



### Know Your Rights Workshops

Visit [oia.lacounty.gov](http://oia.lacounty.gov) to find out about a Know Your Rights workshop near you. Learn how to get free or low-cost immigration legal assistance, help with immigration fraud, and services Los Angeles County has for you.

### Help from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

USCIS is the agency that processes and responds to all immigration petitions. Visit their website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) for help, including:

- Status of your case.
- Free forms, information, study guides.
- Office locations and appointments.

### Help for Small Business Owners

The Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) can provide resources to help you start, grow, and protect your small business. Call (800) 593-8222 or visit [dcba.lacounty.gov](http://dcba.lacounty.gov) for more information.

### Help with Unpaid Wages

Contact DCBA at (800) 593-8222 to see how they can help you with minimum wage disputes.

## Legal Resources and Self-Help

You can get legal immigration advice from these services:

- **L.A. Justice Fund - Legal Immigration Services:** Free legal advice and representation for eligible immigrants facing deportation. To qualify, you have to be a resident of L.A. County, meet income requirements, and not have committed certain crimes.
- **Non-profit organizations approved by the federal government:** The U.S Department of Justice accredits qualified non-profit organizations to provide low-cost legal advice and representation. These organizations must have a visible sign in their office that shows their accreditation information.
- **Licensed attorneys:** Private attorneys provide legal advice and representation for a fee. Before you pay an attorney for their services, ask to see their law license and verify it with the State Bar in the state that issued it. For example, if the attorney is licensed in California, check the license with the California State Bar at [cal.ca.gov](http://cal.ca.gov).
- **Self-Help Legal Access Centers:** L.A. County has several Self-Help Legal Access Centers that can guide you through legal issues like child custody, divorce or eviction.

*For more information on all of the services listed above call us at (800) 593-8222 or visit [oia.lacounty.gov](http://oia.lacounty.gov).*

### Report immigration fraud to us! We can help you:

- Get your money and documents back.
- Resolve your complaint.
- Investigate fraud committed against you for possible prosecution.
- Avoid immigration fraud.
- Connect you with FREE legal aid organizations for advice and help with your immigration case.

## Avoid Immigration Services Fraud

Dishonest immigration service providers (notarios, immigration consultants, etc.) often charge thousands of dollars for false promises, advice, and services that can harm you. Protect yourself! Avoid doing business with anyone who:

- Tells you they know “special” laws or have “connections” with important people that will help you win your case.
- Asks you to pay cash only and doesn’t give you receipts.
- Doesn’t give you a contract in both English and your primary language that gives you at least 3 days to cancel it without charges.
- Asks you to put false information on an application, sign blank documents, or leave original documents with them.
- Doesn’t have a sign posted that:
  - Says they are not attorneys and can’t give you legal advice,
  - Shows information about their required \$100,000 bond and registration with the government, and
  - Lists their name and contact information.

Z-CARD® PocketMedia® US patent 5945195 #1.  
Z-CARD® NA, 212-797-3450 [www.zcardna.com](http://www.zcardna.com)

  
LA County Office of Immigrant Affairs  
**LAC4you**  
Your Rights. Your Resources. Your Future.  
(800) 593-8222 [oia.lacounty.gov](http://oia.lacounty.gov)  
East Los Angeles County Hall  
4801 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90022



- Know Your Rights
- Get Trusted Help
- Be Prepared
- Make Informed Decisions





Knowing your rights, being prepared, and having the right plan for you and your family can help you respond to an immigration emergency.

Use the information in this document to make informed decisions.

### Have Important Documents Ready

Know which documents you will need in case of an emergency. Keep them handy in a safe place. Discuss them with your family and others responsible for them.

- Legal forms: Power of Attorney and Caregiver Authorization (Child Care).
- Immigration documents ("Green Card," passport, applications, notices).
- Birth certificates, Driver License, ID card, Social Security card.
- Contact information of your family members, friends, attorney, consulate, school.
- Medical appointments, records, prescriptions, and doctor information.
- Car title, registration, spare key.
- Mortgage and rental contracts.
- Employment and business records.

### Immigration Family Emergency Preparedness Resources:

Having a good plan will help you and your family be better prepared to respond to immigration emergencies. An emergency plan includes assigning trusted people AND preparing the forms they will need to help you and your family.

Visit our website at [oia.lacounty.gov](http://oia.lacounty.gov) or call (800) 593-8222 to get these FREE forms and more information on:

- **Caregiver Authorization (Child Care):** Lets you designate someone to enroll your children in school and get medical care for them from the school.
- **Power of Attorney:** Gives the person you designate legal authority to act on your behalf in some situations, such as handling your finances.
- **Health Care Directive:** Lets you assign a person you trust to make decisions for your children's health in case you aren't available.
- **Immigration Rights Red Card:** You have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution. The detachable RED CARD (see right) can help you protect your rights when immigration agents go to your home or workplace, or if they stop you on the street.
- **Naturalization and Citizenship:** Get FREE forms, study guides, and information to become a citizen.

### YOU HAVE RIGHTS:

- **RIGHT TO NOT OPEN YOUR DOOR** unless the immigration agent knocking has a warrant to enter that is signed by a judge or magistrate and has your name on it.
- **RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT** and not answer questions from immigration agents.
- **RIGHT NOT TO SIGN ANY PAPERS** without first talking to an attorney.
- **RIGHT TO TALK TO AN ATTORNEY** at your own expense.

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#### IF YOU ARE OUTSIDE YOUR HOME:

*Ask the immigration agent if you are free to go. If they say yes, leave peacefully. If they say no, ask to call your attorney.*

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#### IF YOU ARE INSIDE YOUR HOME:

*Give this Red Card to the immigration agent through the window or under the door.*

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### STATEMENT TO IMMIGRATION AGENT, POLICE, OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.
- I do not give you permission to enter or search my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you show me a warrant to enter that is signed by a judge or magistrate.
- I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.
- I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.