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**Contact:**

Daniel Ball, [dball@bds.org](mailto:dball@bds.org)

\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\*

## ***IMMIGRANT ADVOCATES EXPAND “WE HAVE RIGHTS” CAMPAIGN TO INCLUDE FRENCH LANGUAGE VIDEOS***

*Five animated Know-Your-Rights videos are now available in French, expanding language access for the national empowerment campaign to inform immigrant communities of what to do when interacting with Immigration and Customs Enforcement*

**(NEW YORK)** – Today, Brooklyn Defender Services launched five new French-language videos in the “**We Have Rights**” series, a national immigrant empowerment campaign to inform people of what to do when interacting with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

In 2018, Brooklyn Defender Services along with the ACLU, MediaTank, Immigrant Defense Project, and other partners launched [We Have Rights](#), a series of animated films in seven languages to help immigrants know what to do when confronted by ICE in the most common situations. The films have been seen millions of times and are used in trainings and know-your-rights events throughout the country.

Today, Brooklyn Defender Services introduced an eighth language, French, to the series in response to a need for know-your-rights information for French-speakers. The full list of languages includes: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Mandarin](#), [Russian](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Urdu](#), and [French](#).

“With growing fear and uncertainty in immigrant communities, it is critical that immigrants are empowered and prepared for encounters with ICE,” **said Ellen Pachnanda, Director of Brooklyn Defender Services’ Immigration Practice.** “We Have Rights is a powerful tool to ensure community members are educated about their rights, regardless of their immigration status, and we are excited to expand these resources to meet the needs of French-speakers.”

Created as a direct response to expressed community needs, the videos are based on true stories and provide practical tips for how to safely defend the legal and human rights of immigrants during four common encounters with ICE: when ICE is at the door, when ICE is inside homes, when ICE stops people in the street, when ICE arrests immigrants, as well as a video on

documenting immigration enforcement abuses and arrests, created in collaboration with [WITNESS](#) in 2020.

Ellen Pachnanda recently appeared on [NY1](#) and [MSNBC](#) to discuss the series and inform community members about their rights.

The videos in all eight languages are available at [WeHaveRights.us](#) and across social media platforms.

**NOUS AVONS DES DROITS:**

**Quand ICE est Devant Nos Portes:** <https://vimeo.com/1051329111>

**Dans Nos Domiciles:** <https://vimeo.com/1051329136>

**Dan Nos Communautés, Dan Nos Rues:** <https://vimeo.com/1051329161>

**Si ICE Nous Arrête:** <https://vimeo.com/1051329177>

**Pendant la Documentation des Arrestations par ICE:** <https://vimeo.com/1051329191>

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*Brooklyn Defender Services is a public defense office whose mission is to provide outstanding representation and advocacy free of cost to people facing loss of freedom, family separation and other serious legal harms by the government. [www.bds.org](http://www.bds.org)*