

# Christ Church Cathedral

St. Louis, MO  
christchurchcathedral.us

## WHISTLE AGAINST OPPRESSION

January 7, 2026

***“Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression”***

From Prayer for Social Justice, Book of Common Prayer p260

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### ***Using whistles to alert for ICE/Border Patrol Presence***

• • • ICE present - three short blasts

— — — ICE abducting or detaining someone - three long blasts

### ***Observations from a retired federal prosecutor and member of CCC***

**DO NOT** touch, block, verbally or physically threaten federal agents.

**DO NOT** intrude on their personal space

**DO NOT** block vehicles or roadways used by federal agents.

**DO** comply with any orders by police and apparent federal agents.

If you are detained, repeatedly ask whether you are free to go.

If you are arrested, repeatedly ask the agent to identify the criminal charge

If you are detained or arrested, do not resist even if the arrest is unlawful

If you are detained or arrested, say nothing without a lawyer being present.

If you do speak, **DO NOT** lie – it is a **felony** to lie to a federal official.

**DO NOT** consent to any search of your vehicle or phone. Require a search warrant.

If you are arrested, federal agents will likely try to charge you with a violation of 18 USC (sec) 111 of the Federal Criminal Code which prohibits any one from “forcibly” assaulting, resisting, opposing, impeding, intimidating or interfering with any federal law enforcement agent.

“Forcibly” has been interpreted by federal courts to include the **threat** of force. But to be in violation of this statute, the perpetrator must have used or threatened “force.” Blowing a whistle and exercising one’s First Amendment Rights by merely shouting and marching is not force.

**VIDEO RECORD EVERYTHING. THEY PROBABLY WON’T AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HAS BEEN KNOWN TO LIE.**

***From the ACLU: Know Your Rights: (Excerpts)***

***Videotaping law enforcement:***

1. Capturing content of plainly visible things in public spaces is a constitutional right
2. On private property, the owner can set rules about photography or video
3. Without a warrant, a police officer may not confiscate or demand to view your content library nor may they delete data

***Protecting your privacy***

1. Turn off all biometric unlock functions (e.g. fingerprint or facial recognition technology)
2. Communicate using encrypted messaging apps like Signal
3. Put your phone on airplane mode so that police cannot track your movement

***From the ACLU Missouri: Know your protest rights***

1. You don't need a permit to protest in response to breaking news, and you don't need a permit to march in the streets or along sidewalks, as long as you're not obstructing traffic or access to buildings.
2. When lawfully present in any public space, you have the right to photograph anything in plain view, including federal buildings and the police.
3. If you believe your rights have been violated, write down everything you remember, get contact information for witnesses, and take photographs of any injuries.
4. If you get stopped by the police, ask if you're free to go. If they say yes, calmly walk away.
5. If you get arrested, you have a right to ask why. Otherwise, say you wish to remain silent and ask for a lawyer immediately. Don't sign, say, or agree to anything without a lawyer present.
6. If stopped by the military or law enforcement at a protest, you have the right to remain silent or to tell them that you'll only answer questions in the presence of an attorney—no matter your citizenship or immigration status.

***“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”***

Matthew 5:9 NRSV

***This is not a replacement for legal advice. If you need legal advice, please contact a lawyer***