



# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS TECHNOLOGY

Clear information leads to confident decisions.



**Irish in Motion means staying *safe* and *informed*,  
wherever your journey takes you.**

**Visit [IrishinMotion.org](https://IrishinMotion.org) to find your center, get connected, and take your next step forward.**

The information in this document has been prepared for informational purposes only and is not legal advice. This information is not intended to create, and receipt of it does not constitute, an attorney-client relationship. You should not act upon any information without retaining professional legal counsel.



 **Irish in Motion**

## **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS TECHNOLOGY**

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### **IF YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE SEARCHED**

Phones, laptops, and other devices can hold sensitive information. It's important to understand when officers can search them, what standards apply, and how your immigration status may affect your rights at the border.

This guide outlines the key points to help you stay informed and prepared.

#### **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- **Within the US, law enforcement officers can only search electronic devices with probable cause or consent.**
- **Immigration officials need ONLY reasonable suspicion to search electronic devices when a person is entering or leaving the US.**
- **Individual immigration status does impact entry IF access to electronic devices by law enforcement officers is refused.**

#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES INCLUDE**

Phones, Laptops, Tablets, Cameras, Music & Media Devices, Disks/Drives/Tapes.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

##### **PROBABLE CAUSE**

Logical belief based on facts & circumstances that a person has, is, or will be involved in illegal activity.

##### **REASONABLE SUSPICION**

Objective, reasonable thought that a person is involved in illegal activity.

**We get it. We're all in motion.** No matter your journey, we're here for you and your loved ones.

Visit our website to download clear, trusted guides on your rights, your options, and how to take your next steps.

#### **LEARN MORE**

Find your local center at [IrishinMotion.org](https://IrishinMotion.org)



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### US CITIZENS & GREEN CARD HOLDERS

**CANNOT** be denied entry to the US by refusing to unlock or provide a password for their device.

### VISA HOLDERS/VISA WAIVER VISITORS

**MAY be** denied entry to the US for refusing to unlock or provide a password for their device.

#### NEED ADVICE?

**Contact us**, if you need guidance on protecting your devices, digital privacy, or immigration documents.



#### FOLLOW THE COALITION + SHARE!

Follow us at [@irish\\_coalition](https://twitter.com/irish_coalition) to stay informed and help spread the word.

#### LEARN MORE

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 COALITION OF IRISH  
IMMIGRATION CENTERS



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthair Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



# Trusted Guidance. Shared Journey.



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