**What can the police do about undocumented immigrants?**

Very little. Immigration laws are federal and cannot be enforced by the local police. The local police cannot lawfully approach residents simply to check on their immigration status.

**What do the police do with undocumented immigrants who commit traffic violations?**

The exact same thing they would do with a properly documented citizen. Most traffic violations are civil forfeiture violations and are not subject to arrest. All persons, regardless of where they are from, are cited and released.

**What do the police do about unlicensed and uninsured immigrants?**

The police cannot lawfully pull someone over just to check their driving status. As such, the police must first detect some other traffic violation to conduct a stop and ask for a license. Any unlicensed person, no matter where they are from, is cited. The same rules apply for insurance.

**What do the police do with undocumented immigrants who commit crimes?**

All undocumented immigrants who are arrested and booked into the jail for the commission of a crime are referred to Immigration and Customs Enforcement for deportation hearings. The typical response from ICE is to transfer the arrested subject to Milwaukee for an initial hearing. Unless the subject poses a threat to the community, the subject is released by ICE pending a future hearing in federal court.

**Have you checked into the local Latino grocery stores to determine why so many people go in and come out empty handed?**

Yes. As is evidenced by their size, the Latino stores are not actually full-service grocery stores. They are comparable to our local convenience stores. Just like our convenience stores serve as a place to gather and socialize over a cup of coffee, so do the Latino stores. Aside from serving as a place to socialize, the overwhelming majority of their business is in the sales of international phone cards for their customers to call home and in check cashing services so their customers can Western Union money back home. If one was to closely examine other Darlington convenience stores they would find similar activity with regard to people coming in and out empty handed. This is normal and should not cause one to suspect illegal activity.

**Why don’t the police run the undocumented immigrants out of town?**

There is no mechanism in place under current law that allows for the police to question people about their immigration status without provocation or evict them from a community.

**Can you target employers and hold them accountable for hiring illegal immigrants?**

No. Again, this is a federal law. Unfortunately, federal law does not allow for the local authorities to get involved in these matters.

**Should I be concerned about my safety?**

Yes and No. One should always be mindful of their safety and take basic precautions, even in a very safe community like Darlington. That being said, there is no reason for anyone to be fearful. Darlington continues to have a very low crime rate and even realized a 22% reduction in its violent crime rate in the most recent statistics released by the Wisconsin Department of Justice.
So, what can be done?

The constitution protects all people who are within the United States. The police are lawfully required to uphold the constitution and protect the liberties of all people, regardless of whom they are or where they are from. Until the government changes laws as they relate to immigrants, there is nothing the local police can do. Citizens should contact their state and national elected officials to voice their concerns.