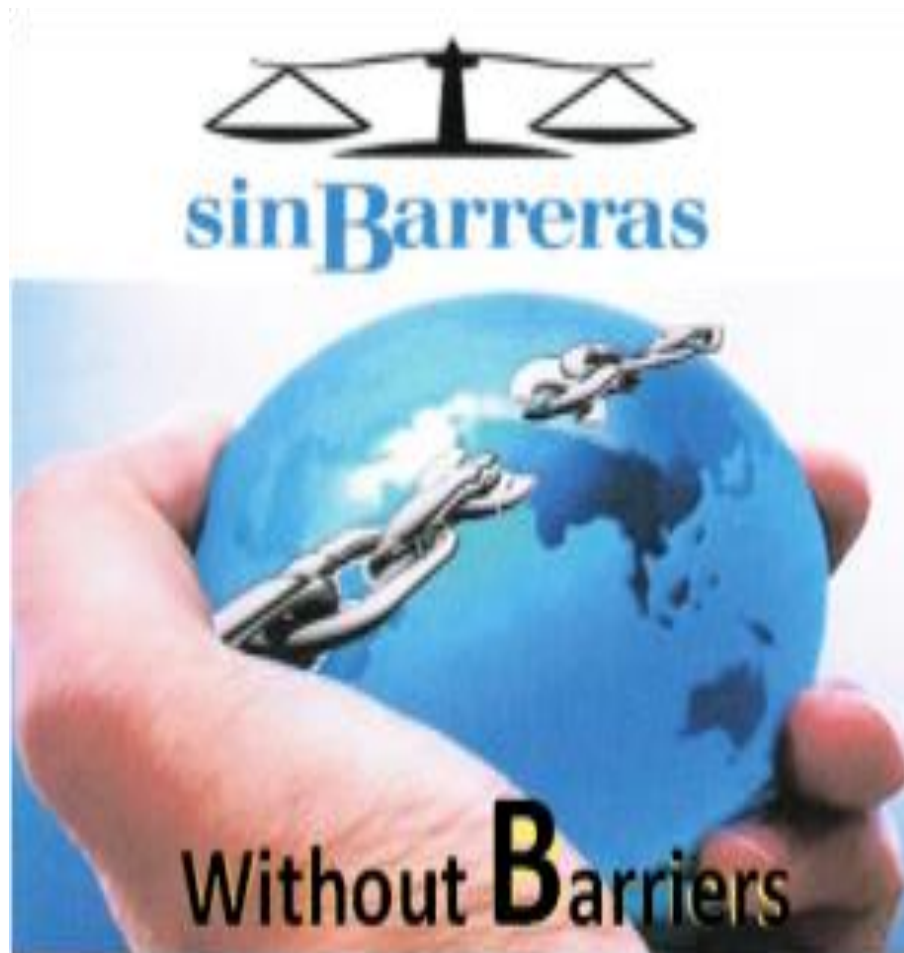


SIN BARRERAS/WITHOUT BARRIERS



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Brief History

- Formed five years ago, registered 501(c)(3) charity working with the Cville Hispanic immigrant community
- 5 member volunteer Board -- plus two or three long-term volunteers; over two-dozen UVA short-term volunteers.
- Last year: 4,780 volunteer hours, 400 p/month.
- This year 685 vol/hours p/month in First Quarter 2017
- Total non-grant budget last year: \$10,000: that is, tiny.
- Two small grants: CACF '16 and '17 @ \$10,000 and a Dave Mathews' grant of \$10,000 this year. \$10,000 received from two private donors last month.
- These funds pay the salary of two part-time staff.



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Major Accomplishment in 2016

- Two hundred and ninety-five individual clients served.
- Fifteen workshops presented to 1,120 attendees.
- A 2016 Help Fair was carried out: 28 services providers.
- 1,000 telephone calls answered.
- Co-hosted *Cville Sabroso*, with nearly 2,500 attendees.
- Conducted our first-ever voter registration campaign.
- Total direct participants: 5,000. Direct & indirect: 7,000.
- Successful accreditation of two volunteers to represent clients in U.S. immigration court. Attracted pro bono services of an immigration lawyer.
- Combined legal/immigration consultations increased by 56% from 2015. Immigration consultations up fourfold.



