

Immigration Client Locator – Browser Extension

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Immigration Client Locator?

The Immigration Client Locator is a [Google Chrome browser extension](#) which supports family members, legal representatives, and advocates in monitoring the location of individuals detained by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or Customs and Border Protection (CBP). This extension automates the tracking of individuals through [ICE's Online Detainee Locator System \(ODLS\)](#), a public website which provides information on the status and location of detained individuals.

What features does it offer over the ODLS?

Automatic queries for updates and notifications when they occur: The ODLS does not provide users with notifications when a person is moved through facilities, released, or deported. This information can only be obtained manually by repeatedly searching the site. The Immigration Client Locator automates searches and provides notifications when an individual's status or location has changed.

Creates an auditable history of detention: The ODLS only provides users with information on the *current status or location* of a person. To address this, the Immigration Client Locator saves the facilities and statuses of a person every time it searches the ODLS, creating a history of detainment. To support this information, this extension takes screenshots and creates archived versions of the ODLS pages which display this information.

Searches for all permutations of a name: Searching the ODLS by a person's name is often inconsistent, particularly when middle names are involved. Users may need to enter the middle name(s) as part of the first or last name, or exclude them altogether, to retrieve the correct results. To address this, the Immigration Client Locator searches all permutations of a person's name and returns all the results for you to choose from.

How accurate is this extension?

Given that the ODLS is not always a reliable database and that this is where the extension receives its data, it is important to understand the extension's limitations:

1. Information on the ODLS can be out of date or missing altogether. If the status, location, or records for an individual are not present in the ODLS, we are unable to provide any additional details.
2. The ODLS represents just one detention database in the US—detainee information may also be uploaded to other systems such as the [Federal Bureau of Prisons \(BOP\) Inmate Locator](#), depending on which agency holds them and where. Currently, this extension only queries information from the ODLS.

Where is the data stored?

Given the sensitive nature of this information, the Immigration Client Locator makes use of the browser's storage, meaning that the information is **saved locally to the user's computer and not shared with anyone else**. That said, it is important to note that the ICE may log any searches made on the ODLS; this extension has no control over this.

What happens when I delete the extension?

Given that information is stored locally, removing this extension from the browser or deleting Google Chrome will also delete all associated data and any captures made by this extension. Therefore, it is recommended to use the **Download captures** button next to each followed person's name before deleting the extension or browser.

I see a popup whenever searching the ODLS, what should I do with it?

This is normal! To ensure information is not shared with anyone else, the extension needs to use the browser to perform the search. **Do not close this window—it will do so on its own—otherwise the search will be cancelled.**

What browsers are supported?

Currently, the Immigration Client Locator can only be used with Google Chrome.