

The Immigrant's Journal

Our leaders
who stood for
Unity & Justice



FREE

Protecting God's Children From Distant Lands

Vol. V. 75

26 Court Street, Suite 701, Brooklyn, NY 11242 Tel: 718-243-9431 Fax: 718-222-3153 Email: immjournal@aol.com

Alabama's Tough Immigration Law Forces Immigrants to Leave

Most parts of Alabama's immigration law won't take effect until Sept. 1 at the earliest, yet many people already are reacting to it.

Some unauthorized immigrants have moved from Alabama.

Many are trying to sell sofas, refrigerators and other items to raise money in case the law does survive a federal court challenge and they need to move home or to states without such a law.

Many immigrant parents also are arranging for trusted people to have power of attorney, so that if they are detained under the law, someone will have authority to take care of their kids.

Alabama's new immigration law targets unauthorized immigrants, those who don't have federal alien registration or



Micky Hammon

other proof of legal presence in the United States. If it takes effect, the law would criminalize their presence in Alabama and make it a crime for them to work here.

The target population is larger than most Alabama cities: An estimated 120,000 unauthorized immigrants lived in Alabama in 2009 and 2010, according to

the Pew Hispanic Center, a nonpartisan research organization in Washington. At least 60 percent were from Mexico, the center estimated in a report released in February.

State Rep. Micky Hammon(AL), who sponsored the immigration bill that became law last month, said that if the law is causing undocumented immigrants to leave, it's doing what he intended.

"This will create jobs for unemployed Alabama citizens," Hammon said. "We want to discourage illegal immigrants from coming to Alabama and prevent those that are already here from putting down roots."

A mass exodus of undocumented immigrants, if it were to occur, would put a

continued on page 8



U.S. Commerce Secretaries Highlight Economic Benefits of Immigration Reform

BY TRAVIS PACKER

As the American economy continues to level out post-recession, some experts are looking at immigration reform as a way to help start new businesses and aid job creation. A recent letter from U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and former Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez outlined the economic benefits of reforming our immigration system and, consequently, the possible further detriment to our economy if Congress fails to act.

continued on page 4

Immigration News FLASH Bills Seek to Detain Immigrants & Eliminate Diversity Visas ...see page 10



Illinois Rep. Gutierrez Arrested at Deportation Protest ...see page 2

Number of Illegal Indian Immigrants Grow

Police wearing berets and bullet-proof vests broke down the door of a Guatemala City apartment in February hunting for illegal drugs. Instead, they found a different kind of illicit shipment: 27 immigrants from India packed into two locked rooms.

The Indians, whose hiding space was furnished only with soiled mattresses, claimed to be on vacation. But authorities quickly concluded they were waiting to be smuggled into the United States via an



11,000-mile pipeline of human cargo — the same network that has transported thousands of illegal immigrants from India,

continued on page 2

Listen to New York's #1 Immigration Attorney every morning from 6:30am to 7:00am on WVIP 93.5FM

Get the answers to all your legal issues!

Brian Figeroux, Esq.
Legal Advisor, IJLEF



Obama's Human Rights Executive Initiative Attacked by Republicans ...see page 10

GET MONEY FOR YOUR INJURIES

BENEFIT FROM OVER 10 YEARS OF COMBINED EXPERIENCE

NO FEE UNLESS YOU COLLECT

FREE CONSULTATION 718 834 0916

NEW YORK LAWYERS FOR NEW YORK'S INJURED
26 COURT STREET, SUITE 701, BROOKLYN, NY 11242

Website www.falaw.us

Email: bfigeroux@msn.com

THE LAW OFFICES OF FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES

- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- AUTO & PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS
- BIRTH INJURIES & BRAIN DAMAGE
- LEAD POISONING
- SLIP & FALL
- DEFECTIVE & DANGEROUS PRODUCTS

CALL 718-834-0916

DIVORCE - CUSTODY - SUPPORT
AGGRESSIVE, SENSITIVE ATTORNEYS WITH THE BEST EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD

- DIVORCE/SEPARATION
- CUSTODY VISITATION
- PARENTS' RIGHTS
- PATERNITY
- ABUSE/ NEGLECT
- PRE & POST-NUPTIAL AGREEMENTS
- ORDERS OF PROTECTION
- CHILD & SPOUSAL SUPPORT
- ALL OTHER FAMILY COURT MATTERS
- ABUSE SPOUSE PETITIONS

PERSONAL ATTENTION, AFFORDABLE FEES

Figeroux & Associates
26 Court Street, Suite 701
Brooklyn, NY 11242

ESTATE LAW

PERSONAL ATTENTION, REASONABLE FEES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ESTATE LITIGATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WILLS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROBATE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRUSTS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ESTATE PLANNING | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEED TRANSFERS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID PLANNING | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POWERS OF ATTORNEY |

HOME & HOSPITAL VISITS AVAILABLE

26 COURT STREET, SUITE 701
BROOKLYN, NY 11242
TAKE 2 OR 5 TRAINS TO BOROUGH HALL
OR N OR R TRAINS TO COURT STREET

CALL NOW FOR A CONSULTATION

Illinois Rep. Gutierrez Arrested at Deportation Protest

Democratic (IL) Congressman Luis Gutierrez and a dozen other activists from immigration and faith groups were arrested Tuesday, July 26 outside the White House after engaging in acts of civil disobedience in protest of the 1 million deportations of undocumented immigrants that have been carried out under the Obama administration, reports Univision.

Gutierrez and the others were arrested after they sat down and refused police orders to leave the vicinity. The congressman, a longtime advocate of immigration reform, was also arrested in May 2010 during a similar demonstration.

After President Obama spoke at the National Council of La Raza's conference in Washington on Monday, Gutierrez criticized his administration for not doing more to pass the DREAM Act, which would provide a path to legalization for qualifying undocumented students. ●



USCIS Warns of E-mail Scam

Have you or someone you know recently received an e-mail claiming you've won the Green Card lottery and asking you to send or wire money? Don't fall for it – the sender is trying to steal your money! Fraudsters will frequently e-mail potential victims posing as State Department or other government officials with requests to wire or transfer money online as part of a "processing fee." You should NEVER transfer money to anyone who e-mails you claiming that you have won the Diversity Visa (DV) lottery or been selected for a Green Card.

These e-mails are designed to steal money from unsuspecting victims. The senders often use phony e-mail addresses and logos designed to make them look more like official government correspondence. One easy way to tell they are a

fraud is that the e-mail address does not end with a ".gov."

One particularly common fraud email comes from an address ending in @diplomats.com or @usa.com and asks potential victims to wire \$819 per applicant/family member via Western Union to an individual (the name varies) at the following address in the United Kingdom: 24 Grosvenor Square, London W1A 1AE. If you receive this email, do NOT respond. Report it immediately to the Internet Crime Complaint Center and the Federal Trade Commission online or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357).

For more information about the Diversity Visa Program, see <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov/> and review the Department of State's Travel.State.Gov DV Instructions webpage. ●

FREE TPS ASSISTANCE FOR HAITIANS

The Law Firm of Figeroux & Associates will help you with your immigration questions and application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

There Will Be No Charge!
CALL 718-363-7788!

Reminder: TPS for Haitians

Responding to the January 12, 2010 earthquake tragedy in Haiti, Temporary Protective Status (TPS) was initially granted to Haitians by the U.S. government. On May 17, 2011 there was an announcement of the extension of the designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as well as the re-designation of Haiti for TPS. Haitian nationals who have already been granted TPS under the original designation of Haiti for TPS must apply to re-register for TPS by Monday, August 22, 2011 in order to maintain their TPS status.

Haitian nationals who do not have TPS but who have been residing in the United States since January 12, 2011, must apply for TPS by Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

Haitian nationals granted TPS under the re-designation or granted TPS under the re-registration will have TPS valid through January 22, 2013. ●

FREE IMMIGRATION SEMINAR

The last Thursday of every month.

