



## ACCOMPANYING UNDOCUMENTED YOUTH AND FAMILIES TO COURT

Young people and family members should attend their court date, regardless of documentation status. The information below follows the advice from B1C when accompanying a young person to court. Please note: B1C is developing an advocacy training for accompanying undocumented people to court, and when we have the dates, we will invite you.

- Young people and families should attend their scheduled court appearance. Not attending only makes things worse.
- Accompany the young/family member person to court. Your presence alone might deter officers from approaching the young person.
- Ensure the youth is aware they should attend court.
- Call the youth the night before and confirm plans.
- Collect all emergency contact information in case the youth is detained.
- Ensure the young person has everything needed for court, such as notices and photo identification (ID).
- Encourage them to dress formally or neatly for their court date.
- It's best to transport the young person to court, if possible. If not transporting, agree on a specific meeting location; avoid meeting at the parking garage as they may not be safe due to potential ICE presence.
- Instruct the youth not to speak to anyone unless you are present.
- Bring your photo ID and cell phone.
- Before entering court, check for ICE presence as best as you can and inform the youth about the situation.
- Accompany the young person to the courtroom and help them find the hearing room.
- If approached by an ICE agent, present the [Red Card](#), which states: "I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my Fifth Amendment rights under the US Constitution."
- Avoid antagonizing or behaving confrontationally with officers.
- Keep detailed notes of the court process.
- If a confrontation occurs, politely ask the court officer how you can help clarify any misunderstandings.