



ASSOCIATION FOR EPISCOPAL DEACONS

ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

2017 Archdeacon & Deacon Directors Conference Open Space Report: Sanctuary

March 17, 2017

LASacredResistance.org This is the key to information for what to do, and how to do resistance. This material was developed by the Diocese of LA

Definition – The best definition of sanctuary space is a sensitive location for individuals who are concerned about ICE and Homeland Security, not about the police; more a statement of philosophy – declaration of intent – parishes will decide on their own what it means to be a sanctuary parish

Legal Issues –

1. A church and/or school can be a sensitive location and folks can get a higher level of protection; but it is not forbidden for ICE or Homeland Security to come and take them from a church; technically they are allowed into the church and take someone out but need to have a warrant of some type
2. It is strongly recommended that anyone considering being a sanctuary talk to their Diocesan Chancellor

How to without exposing folks seeking sanctuary;

1. ACLU has vetted a list of things that people should know if ICE comes to the door and what they should do. This is on the LA Sacred Resistance list
2. Encourage Hispanic families that have children born here to give a US Citizen Power of Attorney to do medical things, pick up children from school, etc. in case they cannot do this for any reason including deportation
3. Churches are holding 'know your rights' workshops so there are some answers to legal questions that people have
4. People are volunteering to be on a list of those who are 15 minutes away to be called to be witness and take video of any ICE or Homeland Security events
5. Red cards – one sides summarizes that an individual will not speak and/or their open door; can put these cards under the door



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There was a discussion about using a table that helps congregations host conversations about sanctuary actions that can be taken. The following is a sample of what might be inserted in this type of table. Documents that have a blank table and instructions for use are included in the AED resources as separate documents.

Depends on Context	Low Risk	Med Risk	High Risk
Min. investment	Pass out red cards ----- Info/Awareness through Communications platforms ----- Evaluate SOPs for unintended effects (i.e., background checks)	Open pulpit ----- Letter to Editor	
Med. investment	Special liturgies ----- Networking/Coalitions w/ people working with immigrants	Public conversation ----- information sessions ----- Discussion of "criminal" definition/category – push back on it	Bishop going across border to celebrate joint Eucharist across border
High investment	Volunteer with Refugee orgs		Sanctuary Church Housing