Call 718-243-9431

Number of Illegal Indian Immigrants Grow

continued from page 1

through Central America and Mexico and over the sandy banks of the Rio Grande during the past two years.

Indians have arrived in droves even as the overall number of illegal immigrants entering the U.S. has dropped dramatically, in large part because of the sluggish American economy. And with fewer Mexicans and Central Americans crossing the border, smugglers are eager for more "high-value cargo" like Indians, some of whom are willing to pay more than \$20,000 for the journey.

"Being the businessmen they are, they need to start looking for ways to supplement that work," said Rosendo Hinojosa, chief of the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley Sector, at the southernmost tip of Texas, which is the most active nationwide for apprehending Indian nationals.

Between October 2009 and March 2011, the Border Patrol detained at least 2,600 illegal immigrants from India, a dramatic rise over the typical 150 to 300 arrests per year.

The influx has been so pronounced that in May, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano told a Senate committee that at some point this year, Indians will account for about 1 in 3 non-Mexican illegal immigrants caught in Texas.

Most of the border-jumpers are seeking jobs, even though India's economy is growing at about 9 percent per year. Once safely inside the U.S., they fan out across the country, often relying on relatives who are already here to arrange jobs and housing.

Indians have flooded into Texas in part because U.S. authorities have cracked down on the traditional ways they used to come here, such as entering through airports with student or work visas. The tougher enforcement has made it harder for immigrants to use visas listing non-existent universities or phantom companies.

Also contributing to the spike was a quiet change in travel requirements in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras. Beginning in 2009, those nations sought to attract investors by allowing visitors from India to enter without visas.

Mexican authorities have been unable to stop smugglers from moving illegal Indian immigrants over their country's southern border, then north to Texas. Instead, Mexico asked neighboring Guatemala to restore the visa requirement for Indians, which it did June 6.

Still, the lack of a visa requirement allowed at least 8,300 Indians to enter Guatemala and fewer than 28 percent of them exited legally, according to Enrique Degenhart, director of Guatemalan immigration. The others disappeared to continue heading north.

Indeed, the group of Indians police discovered in Guatemala City eventually went free because, at the time, they were in Guatemala legally.

Meanwhile, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras still don't require visas for Indians, meaning smugglers can shift routes and use those countries as alternate jumping-off points for the journey north.

continued on page 4

ABOUT US

INRA

Neighborhood Newspaper & Radio Alliance



YOUR ONE STOP
MARKETING CENTER

CALL US FOR A FREE, NO OBLIGATION
MARKETING CONSULTATION
718-771-0988

New York City is one of the most, if not the most diverse city in the world. It's a melting potpourri of different cultures and ethnicities. The combined buying power of ethnic and racial minorities in the U.S. is expected to rise from \$1.6 trillion in 2010 to \$2.1 trillion in 2015. That accounts for 15 percent of the nation's total buying power, according to the 2010 annual minority buying power report by the Selig Center for Economic Growth at the University of Georgia Terry College of Business.

Multiculturalism is big business. If you have a business, product or service and you want to be successful, you simply cannot afford to ignore the ethnic market. We can help you!

We are your gateway to a billion dollar market in New York City. We will develop a comprehensive marketing strategy to help you execute your marketing plan; allowing you to get maximal results for your money at minimal cost. CONTACT US now for a free, no obligation consultation.

PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE TRI-STATE AREA

with our multicultural radio programs on WPAT 930AM, WVIP 93.5FM,
www.allblackradio.com & www.diasporaradio.com

- Incarcerated
- Liberty Times
- Flatbush Times
- The Consumer Advocate



- CARE Journal
- Today's Christian
- The Immigrant's Journal
- Caribbean American Weekly

WE ARE YOUR GATEWAY TO A BILLION DOLLAR MARKET!

Visit: **WWW.MYIQINC.COM**

TEAM

Publisher
I.Q. INC.

Managing Editor
Pearl Phillip

Senior Editor
Colin A. Moore

Assistant Editor
Marilyn Silverman

Graphic & Website Designers
Pram Samsouandar
Samantha Rosero

Contributors
Travis Packer
Kanetta Baptiste

Email
immjournal@aol.com

Visit
www.ijlef.org
www.falaw.us
www.allblackradio.com

Executive Director
Diandra Archibald

Assistant Executive Director
Tracey Jordan

Legal Advisor
Brian Figeroux, ESQ.

**Volunteering at
THE IMMIGRANT'S JOURNAL LEGAL
& EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.**

Internship positions available throughout the year.

The Immigrant's Journal Legal & Educational Fund, Inc. is an organization dedicated to the educational and economic empowerment of all immigrants and immigrant organizations here in the United States. We at the Journal recognize the enormous contribution of immigrants to this country economically, socially and politically. Since September 11, 2001, however, immigrants have increasingly been discriminated against and Congress has passed legislation curtailing the rights of immigrants here in the U.S., broadly claiming that immigrants are a threat to "National Security." We at the Journal believe that these charges are unfounded, unsubstantiated and exaggerated. The Immigrant's Journal Volunteer Intern Program: was introduced to give our volunteers the opportunity to work in an immigrant friendly environment while developing the necessary skills for college or law school. They assist our staff in resolving immigration and other legal concerns through personal interviews, radio, email and telephone contact. They also assist the public with citizenship applications and in researching whether or not children of naturalized U.S. citizens have derived citizenship from their parents. Some of our volunteers assist our legal staff by engaging in legal research and writing letters on other legal issues. Volunteer interns are also assigned various other jobs in our Youth Programs.

Hours are flexible. Email your cover letter and resume or any questions to immjournal@aol.com
Tel: 718-243-9431 Fax: 718-222-3153

ADDICTION KILLS

DON'T LEAVE YOUR FAMILY BEHIND. ASK FOR HELP.

CALL 1-866-675-4912

Fight Breast Cancer

Visit www.nationalbreastcancer.org

Call toll free 866-891-2392 (English and Spanish)

You're not the only one

AIDS

Visit or call www.touch-ny.org
1-800-342-AIDS

DIABETES

You can't ignore forever.

Visit or call www.diabeticconnect.com
1-800-868-8747

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

21 U.S. Commerce Secretaries Highlight Economic Benefits of Immigration Reform

continued from page 1



In their letter, the Commerce Secretaries echoed what economists have been pointing out for years—immigrants already contribute to our economy in significant ways:

“According to the National Venture Capital Association, immigrants have started 25 percent of U.S. public companies that were venture-backed – including Google, eBay, Yahoo!, Sun Microsystems and Intel. Further, immigrant-founded, venture-backed public companies employ 220,000 people in the United States. Meanwhile, immigrant inventors or co-inventors have contributed to more than a quarter of U.S. global patent applications.”

Despite this evidence, the U.S. wastes much of the foreign talent that comes to the U.S. Each year, around 400,000 students come to study in the United States from foreign nations. The U.S., however, fails to provide opportunities for these students to permanently immigrate to the U.S. In his immigration blueprint, President Obama acknowledged this problem and recommended that we encourage:

“Foreign students to stay in the U.S. and contribute to our economy by stapling a green card to the diplomas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), PhDs and select STEM Masters Degrees students so that they will stay, contribute to the American economy, and become Americans over time.”

If the U.S. fails to reform immigration in a way that allows America to retain the best and brightest students and innovators, it risks falling behind in the global race to

remain economically competitive. Already, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the U.K. have instituted programs designed to attract immigrant entrepreneurs.

Some in Congress, however, are trying to implement immigration policies that stimulate the economy and create jobs. Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Richard Lugar (R-IN) recently introduced the Startup Visa Act of 2011, which would provide a two-year visa for immigrant entrepreneurs who can find a qualified U.S. investor to back their business. The visa would allow the immigrant to become a lawful permanent resident after two years if they create full time jobs for U.S. citizens.

