

Freedom Cities FAQ

What is the difference between Freedom Cities vs. Sanctuary Cities?

There is no exact legal meaning or definition for “Sanctuary City.” Generally, they are both understood to be cities that do not ask people about immigration status, particularly in law enforcement activities or in providing services, and decline to engage efforts to enforce immigration law, which is the federal government’s responsibility. For example, they provide city services without respect to immigration status or English-language ability, they protect the confidential records of undocumented immigrants, and/or they refuse to detain immigrants on behalf of ICE unless there is a warrant signed by a judge.

The ACLU supports advocacy for what we’re calling Freedom Cities. These are cities that are committed not only to not cooperating with the President’s mass deportation agenda, but also actively take steps to protect people who may also be unjustly targeted by this administration’s policies on LGBTQ rights, women’s rights, religious liberties, or free speech.

Where can I learn more about People Power, or find the Resistance Training Action Guide and 9 Model Law Enforcement Policies?

You can find more information about People Power at <https://peoplepower.org/>.

The Resistance Training Guide and Model Policies are available here: [Freedom Cities Action Guide](#)

Where can I access the March 11 Resistance Training Town Hall livestream?

You can watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mR449w4Qmo>

Is there a local ACLU office in my area?

The New Mexico ACLU affiliate’s main office is located in Albuquerque. We also have an office in Las Cruces, the Regional Center for Border Rights. Our staff travels around the state regularly to attend meetings and events. If you are holding a large People Power event in your area, please let us know.

How do I get more information?

Please contact Cynthia Pompa in Las Cruces at (575) 373-3789, cpompa@aclu-nm.org or Ana Moran in Albuquerque at (505) 266-5915 ext. 1012, amoran@aclu-nm.org.