

# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §15-16-1

## §15-16-1. Definitions

(1) "Federal immigration agency" means the United States Department of Justice, the United States Department of Homeland Security, any division within either of those departments, specifically including but not limited to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, United States Customs and Border Protection, any successor agency or agencies to the aforesaid, and any other federal agency charged with the enforcement or administration of immigration or border control.

(2) "Immigration law" means the laws of this state or federal law relating to immigrants or immigration, including but not limited to the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101 *et seq.*

(3) "Immigration detainer" means a facially sufficient written or electronic request issued by a federal immigration agency using that agency's official form to request that another law enforcement agency detain a person based on probable cause to believe that the person to be detained is a removable alien under federal immigration law, including detainers issued pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226 *et seq.* and 8 U.S.C. § 1357 *et seq.*, along with a warrant described in paragraph (C) of this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, an immigration detainer is deemed facially sufficient if:

(A) The federal immigration agency's official form is complete and indicates on its face that the federal immigration official has probable cause to believe that the person to be detained is a removable alien under federal immigration law; or

(B) The federal immigration agency's official form is incomplete and fails to indicate on its face that the federal immigration official has probable cause to believe that the person to be detained is a removable alien under federal immigration law, but is supported by an affidavit, order, or other official documentation that indicates that the federal immigration agency has probable cause to believe that the person to be detained is a removable alien under federal immigration law; and

(C) The federal immigration agency supplies with its detention request a Form I-200 Warrant for Arrest of Alien, or a Form I-205 Warrant of Removal/Deportation, or a successor warrant, or other warrant authorized by federal law.

(4) "Inmate" means a person in the custody of a law enforcement agency.

(5) "Law enforcement agency" for purposes of this article means an agency in this state charged with enforcement of federal, state, county, or municipal laws or with managing custody of persons in this state and includes, but is not limited to, municipal police departments, sheriff's offices, county and state police departments, state college and

university police departments, county correctional agencies, and the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

(6) "Local entity" means:

- (A) The governing body, and any agents or officers with executive, decision-making, or policymaking authority thereof, of a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of this state, and any subsidiary governmental bodies of those entities;
- (B) An officer or employee of or a division, department, or other body that is part of a municipality, county, political subdivision or other authority, including a sheriff, municipal police department, municipal attorney, or county attorney; or
- (C) A prosecuting attorney or assistant prosecuting attorney.

(7) "State entity" means the State of West Virginia or any agency, office, board, bureau, commission, department, branch, division, or institution thereof, including institutions under the authority of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the Community and Technical System, and all other public postsecondary educational institutions in the state. The term includes any officer, employee or agent of any of the aforesaid.