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) also renewed efforts recently to pass an immigration reform bill, calling on advocates to focus on the economic benefits of reform. Sen. Schumer stated that *“we ought to start highlighting the fact that immigration creates jobs rather than takes them away. Everyone agreed that is how we are going to start talking about immigration, as a job creator.”* Sen. Schumer will hold a hearing next week on the economic benefits of immigration reform.

In light of the current U.S. economic struggles, Congress could look to immigration reform for policies that would help stimulate the economy and create U.S. jobs. If Congress continues to stagnate on this issue as they have many others, it would be a wasted opportunity. ●

Number of Illegal Indian Immigrants Grow

continued from page 2

Indians caught by U.S. authorities often claim they fled their homeland because of religious persecution.

The Justice Department's Executive Office for Immigration Review received 951 requests for asylum from Indian nationals between October and March — a six-month tally nearly equal to 1,002 asylum requests received from Indians in all of fiscal 2010.

Some seeking asylum can arrange to have their bond paid and are set free. Then they melt into American society and skip subsequent court dates. Immigration courts eventually order them deported, but only in absentia.

Many of the Indians apprehended are

Sikhs, followers of India's fourth-largest religion, who tell authorities they face persecution back home and want asylum. Applicants need to convince officials that they have a credible fear of persecution in India. If so, the case is referred to an immigration judge.

Such persecution was common in the mid-1980s, when the state battled a Sikh secessionist movement, Pramod Kumar, a political scientist, said. But today the ruling party in Punjab is Akali Dal, a Sikh party, and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is also Sikh.

“It's all nonsense,” Kumar said of asylum claims. ●

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, August 17, 2011

The New American Chamber of Commerce
(NACC) presents

Small Business Matters



Guest Speaker, Andrew Morrison

Founder, Small Business Camp who also appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show



Hon. Marcus Garvey

PLUS: Remembering the Vision of Hon. Marcus Garvey

Join us on Wednesday, August 17, 2011

from 6pm to 8pm
26 Court Street, Suite 701,
downtown Brooklyn
For more information, visit
www.mynacc.org



Bring lots of your business cards!

**GREAT NETWORKING!
FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY!
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES!
COME & EXPAND
YOUR CLIENT BASE!**

Seating is limited.
RSVP: 718-722-9217 or via email at info@mynacc.org

5 Fastest Ways To Stop Foreclosure In 7 Days Or Less

FREE CONSULTATION

Please join us for a FREE Consultation on the 5 Fastest Ways To Stop Foreclosure In 7 Days Or Less.

Here's some of what you will learn at the consultation:

- Reinstatement of the loan
- Forbearance plan
- Selling your house to a cash buyer
- Selling through a Short Sale
- Filing for bankruptcy



We will go over your best options for stopping your foreclosure fast and which ones might be best. So, make sure you take advantage of this FREE consultation.

FREE BANKRUPTCY CONSULTATION

STOP

Creditors' Harassment

STOP

Lawsuits!

STOP

Foreclosures!

Get the legal help you need now!

Collection Harassment

- * Profane or Abusive Language
- * Threats/ Yelling
- * Family or Neighbors Called?

Save Your

- * Home
- * Car
- * Business



Documents Required

- * List of debts
- * Your most recent tax returns
- * Correspondence from creditors
- * Lawsuit documents
- * Social Security and ID
- * List of Assets

Filing a Chapter 7, 11, or 13 bankruptcy may be your only choice!

www.falaw.us

For a **FREE CONSULTATION** call:
Law Offices of Figeroux & Associates

www.falaw.us

Queens

108-04 Liberty Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Tel: 718-322-3190

Downtown Brookyn

26 Court Street, Suite 701
Brooklyn, NY 11242

Tel: 718-834-0190

Central Brookyn

1105 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225

Tel: 718-363-7788

V Ceramic Art

We offer a unique selection of ceramic art collectables, not sold in stores. Our one-of-a-kind and limited edition art will add beauty to your home



We offer decorative plates, vases, shoes, busts, and specialty items

Please call for an appointment at 917 868-8465

Visit us at www.vceramicart.com
We are a proud yahoo store.



2012 CHURCH OFFICE PLANNER

FEATURES

- Common Lectionary
- 12 month calendar for current year
- 12 month calendar for next year
- Two-year church calendar
- Two-year civil dates calendar
- Holy Week Planner
- Advent Planner
- 12 monthly planning calendars
- 52 week planning calendar
- Daily appointment log
- Daily "To Do" List
- Personal notes and memos
- Advance planner for 2013 and 2014
- Special Dates and Events
- Maintains church records
- Hospitalized members
- Borrowed church property
- Church key list
- Phone/e-mail directory
- Church officers, committees, and boards
- Referral agencies
- Weekly project list
- Weekly Bible verse
- Annual record book
- Used by thousands of church offices

Organize Your Day and Meet Your Goals!

The Church Office Planner is the reliable desk organizer, planning calendar, and appointment book trusted and used by thousands of church workers.

Order your copy today. Only \$29.95!
Call Pearl at 718-771-0988 ext 112

Statutory Numbers

1. This bulletin summarizes the availability of immigrant numbers during August. Consular officers are required to report to the Department of State documentarily qualified applicants for numerically limited visas; U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security reports applicants for adjustment of status. Allocations were made, to the extent possible, in chronological order of reported priority dates, for demand received by July 11th. If not all demand could be satisfied, the category or foreign state in which demand was excessive was deemed oversubscribed. The cut-off date for an oversubscribed category is the priority date of the first applicant who could not be reached within the numerical limits. Only applicants who have a priority date earlier than the cut-off date may be allotted a number. If it becomes necessary during the monthly allocation process to retrogress a cut-off date, supplemental requests for numbers will be honored only if the priority date falls within the new cut-off date announced in this bulletin.

2. The fiscal year 2011 limit for family-sponsored preference immigrants determined in accordance with Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) is 226,000. The fiscal year 2011 limit for employment-based preference immigrants calculated under INA 201 is 140,000. Section 202 prescribes that the per-country limit for preference immigrants is set at 7% of the total annual family-sponsored and employment-based preference limits, i.e., 25,620 for FY-2011. The dependent area limit is set at 2%, or 7,320.

3. INA Section 203(e) provides that family-sponsored and employment-based preference visas be issued to eligible immigrants in the order in which a petition in behalf of each has been filed. Section 203(d) provides that spouses and children of preference immigrants are entitled to the same status, and the same order of consideration, if accompanying or following to join the principal. The visa prorating provisions of Section 202(e) apply to allocations for a foreign state or dependent area when visa demand

exceeds the per-country limit. These provisions apply at present to the following oversubscribed chargeability areas: CHINA-mainland born, INDIA, MEXICO, and PHILIPPINES.

4. Section 203(a) of the INA prescribes preference classes for allotment of Family-sponsored immigrant visas as follows:

FAMILY-SPONSORED PREFERENCES

First: (F1) Unmarried Sons and Daughters of U.S. Citizens: 23,400 plus any numbers not required for fourth preference.

Second: Spouses and Children, and Unmarried Sons and Daughters of Permanent Residents: 114,200, plus the number (if any) by which the worldwide family preference level exceeds 226,000, plus any unused first preference numbers:

A. (F2A) Spouses and Children of Permanent Residents: 77% of the overall second preference limitation, of which 75% are exempt from the per-country limit;

B. (F2B) Unmarried Sons and Daughters (21 years of age or older) of Permanent Residents: 23% of the overall second preference limitation.

Third: (F3) Married Sons and Daughters of U.S. Citizens: 23,400, plus any numbers not required by first and second preferences.

Fourth: (F4) Brothers and Sisters of Adult U.S. Citizens: 65,000, plus any numbers not required by first three preferences.

