

**Humboldt State University Department of Social Work Statement and Policy  
on the January 25, 2017 Presidential Executive Order titled  
“Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States”**

Humboldt State University Department of Social Work students engaging in approved field experiences (SW 255: Beginning Social Work Experience, SW 355: Social Agency Experience, SW 455: Social Work Field Experience, SW 555: Foundation Internship, SW 655: Advanced Internship) and/or community projects (SW 682: Masters Project Development, SW 683: Masters Project Implementation) will not provide any information to law enforcement authorities at any level of government that pertains to the following provisions in the above named Executive Order related to clients who:

- Have been charged with any criminal offense, where such charge has not been resolved;
- Have committed acts that constitute a chargeable criminal offense;
- Have engaged in fraud or willful misrepresentation in connection with any official matter or application before a governmental agency;
- Have abused any program related to receipt of public benefits;
- In the judgment of an immigration officer, otherwise pose a risk to public safety or national security.

Such action would be inconsistent with national accreditation standards for social work programs in the United States and the Humboldt State University Department of Social Work’s Professional Competencies and Behaviors Standard 1.1, “Make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, IFSW/IASSW ethical principles, and/or other social work ethical codes, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, and ethical conduct of research.”

The National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics Standard 1.07(c) states, “Social workers should protect the confidentiality of all information obtained in the course of professional service, except for compelling professional reasons.” There is no compelling professional reason to disclose the above information.

The International Federation of Social Workers Statement of Ethical Principles and International Association of Schools of Social Work Ethics in Social Work, Statement of Principles state, “Social workers should maintain confidentiality regarding information about people who use their services. Exceptions to this may only be justified on the basis of a greater ethical requirement (such as the preservation of life).” The named Executive Order does not present a greater ethical requirement such as the preservation of life.

*In light of current Presidential actions and positions related to vulnerable groups, including undocumented immigrants, it is imperative for the HSU Department of Social Work and its students to stand on the side of justice and protect vulnerable populations here and everywhere. Immigrant rights are human rights.*

Questions about this policy can be directed to Ronnie Swartz, Chair of the Department of Social Work.