



Beware of Immigration Fraud and Law Malpractice

► What is immigration fraud?

Individuals or organizations who provide **legal advice or services without authorization or credentials** are committing **fraud**. Unauthorized practitioners frequently **charge high fees** or even **threaten their clients with deportation**. Unlawful service providers also tend to **not** use a **service agreement**, give their clients **copies** of submitted paperwork, and even fail to follow through with promised services after the client has paid them to do so. Representation by an unauthorized representative can result in the use of incorrect forms, submitting false information to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (U.S.C.I.S.), missed deadlines, and possibly the deportation of that client.



► What should I watch out for?

Get immigration help from authorized attorneys or accredited representatives

All authorized attorneys are listed under the State Bar of California:

<http://www.calbar.ca.gov/>

All D.O.J. accredited representatives are listed on the Department of Justice website:

<https://www.justice.gov/eoir/recognized-organizations-and-accredited-representatives-roster-state-and-city>

Do not accept representation from someone who charges you for USCIS forms

All USCIS forms are available to the public for free on the USCIS website.

Backdoor opportunities

Do not trust representatives who claim they can "speed up the process" because they have connections to the government.

Ask for copies

Clients have the right to ask for copies of all signed documentation and paperwork provided to the representative.



► How do I report immigration fraud?

Federal Trade Commission | 1 (877) 382-4357

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0012-scams-against-immigrants/>

Los Angeles County Department of Business Affairs | 1 (800) 593-8222

<http://oia.lacounty.gov/immigration-fraud/>

State Bar of California Attorney Complaint Hotline | 1 (800) 843-9053

<http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Public/Complaints-Claims/How-to-File-a-Complaint/>

U.S. Department of Justice | 1 (202) 324-3000

<https://www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams/report-scams>



The Immigration Project at Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Los Angeles provides FREE immigration eligibility screening appointments. Advancing Justice-LA is recognized by the Department of Justice and all immigration services are provided by authorized attorneys, Department of Justice (D.O.J.) accredited representatives, and trained staff.

For an appointment or for more information, call our toll-free in-language hotlines:



Chinese: 800.520.2356
Khmer: 800.867.3126
Korean: 800.867.3640
Tagalog: 855.300.2552
Thai: 800.914.9583
Vietnamese: 800.267.7395
English/Other: 888.349.9695



immrelief@advancingjustice-la.org

Our mission is to advocate for civil rights, provide legal services and education, and build coalitions to positively influence and impact Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders and to create a more equitable and harmonious society. Building upon the legacy of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center.

1145 Wilshire Blvd. 2nd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 | T 213.977.7500 F 213.977.7595 | <http://www.advancingjustice-la.org>