On the chart below, the listing of a date for any class indicates that the class is oversubscribed (see paragraph 1); "C" means current, i.e., numbers are available for all qualified applicants; and "U" means unavailable, i.e., no numbers are available. (NOTE: Numbers are available only for applicants whose priority date is earlier than the cut-off date listed below.)●

Family-Sponsored	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1	01MAY04	01MAY04	01MAY04	08MAR93	15APR96
F2A	22JUL08	22JUL08	22JUL08	01JUN08	22JUL08
F2B	01JUL03	01JUL03	01JUL03	01OCT92	01DEC00
F3	22AUG01	22AUG01	22AUG01	15NOV92	01APR92
F4	08APR00	08APR00	08APR00	08MAR96	15MAY88

Source: U.S. Dept of State



Are you **DISCOURAGED?**
Need more **CLIENTS?**
Need to jump start your **BUSINESS?**
We can help! Call: 718-771-0988
NNRA
Neighborhood Newspaper & Radio Alliance

Protecting Your Kids from Cyber Bullying

The days of the schoolyard bully who sets out to take your lunch money or shove you in a locker seem like a dream to kids today. Today's kids face bullies who utilize technology to take schoolyard antagonism to a whole new and oftentimes dangerous level.

Cyber bullying is the use of technology and information by a minor to torment, threaten, harass, embarrass and otherwise humiliate another child. The Internet, social networking sites, cell phones and other digital and interactive technologies are used to take the bully's message to a greater audience than ever before, giving them more power to leave their victims humiliated on a global scale.

"It is much easier to bully online than in person," says Dr. Mirjam Quinn, assistant professor of clinical psychology at Argosy University, Chicago. "It is easier to reach a large audience online, there is less, if any, adult supervision governing online behavior and the Internet provides a—sometimes false—sense of anonymity that may lead individuals to behave more aggressively than they would in real life. It is also easier to dehumanize a victim online, since the bully doesn't see, thus can ignore, the victim's immediate emotional reaction."

"Victims who experience cyber bullying reveal that they were afraid or embarrassed to go to school. In addition, research has revealed a link between cyber bullying and low self-esteem, family problems, academic problems, school violence and delinquent behavior. Cyber-bullied youth also report having suicidal thoughts, and there have been a number of examples in the United States where youth who were victimized ended up taking their own lives," says Eric Kurt, academic director of the Web Design & Interactive Media program at The Art Institute of Indianapolis.

How do you protect your kids?

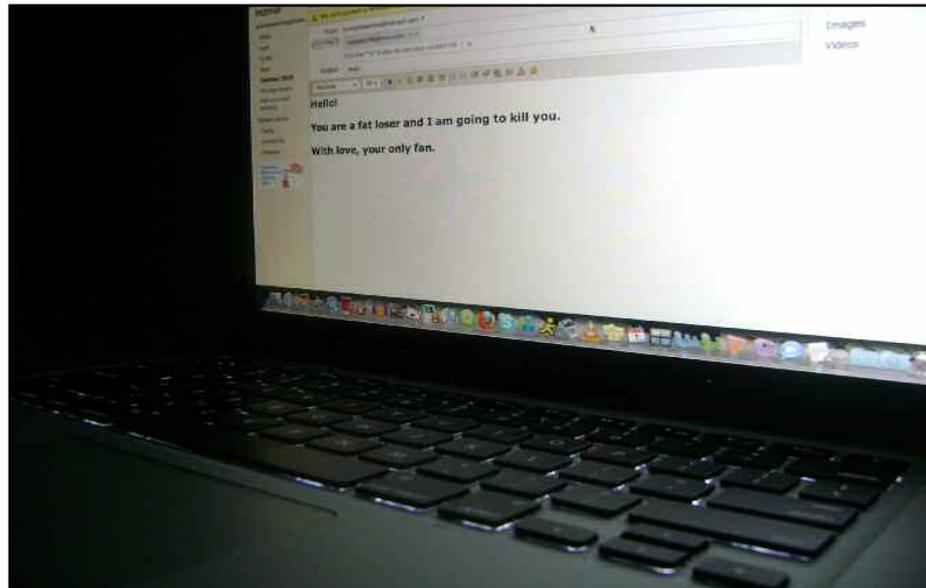
Set appropriate boundaries and monitor their activity.

"The Internet really isn't as anonymous as it seems—it is very much real life," says Quinn. "Your parenting rules in real life can and should very much inform the decisions you make about parenting rules regarding cell phone and Internet use."

"It is important that you have access to the technology your child uses the most," says Kurt. If your child has a cell phone, you should communicate that you can and will monitor the text messages that are received and sent. "It's not a matter of privacy invasion, but of being a parent active in the life of your child."

"Parents should look at and set privacy settings on the sites their children are using. They should also have a list of user accounts that a child has created on the Web, along with the passwords."

Both Kurt and Quinn encourage parents to talk to their kids about appropriate behavior online. Teach them to never post



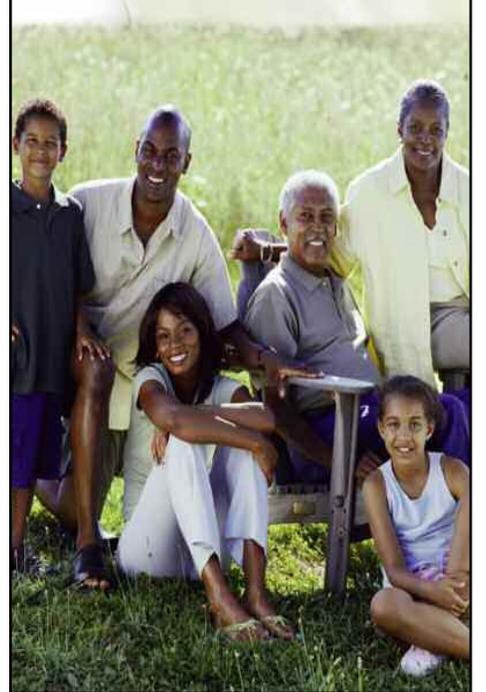
something on the Internet or send a text message that they wouldn't say to a parent or family member. "Once you send a message or an image out into the world via the Internet or text message, you have no control over where it goes and who will receive it," says Kurt. "Assume that anything posted can, and often will, be made public. If you don't post anything disrespectful, irresponsible or vulgar, then you don't have to worry about who is viewing it."

"If bullying ever crosses the line into

intimidation or sexual harassment, or affects your child's ability to feel safe when she is around the bully, then the other child's parents, the school, community leaders and, depending on the severity of the situation, the police should be contacted immediately. Your child may initially become angry with you for 'over-reacting,' but you are doing the right thing by showing him that you will take care of him and keep him safe no matter what," says Quinn. ●(ARA)

FAMILY MATTERS

Thursdays
4:30PM-6:00PM
Grace Deliverance
Radio 92.1FM &
www.allblackradio.com



NEW YORK IS NOW A NO-FAULT DIVORCE STATE

Family Law Practice Summarized

■ DIVORCE ■ SEPARATION ■ SUPPORT ■ CUSTODY

The lawyer you hire does make a difference!

- ▶ Contested & Uncontested Divorces
- ▶ Separation & Prenuptial Agreements
- ▶ Business & Degree Evaluations
- ▶ Spousal Maintenance
- ▶ Custody/Visitation
- ▶ Paternity
- ▶ Relocation
- ▶ Child Support
- ▶ Abuse/Neglect
- ▶ Restraining & Protective Orders
- ▶ Modification of Previous Orders & Awards

Has your spouse disappeared?
We can find your spouse!

***\$600**

**Uncontested on consent and cost. All five boroughs. No property, no kids.*

We can process your divorce even if your spouse is uncooperative or lives overseas.



