrative warrants do not authorize officers to enter limited access areas of the University without consent.
- Federal officers exercising criminal enforcement powers work with local law enforcement officers and may present a criminal arrest or search warrant that gives them greater authority to enter Eastern premises that are not open to the general public.
- Execution of judicial warrants does not require consent.
- Federal officers may appear on campus for reasons unrelated to apprehending and removing an individual they believe is unlawfully present in the United States.
- International students participate in the U.S. State Department’s Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP). The University is required to report certain information about SEVP students to ICE. ICE may come to Eastern campuses to meet with SEVP students and/or University staff who have responsibilities under the SEVP program.
- If you observe ICE officials on campus and have concerns about their activities, call the University Police Department so we can provide you will accurate information on this matter.
Can federal immigration enforcement officers enter houses, residence halls and apartments without consent from occupants?

Generally no!

- In most cases, individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy in their homes, including homes both on and off campus property.
- This privacy expectation includes residential halls on campus.
- Immigration officers who are seeking to apprehend and remove an individual pursuant to a civil or administrative warrant do not have the authority to enter the premises without the occupant’s consent.
- Occupants are not required to respond to a federal officer’s questions or statements.
- Students have a personal choice whether to grant an immigration officer with a civil or administrative warrant consent to enter their residence, and whether to speak with the immigration officer.
- When a law enforcement officer has a criminal search or arrest warrant, the officer may not need consent to enter the premises or arrest an individual named in the warrant.

What should I do if a federal immigration enforcement officer presents me with a warrant?

Ask questions!

- Take steps to ensure that the immigration enforcement officers have authority to enter the property before admitting them.
- Civil and administrative warrants do not authorize entry without consent, but a criminal search or arrest warrant may authorize entry without consent.
- It can be difficult to distinguish among different kinds of warrants, ask the officer for their name, identification number and agency affiliation; ask for a copy of the warrant or subpoena presented
- Inform the officer that you are not obstructing their process but need to consult with University authorities for assistance.