

# American Families United

Meet Your Representative or Senator | Jose Duran

## Agenda

- Introductions
- Meet Your US Representative
- Meet Your US Senators
- How to Frame Your Story Pre-Interview Tips/Strategies
- Post-Interview Tips/Strategies
- Q/A

#### **Introductions**

- Name
- Location (state or city)
- How did you learn about American Families United?
- Are you directly impacted by the current immigrations law?

### Meet Your US Representative

Find Your US Representative:

#### https://ziplook.house.gov/htbin/findrep\_house?ZIP=

- Email or Call to schedule an appointment with a staff member who handles immigration. The meeting can be in person or over the phone.
- Representative or staff will not schedule an appointment if <u>you are not</u> a constituent. As a constituent, you have every right to be heard. They are your elected official and they cannot deny you your request for a meeting.
- Attend a local town hall meeting to make connections with staffers and Rep.

#### Meet Your US Senators

• Find Your US Senators:

https://www.senate.gov/senators/states.htm

Apply the same principles from "Meeting Your US Representative"

### Pre-Interview Tips/Strategies

- Do some research on your legislator
  - Have they supported current or past immigration bills?
  - Are they a house/senate judiciary committee member, in particular The Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship? <u>House Judiciary</u>; <u>Senate Judiciary</u>
  - Visit their social media channels: FB, Instagram, Twitter, etc.
  - See what bills they have supported: Find US bill

#### Do

- Wear semi-casual clothing to meeting
- Stay to the basic facts of your story. Reach out to American Families United to help you tailor your story.
- Echo the message that US Citizens spouses should have the same waivers of inadmissibility's as other classes of immigrants.

#### Don't

- Do not mention what caused them to receive the inadmissible
- Do not be discouraged if your legislator has not supported any immigration bills-current or past.

# Post-Interview Tips/Strategies

- Send follow-up thank you email along with a link to American Families United.
- Encourage other constituents to schedule an appointment to speak with their legislator to support legislation for waiver rights for US Citizen spouses.
- If possible, get involved with American Families United either by being a circle of hope member or joining a committee to further advance our agenda.

# Q/A

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