Matrimonial Investigations

- ▶ Bank & Asset Searches
- ▶ Wire Transfers
- ▶ Alimony Reduction
- ▶ Co-habitation Investigation
- ▶ Divorce/Dating/Fraud
- ▶ Internet Dating/Fraud
- ▶ Video Surveillance

LAW OFFICES OF FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES

QUEENS: 108-04 Liberty Avenue, Richmond Hill, NY 11419. Tel: 718-322-3190
BROOKLYN: 26 Court Street, Suite 701. Tel: 718-834-0190 ■ 1105 Nostrand Avenue. Tel: 718-363-7788

Alabama's Tough Immigration Law Forces Immigrants to Leave

continued from page 1

dent in Alabama's work force. An estimated 95,000 unauthorized immigrants worked in Alabama in 2009 and 2010, making up about 4.2 percent of the labor force, the report said.

One of those workers is Julio Hernandez, 30, who works for a scrap metal company and lives in Odenville with his wife, Delgadina. They are undocumented immigrants from Mexico. Their 9-year-old daughter and 4-year-old son were born in the United States and are U.S. citizens.

Julio Hernandez said he moved to Alabama 11 years ago "because of the poverty" in Mexico. He said an employer in 2003 wanted to help him get his papers so he can be eligible for legal presence in the United States, but an attorney asked for \$3,800, and he couldn't afford it.

Julio Hernandez said that if the law takes effect, he likely will take his family to Mexico.

"I sold my truck and I'm selling my trailer, right now, my land," he said in translated Spanish. "Right now, I want to have that money in case we have to leave, to use it over there, because we're going to need it to send the kids to school."

Delgadina said she knows of four families who have left or are about to leave Alabama for Mexico.

Domingo Castro, 29, an undocu-

mented immigrant from Guatemala, works at a thrift store in Center Point and lives there with his wife and their two U.S.-born sons, who are 5 years old and 6 months old.

He said he came to the United States 15 years ago because of the poverty in Guatemala. He didn't get documents to be a legal resident here because he had no relatives legally living in the United States to help him get papers.

If Alabama's immigration law takes effect, he said in translated Spanish, "Maybe I'll go to another state where they don't have the law."

Church officials and other people point to anecdotal evidence that the law already is affecting many people, even though most of its sections don't take effect until Sept. 1 and even though attorneys for civil rights groups filed suit July 8 in federal court, asking that the law be struck down as unconstitutional. Attorneys said they plan to ask the judge to temporarily block the law from taking effect until the lawsuit has been decided.

Dorothy McDade, Hispanic ministries coordinator at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Tuscaloosa, said, "There are people who have already left, and there are people who are selling their things to leave."

She said many people also are getting

guarantees that a state official who signs a document, such as a certified copy of a birth certificate, is, indeed, commissioned by the state. McDade said that if Mexican parents were to take their U.S.-born child to Mexico, they would need the child's birth certificate and an accompanying apostille for the child to attend school there.

The number of apostilles for birth certificates issued by the state Department of Public Health rose from 30 in January, to 153 in May, and 600 in June, said Nicole Henderson, director of the record services division in the department's Center for Health Statistics.

The Alabama Secretary of State's Office issued a total of 1,032 apostilles for all documents in May and 2,677 in June, said Emily Thompson, the deputy secretary of state.

McDade predicted that most undocumented immigrants she knows will stay in Alabama, at least for now. "They've told me that they will stay here and wait and see what effect the law is going to have," she said. "If they see a lot of people being deported, then they'll leave."

Orlando Rosa, operations manager for Rivera Communications in Pelham, which broadcasts Spanish-language radio programs from Alabaster, Bessemer and Lauderdale Counties, said hundreds of

people in recent weeks have called in to an afternoon program trying to sell trucks, sofas, microwave ovens and other items.

"They say they're leaving. They kind of tell you that at the end, so people feel bad for them and buy the item," Rosa said.

Leslie Hillhouse, an interpreter who works with Hispanic immigrants in Birmingham, said she knows of many parents getting passports for their U.S.-born children, or arranging for trusted people to have power of attorney so they can take care of the kids if the parents are detained.

McDade said attorneys plan to meet with people this afternoon at her church's parish hall to arrange power of attorney. Hillhouse also said many immigrants worry about registering their children for school under the law. The new law will require each school district to report the numbers of its students born outside the United States or whose parents are unauthorized immigrants.

"A lot of people, they would rather leave the state before the school year starts, to avoid having to provide that information," Hillhouse said.

continued on next page



President Barack Obama with community leaders: left, Gerry Hopkins and far right, Brian Figerooux, at an exclusive meeting where the Mighty Sparrow (second left) presented a CD with a song "Barack the Magnificent" written especially for the President.

FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES
Attorney at Law
www.falaw.us



- ◆ Give immigrants who are here a rigorous path to citizenship
- ◆ Extend welfare and Medicaid to immigrants
- ◆ Deporting 12 million people is ridiculous and impractical
- ◆ Immigration raids are ineffective
- ◆ Support the DREAM ACT for the youth
- ◆ Undocumented workers came here to work, not to drive
- ◆ Support granting driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants

DiasporaRadio.com

...with YOU in mind...



Immigration & Cultural Expose (I.C.E.)
Saturdays 6pm-7pm on WPAT 930AM
www.DiasporaRadio.com

◆ Immigration Breaking News ◆ Law Updates ◆ Business Opportunities

FREE LEGAL CONSULTATIONS
SATURDAYS 6pm-7pm
CALL 718-222-3155

Legally Speaking

Monday to Thursday 6:30am-7:00am on WVIP 93.5FM
Start your week the right way by getting all your legal questions answered.

FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES
Attorney at Law

26 Court Street, Suite 701 • Brooklyn, NY 11242

- ◆ Personal Injury ◆ Accidents ◆ Medical Malpractice
- ◆ Divorce/Separation ◆ Child Custody/Support ◆ Wills & Probate
- ◆ Estate Planning Tax/Elder Law ◆ Real Estate ◆ Bankruptcy
- ◆ Corporate/Business Law ◆ Immigration

Your Rights!

You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say, can and will be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to speak to an attorney, and to have an attorney present during any questioning. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be provided to you at the government's expense.

IMMIGRATION

continued from previous page

A QUICK LOOK AT THE IMMIGRATION LAW

Most sections of Alabama's immigration law will take effect Sept. 1, unless a federal court blocks the law. Key sections of the law state that

A person without valid federal alien registration or other proof of legal presence in the United States will, just for being in Alabama, be guilty of a crime punishable by a \$100 fine and 30 days in jail.

A law officer stopping, detaining or arresting a person will be required to make a reasonable attempt, when practicable, to determine the citizenship and immigration status of the person if there is reason to suspect the person is an illegal alien. Law officers would have to contact federal officials to check the person's status.

It will be a crime punishable by a \$500 fine for "an unauthorized alien" to knowingly apply for work, seek work or perform work as an employee or independent contractor.

It will be a crime punishable by as much as a year in jail for a person who knew or recklessly disregarded that an immigrant was in the United States illegally to conceal, harbor or shield the immigrant from detection, transport the immigrant "in furtherance of the unlawful presence of the alien," or rent a dwelling unit to the immigrant.

Each school district will be required

to report to the state school board the numbers of its students born outside U.S. jurisdiction or who have a parent who is an illegal immigrant. The board would have to file annual public statewide reports based on school districts' reports.

Starting April 1, every employer in Alabama must use the federal E-Verify program to "verify the employment eligibility" of a new hire.

Starting April 1, an employer found to have knowingly employed an unauthorized immigrant would have the business license suspended or revoked for where the person worked. An exception would be that an employer who used E-Verify to check an employee's status would be exempt from any violation involving the employee, even if he or she later was shown to be an illegal immigrant.

Workforce

The state's workforce is showing some of the earliest signs of the law's effects.

State Agriculture Commissioner John McMillan said that last week, he saw squash in Jackson County and tomatoes in Blount County rotting in fields for lack of people to pick them. He said a squash farmer said he had 10 pickers for his crop but needed 25.

McMillan noted that many Hispanic migrants have picked fruits and vegetables in Alabama for years.

"We're hearing from the growers that their employees are leaving," he said.