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Advocacy in 2016 and 2017

- Half-a-dozen workshops with the Albemarle Police.
- Various Driver's License workshops offered with VACOLAO.
- Yearly visits to State legislators with our clients.
- Outreach to the two new Chiefs of Police.
- Behind-the-scenes interaction with the Albemarle Board of Supervisors and Charlottesville City Council resulting in two new immigration policies recently promulgated.
- Eight "Know Your Rights" and "Power-of-Attorney" workshops offered in collaboration with Legal Aid Justice Center, providing PoAs to over 400 families.
- Substantial involvement with other groups reacting to new anti-immigrant initiatives.



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Current legal situation for Hispanic immigrants

- Jan. 29, '17: 3 new Executive Orders: all immigration offenses are now judged “serious” —even before conviction. Thus, arrests can happen to anyone (including mothers w/children).
- Expansion of the arrest zone from 100 miles to nationwide. 10,000 new ICE agents and 5,000 CBP agents to be hired.
- “Expedited Removal” for less than 2 yrs. presence means ICE officers become “judge and jury.”
- Important differences between City and County Police, and ICE are generally lost on the Hispanic immigrant community.
- Recent statements from the Secretary of Homeland Security suggest churches and universities are not currently subject to ICE interventions. That could change at any time. And has.



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Our View on Current Hispanic Immigrant Community State of Mind

- Immigrant survival skills are network-based, and Hispanic society is much more extended-family than U.S. society. Thus: *“What happens to one, happens to us all.”*
- Fear is way up; hunker-down mentality in evidence. L.A. police chief reports 25% less Hispanic reported rapes than this time last year. Houston police says reporting is down 42%.
- Local Hispanic business is down-- some reports by 25%; movement is down; fact checking is slow; rumors are rampant.
- Charlottesville ex-Chief of Police Longo’s comment: “I can’t imagine what it would be like leaving the house each morning not knowing if I would come home that night to see my kids...”
- Such insecurity brings consequent psychological consequences: we will see more symptoms in the coming months. SB is hosting workshops to address this issue but there seems no end to such anxieties for the foreseeable future.



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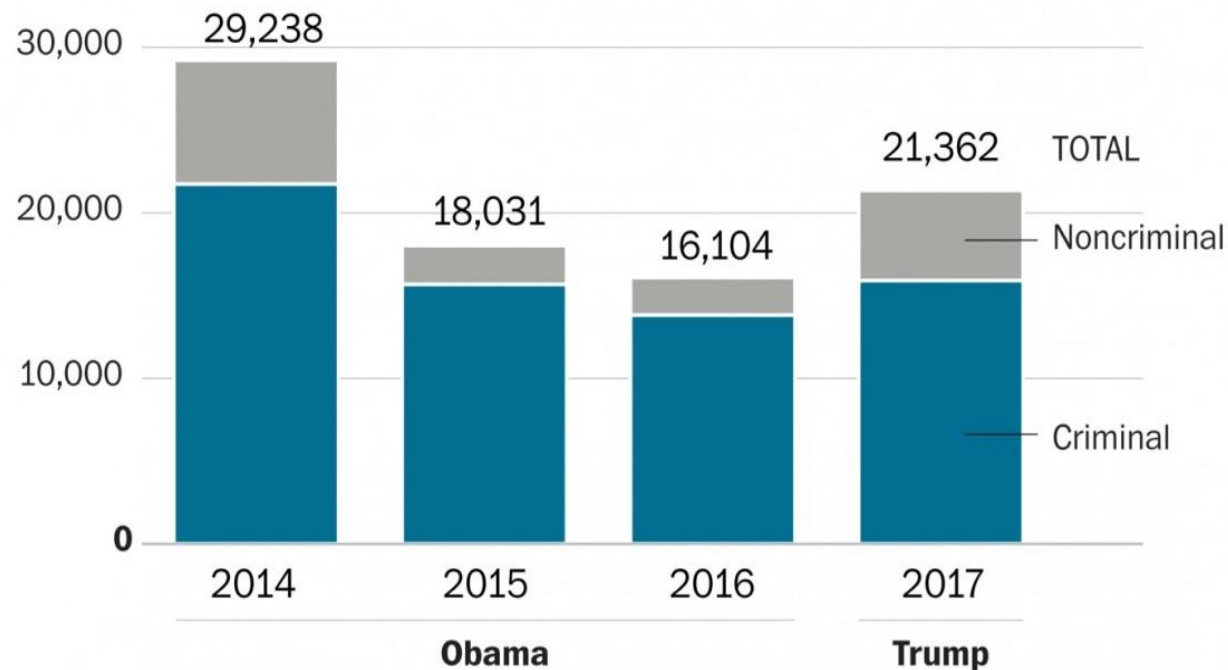
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How immigration arrests fare under Trump

From January 20 to March 13, by year.



