

WHEN ICE COMES KNOCKING

Local 983's Jose Molina turned his life around, but ICE may deport the family man for a 20-year-old conviction.



Photo courtesy of Jose Molina

The Molina family in happier times at Flushing Meadows Park in Queens.

By **DIANE S. WILLIAMS**

LLOUD POUNDING at 5:30 a.m. on a cold January morning in 2013 jolted Jose Molina and his family from their sleep. Molina's wife, Jennifer, opened the door of their Bronx apartment. In the hallway stood five armed men.

Within minutes, they were knocking over furniture and spilling out dresser drawers. The commotion frightened the Molina children, then ages 11 and 9, who began to cry as the strangers confined

them to their bedrooms, out of the reassuring reach of their parents.

The men surrounded Jose and Jennifer in their living room. She begged for an explanation. Then the men, officers of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), handcuffed Jose and led him away as his crying family watched.

Since that cold, terrifying morning, life for the Molina family has been a nightmare.

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