Johnny Adams, executive director of

the Alabama Poultry and Egg Association, said the law's effects will depend on whether it survives court challenge and whether Hispanic workers—people here illegally and those here legally, who are related to unauthorized immigrants or who feel unwelcome because of the law—actually leave.

"Once the law is in place, how thoroughly will it be policed?" Adams added.

McMillan said the law could cause severe worker shortages in Alabama. "Worst case, it's going to decimate any outdoor labor that we have, whether it's farm or construction or forestry or whatever."

Russell Davis, executive vice president of the Home Builders Association of Alabama, said labor shortages could be "serious issues" once demand for houses picks up, because of Hispanics who are skilled workers who are leaving Alabama and because some homebuilders quit the business in the latest downturn.

Jay Reed, president of Associated Builders and Contractors of Alabama, said four contractors so far have told him they had employees who left the state because of the law. He added that legal immigrants may leave for fears of racial profiling, or because a cousin or other relative is here illegally and wants to leave because of the law.

"Every commercial contractor I've come in touch with is concerned about the void in labor that we're going to experience due to the nature of the law," Reed said.

But Rosemary Elebash, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business, said she's gotten no reports from members that workers are leaving. Likewise, Larry Fidel, president of the state Restaurant and Hospitality Associations, said owners of hotels or restaurants haven't called him about employees leaving. "I'm not saying it hasn't happened," he said. "They just haven't told us."

State Sen. Scott Beason (AL), a strong supporter of the immigration law, said he expects the state's workforce to adjust to any loss in immigrant workers.

"The workforce has changed over time because of the tremendous influx of illegal immigrants in the state. It'll take a little time to correct back to the way it used to be," Beason said. "There's always someone to fill a void and supply a need."

But if the law is blocked, Julio Hernandez said he and his wife and kids will stay in Alabama, in large part because of their children's opportunity to attend good schools here.

"Well, if they block the law, I plan on staying here with my kids, because they have good study here. Because you know, in Mexico, there's a lot of delinquency there," he said. ●

FREE IMMIGRATION SEMINAR

The last Thursday of every month

Call 718-243-9431

ALL IMMIGRATION MATTERS

- GET THE FACTS
- BE SMART
- MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION
- BEWARE OF IMMIGRATION FRAUD



- ▶ Health Care (RN/OT/PT/TSHH/SLP'S & IT Cases)
- ▶ Extension of Status & Visa Renewals
- ▶ Work Authorization
- ▶ H-1B Professional Workers
- ▶ F-1 Students
- ▶ J-1 Exchange Visitor Trainees
- ▶ O-1 Extraordinary Ability
- ▶ R-1 Religious Workers

- ▶ U.S. Citizenship
- ▶ Family-sponsored Permanent Residence
- ▶ Green Cards/Labor Certification (RIR)
- ▶ Immigration Visa Petitions: Employment Based
- ▶ Temporary Work Visas
- ▶ Naturalization Derivative Petitions
- ▶ Labor Certifications
- ▶ Application for Asylum
- ▶ Petitions for Writ of Habeas Corpus
- ▶ Appeals to the Board of Immigration Appeals
- ▶ Lawsuits involving Eligibility and Processing for Citizenship



CALL 718-834-0190

26 Court Street, Suite 701
Brooklyn, NY 11242

- PERSONAL INJURY
- ACCIDENTS
- FAMILY LAW
- POLICE BRUTALITY
- CRIMINAL LAW
- CIVIL LITIGATION
- BANKRUPTCY
- REAL ESTATE

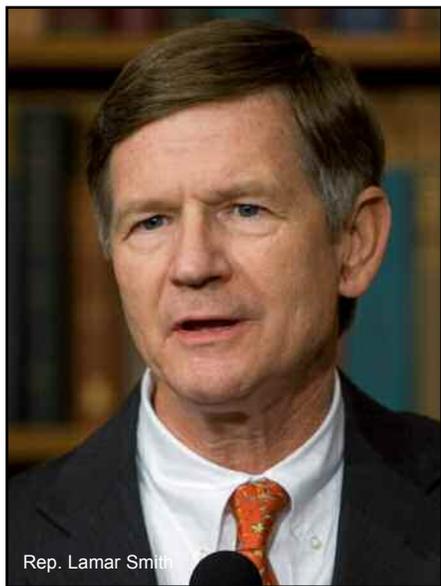
Visit our website at:
www.falaw.us

LAW OFFICES OF FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES

QUEENS: 108-04 Liberty Avenue, Richmond Hill, NY 11419. Tel: 718-322-3190

BROOKLYN: 26 Court Street, Suite 701. Tel: 718-834-0190 ■ 1105 Nostrand Avenue. Tel: 718-363-7788

Lamar Smith Introduces Bill to Prevent Administration from Offering Humanitarian Relief



Rep. Lamar Smith

If it's broke, fix it. That would not be the philosophy of Representative Lamar Smith (R-TX) when it comes to our immigration system. As Chair of the committee with jurisdiction over immigration policy, Mr. Smith is in a good position to offer serious solutions to fix our broken immigration system. He doesn't. Instead, he has introduced a series of bills that, taken together, aim to fulfill the restrictionist fantasy of mass deportation of the five percent of America's workforce that is undocumented.

In his latest offering, Rep. Smith proposes to suspend the authorities in immigration law that the Obama Administration might use to mitigate the chaos created by Mr. Smith and his Congressional colleagues' failure to fix the immigration system.

On July 12, Rep. Smith introduced the "*Hinder the Administration's Legalization Temptation*" Act (HALT Act), H.R. 2497. The bill would take the unprecedented step of suspending several immigration law provisions relating to humanitarian relief for the remainder of President Obama's first term. In essence, the philosophy of the bill is, "*If it's broke, take away the tools that might be used to fix it.*"

If enacted, Smith's bill would:

Suspend a provision of immigration law that provides for the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status for immigrants who can show that a family member would suffer great harm if the deportation went through.

Suspend the ability of the Administration to grant Temporary Protected Status. Prohibit the Administration from granting a waiver to an immigrant who is found to be inadmissible to the U.S.

Prohibit the Administration from deferring someone's deportation (except in very limited circumstances) or from granting extended voluntary departure. Prohibit the Administration from "*paroling*" a non-citizen into the U.S. except in narrow circumstances pertaining to criminal prosecution or national security, or in cases where the non-citizen's life is immediately threatened.

In addition, the bill would apply all of this retroactively to the date of introduction of the bill (July 12).

Here is how the bill might be applied:

The Administration would be prohibited from deferring the deportation of an immigrant student who might benefit from the DREAM Act—no matter the merits of allowing the student to stay and contribute to this country.

Temporary Protected Status is offered to nationals from countries that have experienced a major natural disaster or are in the midst of civil unrest that puts lives in jeopardy. For example, in January 2010, Haiti was hit by a devastating earthquake that killed thousands and left millions without shelter. Sending people back to that destruction would have been unconscionable, and the Administration granted Haitians in the U.S. temporary protection from deportation. However, Representative Smith would prohibit the U.S. from protecting people in this circumstance.

Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) is a similar humanitarian program to Temporary Protected Status, offered to nationals of countries that are in turmoil.

Currently, only nationals of Liberia have Deferred Enforced Departure, but after September 30 of this year, when DED expires for Liberians, the Administration would be required, under Smith's bill, to begin deporting them.

The bill would prohibit the administration from cancelling deportation for someone (or to waive bars to re-entry) whose deportation would cause "*extreme hardship*" or "*exceptional and extremely unusual hardship*" to a family member who is a U.S. citizen or Legal Permanent Resident. For example, the bill would prohibit the administration from cancelling the deportation of an undocumented immigrant who is taking care of a U.S. citizen child with a medical condition that would not be treatable in the immigrant's home country.

