

From: CRCLOutreach [mailto:CRCLOutReach@HQ.DHS.GOV]
Sent: Sunday, August 27, 2017 10:52 PM
To: CRCLOutreach
Subject: FEMA Statement Regarding Hurricane Harvey Shelter Operations

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hurricane Harvey Rumor Control

www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey

Rumor: I'm an undocumented immigrant, I cannot go to a shelter because I will be reported to ICE or CBP.

Fact: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has stated that it is not conducting immigration enforcement at relief sites such as shelters or food banks. In the rare instance where local law enforcement informs ICE of a serious criminal alien at a relief site that presents a public safety threat, ICE will make a determination on a case-by-case basis about the appropriate enforcement actions. More information is available at [U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's \(ICE\) joint statement](#). The Federal Government strongly encourages all persons to follow the guidance of local officials and seek shelter regardless of their immigration status.

Most shelters are managed by local communities, the Red Cross, and other voluntary agencies. American Red Cross' humanitarian mission is to feed, shelter, and provide other forms of support without regard to race, religion, or citizenship status. The Red Cross will not ask people to show any form of identification in order to stay in their shelters. In order to receive some Red Cross services, such as meeting with a caseworker to facilitate disaster recovery, they will need to verify a person's pre-disaster address. For people who don't have government-issued identification, the Red Cross can usually do this through alternative means, such as a copy of a utility bill.