Source: Immigration and Customs Enforcement

THE WASHINGTON POST



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What can be done for/by our clients

- Seek advice! LAJC, Sin Barreras, Cville immigration lawyers.
- Develop Family Response Plans, including Powers of Attorney and ICE Privacy Waivers.
- Know Your Rights—different if you are at home, at work, on the street, or in a car.
- Carry at all times copies of bills showing presence in the US longer than two years.
- Do not open the door to ICE unless shown a judge's signed order.
- You have the right to remain silent.
- Do not sign ANYTHING without a lawyer present.
- Establish a relationship with a lawyer.
- If a US born child, apply for a passport ASAP.



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What can be done by US citizens

- Become more involved: politically --- socially.
- Become better informed. Read on immigration issues.
- Write your Representatives and Senators.
- Support them financially! (They carefully track issues that draw funds.)
- There is a lot of social activism in Charlottesville. Support them or volunteer.
- Legal Aid Justice Center, Sin Barreras, IRC, The Welcoming Coalition, Cville Organizing, others.



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What is a Power of Attorney

- A legal document wherein one cedes the right to act in your name in a given set of circumstances (i.e. deportation) in affairs such as: taking care of your children, selling your car or your house, managing your bank account, others. Naturally, it should be a person of highest confidence.
- The “Agent” can be anyone, documented or not, living in the U.S. or not, living in Virginia or not, relative or not. The Agent does not have to be present when the PoA is assigned. Of course, if you want the Agent to respond quickly, it is wise to choose someone who lives nearby.
- With LAJC, we have assisted over 400 families to prepare these POAs in the last six weeks.



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Rights vary considerably depending on location

- **Inside your own home**, you are most protected. Unless the police have a signed warrant to enter, do not open the door! Immigration officers will sometimes show you their documentation, which is not the same as a warrant signed by a judge. Inspect the document before you open the door. See examples.
- **On the street**, if you are stopped and asked your name by a law officer in Virginia, you could be judged for “Probable Cause” if you refuse to answer. Give your name but no further information (not address, not where you are from, nor other identifying information). Ask: “Am I being detained?” If the answer is “no”, request to be allowed to go on your way and leave quietly. If the answer is “yes,” reply that you have the right to maintain silence and you wish to talk to a lawyer.
- **In the workplace** if the employer allows it, ICE agents can enter (or if they have a judge’s order.) If that happens, maintain your calm and do not run (which would generate another “Probable Cause.”) Identify yourself if requested as in the case of a street stop and ask if you are being detained. If “no”, ask whether you are allowed to leave. Maintain silence after that. Ask for a lawyer.
- **In vehicles**, the rights are less. See pocket handout prepared by Charlottesville City Police and Albemarle County Police and the ACLU.



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Resources

- *Harvest of Empire* (film) on YouTube and other sites.
- “*Tell Me How It Ends*,” Luiselli, Valeria (2017)
- “*A History of Violence*” Martinez, Oscar (2016), and “*The Beast: Riding the Rails and Dodging Narcos on the Migrant Trail*,” (2014).
- “Know Your Rights: A Guide when Interacting with Law Enforcement”:
<https://cliniclegal.org/sites/default/files/resources/presidential-transition/Know-Your-Rights-Law-Enforcement.pdf>
- American Immigration Council website.
- American Immigration Lawyers Association website.
- US Chamber of Commerce. *Immigration Myths and Facts*, Oct, 2013. **(\$11.2B)**
- Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, *Undocumented Immigrants' State & Local Tax Contributions*, March, 2017. **[In Virginia, \$255M]**
- Partnership for a New American Economy, *Issues Paper, Undocumented Immigrants*, 2017.



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