With his bill to prohibit prosecutorial discretion, Rep. Smith takes the opposite position he took in 1999, when he signed a letter to then-Attorney General Janet Reno urging her to use her prosecutorial discretion. This plea came in the wake of bad press generated from a law that Smith wrote in 1996, which retroactively punished Legal Permanent Residents by turning minor crimes they committed in the past into major crimes for which they could be deported. After that law passed, immigrants who committed crimes when they were young, but had no further trouble with the law—some even being business owners—were deported because of the retroactivity of the Smith law.

Along with other legislation he proposes, Rep. Smith seems to be re-creating the controversial Sensenbrenner bill, which passed the House in 2005 and ultimately caused some of the largest demonstrations in U.S. history.

On July 26, the House Immigration Subcommittee held a hearing on the HALT Act. Senator David Vitter (R-LA) was slated to testify at this hearing, as he is the sponsor of the Senate version of the HALT Act. (Because the hearing was delayed, only Vitter's written testimony made it in to the record.) It is somewhat

ironic that Senator Vitter would sponsor a bill to prohibit prosecutorial discretion, as a few years back he was the beneficiary of prosecutorial discretion when he was caught up in a scandal involving a DC "*escort*" service. This is a case where one's view of prosecutorial discretion apparently depends on who is the target of prosecution.

Another bill in Rep. Smith's Sensenbrenner-like package is a bill that would allow the Department of Homeland Security to hold in detention indefinitely, immigrants who have a final order of removal but who cannot be returned to their home country (for example, because there is no agreement between the U.S. and that country to accept deportees) or because a judge has stayed the deportation of the individual pending appeal of the deportation case. That bill was approved by the Judiciary Committee by a vote of 17 to 14. ●

Source: www.immigrationforum.org



Join us
on facebook
The Immigrant's
Journal
Legal & Educational
Fund Inc.



Figeroux & Associates

Attorneys at Law

CALL NOW: 718-834-0190

Visit our website at www.falaw.us

**IN PAIN?
ON CRUTCHES?
NEED HELP?**

CALL
718 222 3155
For a FREE
Consultation
Today!

26 Court Street, Suite 701
Brooklyn, NY 11242
Tel: 718-834-0190

108-04 Liberty Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
Tel: 718-322-3190

1105 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225
Tel: 718-363-7788

PERSONAL INJURY - IMMIGRATION - BANKRUPTCY - MATRIMONIAL - CRIMINAL

Listen to our ads on www.diasporaradio.com

The Case for Discretion and Proportionality in Our Immigration System

It has long been the case that those responsible for carrying out and enforcing our nation's laws do so with a measure of discretion and proportionality. Every day, law enforcement officials and judges exercise discretion in charging and sentencing decisions, weighing differing priorities and social values, and matching punishments with crimes. Consequently, minors are treated differently in the criminal system, and traffic violators and murderers receive different punishments. The use of judgment and proportionality is so ingrained in our legal system—with the exception of immigration law—that we take it for granted. Today, the need for discretion and proportionality is needed more than ever in our antiquated and over-burdened immigration system to ensure that the government spends its limited resources on high priority cases, and that immigrants who have a strong case for remaining in the U.S. are able to do so if current law provides for an avenue of relief.

To that end, a wide range of organizations, including the American Immigration Council, have been asking the Obama Administration to use its executive

authority to exercise discretion in the immigration context. In June, Director John Morton of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) issued a memo outlining new guidance on the use of prosecutorial discretion in a wide range of circumstances. The memo signals a greater commitment to using limited resources to enforce immigration law with an understanding of the need for measured action and fairness in the immigration context.

Unfortunately, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Lamar Smith has decided that the long accepted ideals of discretion and proportionality should not apply to immigration. Smith has introduced the “*Hinder the Administration’s Legal Immigration Temptation Act*” (HALT) of 2011, which attempts to invalidate the long tradition and legal authority of the executive branch to use its discretion and other powers to improve and implement laws. Apparently Smith believes a different administration will be worthy of such discretion because the bill would sunset on January 21, 2013—the day after the next inauguration. The HALT Act goes beyond limiting



prosecutorial discretion and seeks to suspend long respected forms of immigration relief including Temporary Protected Status (TPS) (which was granted to Haitians after the recent devastating earthquakes) and family unity waivers (such as those that allow U.S. citizen military members to reunite with their undocumented spouses).

What’s most disappointing is that Chairman Smith has advocated for the use of prosecutorial discretion in the past. The New York Times recently noted:

Back in 1999, Mr. Smith was one of several members of Congress who wrote the attorney general and the head of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, arguing that “unfair” deportations had

caused “unjustifiable hardship” for otherwise law-abiding immigrants who had jobs and families and close citizen relatives. “True hardship cases call for the exercise of discretion,” the letter said.

Why the change in heart? Only Mr. Smith can answer that. However, as it becomes increasingly clear that large numbers of people are no longer migrating to the U.S., our focus must turn to those who are living, working, and raising families in America. The Administration’s understanding that immigration agencies need to prioritize enforcement activities and exercise discretion when considering deportation should be encouraged by Congress and the public. ●

Tax Planning for Your Small Business

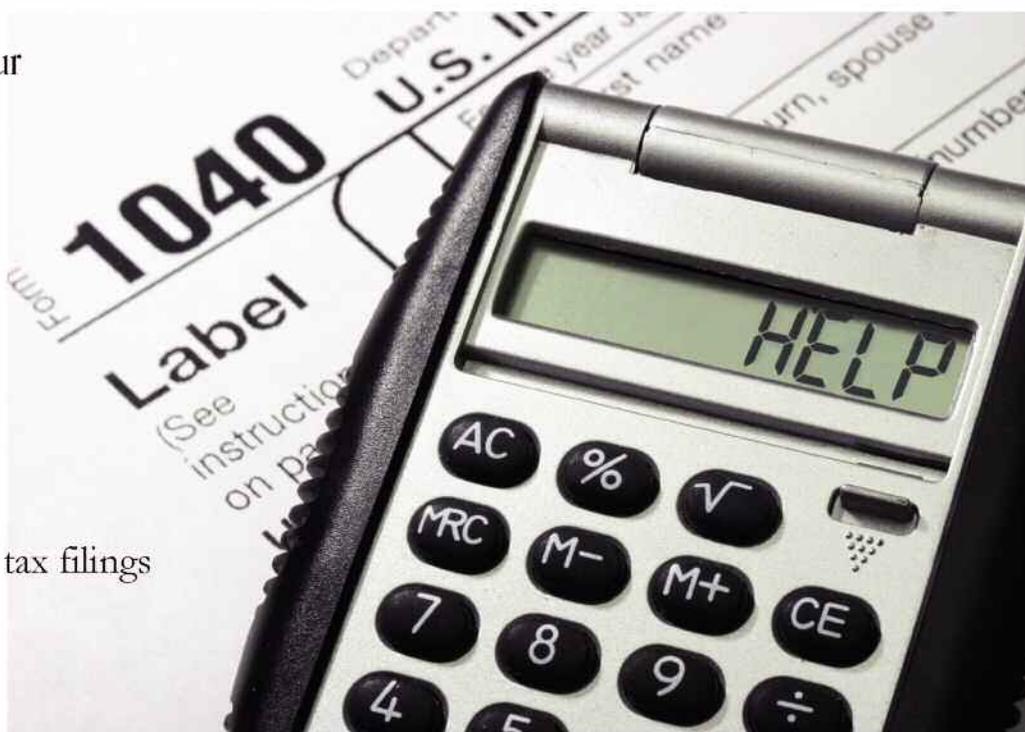
Tax planning is a critical component in effectively managing your business and maximizing your cash flow. Protecting your taxes and planning how to handle them well in advance can substantially reduce the stress on your small business, and may even save you money.

This important free consultation can provide you with the essential guidelines for reviewing your federal, state and city tax situation and establishing a practical plan for anticipating and scheduling payments.

At this free consultation, we can discuss:

- * Federal, NYS and NYC filing requirements
- * Techniques to maximize your business deductions
- * How your business tax returns tie into your personal tax filings
- * Planning tips to help minimize your tax bill
- * The importance of keeping good records
- * Benefits of starting a retirement plan
- * Sales tax issues
- * Workers compensation issues
- * Unemployment tax issues
- * Health violations
- * Liquor license issues or applications

**Year-Round
Tax & Audit
Representation**



**No obligation
Free consultation**

Figeroux & Associates

To schedule a free consultation contact any of our offices below:

Tel: 718-322-3190

Tel: 718-834-0190

Tel: 718-363-7788

108-04 Liberty Avenue, Queens, NY 11419

26 Court Street, Suite 701, Brooklyn, NY 11242

1105 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225

Know Your Rights in NY Pharmacies

As an immigrant, you are entitled to certain rights under federal and state law when you go to a pharmacy to fill a prescription. All pharmacies in New York MUST do the following:

- Label medications in such a way that everyone can read and understand how to take their medicines and know about potential side effects.
- Talk with patients so that they can understand how to take their medicine and know the potential side effects of their medicines. This can be done by a face-to-face meeting with the pharmacist OR by telephone if the patient is receiving medicine through the mail.
- Do not discriminate against patients based on race, language or national origin. This means that pharmacies cannot refuse service or provide poorer service to patients who are not fluent in English.

What should New York pharmacies be doing so that they can meet their legal obligations and better serve patients who do not speak English?

All pharmacies SHOULD be doing the following:

- Translating medicine labels so that patients can read instructions in their



own language. Most pharmacies have computer programs that can translate medication labels.

- Counseling patients in a language they can understand and in a culturally sensitive manner. Pharmacies can hire bilingual pharmacists and pharmacy aides, use in-person interpreters or contract with a telephone interpreting serv-

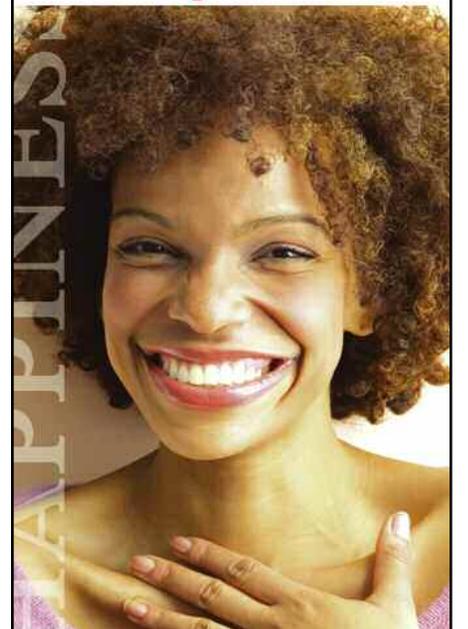
ice in order to properly serve patients who do not speak English.

- Posting multi-lingual signs on the wall stating that the pharmacy can provide medicine labels in many languages.
- Asking each patient what his or her primary language is and making a note of that in the patient's record. ●

*Beauty
Health
& Wellness*

Mondays
11:00 am - 12:00 noon

www.DiasporaRadio.com



SAVE THE DATE Wednesday, Sept 14, 2011

Breakfast Empowerment Seminar Series

Hosea 4:6 - "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge"

SAME SEX MARRIAGE — SAME SEX ADOPTIONS *A Panel Discussion*

OTHER TOPICS COVERED:

- When the Bank Says No
- Is Your Congregation Ready for Comprehensive Immigration Reform?
- Health Matters - Our People Are Dying
- Clergy Administration & Tax Issues
- Business Opportunities for Clergy Leaders & Their Congregation

The New American Chamber of Commerce
*cordially invites you to our Clergy Breakfast Seminar
on Wednesday, Sept 14, 2011*

8:30am-9:00am: Registration & Breakfast
9:00am-11:00am Program
11:00am -12noon: Networking

**Seating is limited. Must register in
advance. Please call 718-722-9217
or email info@mynacc.org**



Location:
NACC Conference Room,
26 Court Street, Suite 701
Brooklyn, NY 11242

**In diversity, we have
strength!**

BECOME AN INTERNET & COMMUNITY RADIO HOST CELEBRITY!



- ◆ HAVE YOUR OWN RADIO SHOW! ◆ BONUS AIR TIME!
- ◆ HAVE FUN & MAKE MONEY! ◆ ATTEND RADIO TRAINING SESSIONS!
- ◆ CHOOSE FROM A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECT MATTERS!

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES OR FOR MORE INFO:
CALL 718-771-0988

Tax Tips for the Self-Employed

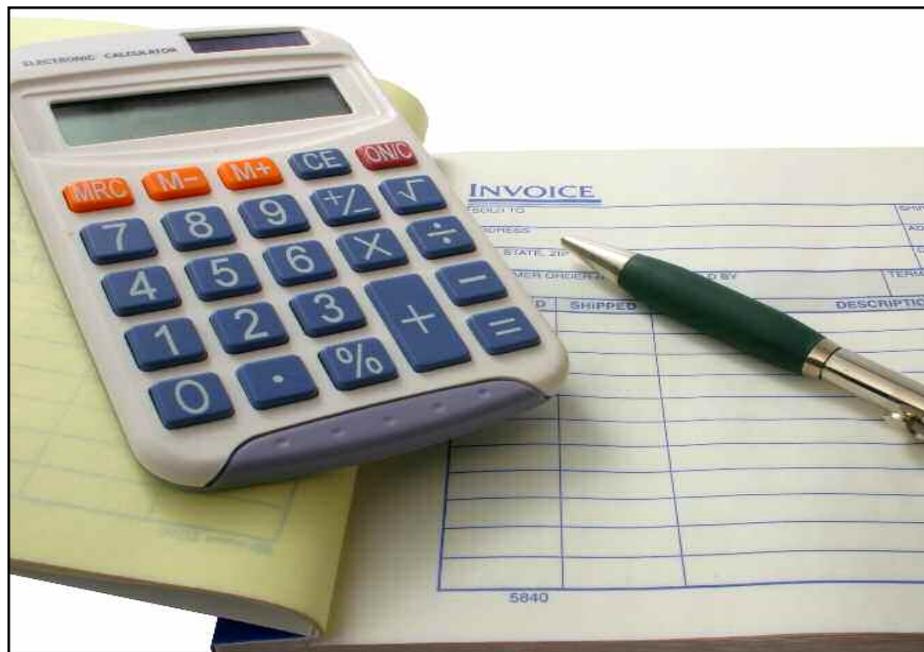
BY KANETTA BAPTISTE

Being self-employed is a dream for many people. Of course, the downside of being the boss are the responsibilities that come with the job. Unfortunately, calculating and paying taxes are part of those responsibilities.

According to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), you are considered self-employed "if you are in business for yourself, or carry on a trade or business as a sole proprietor or an independent contractor." The IRS requires self-employed individuals to pay a Self-Employment Tax, which assesses Social Security and Medicare taxes similar to those paid by employees and their firms. The IRS also requires self-employed people to pay quarterly estimated taxes as a substitute for the withholding taxes that are applied against an employed person's salaries.

With that in mind, the following are some tax tips for the self-employed:

Consult a CPA. Even if you are intent on doing everything yourself, it is better to seek outside help than make a mistake when preparing your taxes. An error on your tax returns can result in escalating fines and penalties from the IRS. Tax law is complicated, particularly when it comes to self-employment. To be certain you are in compliance with all relevant requirements, talk to a CPA and review your



situation.

Keep good records. Good record-keeping is more than simply a good business practice; it is a necessity when it comes to dealing with the IRS, which may demand to see every last detail of your income and expenses, particularly when you claim deductions on your tax return.

Deduct all business expenses. Every drop of toner you buy for your printers, reams of paper, shipping expenses, business meals, postage, software, pens and pads, and anything else used or contribut-

ing toward your business is an expense that can be deducted. Be sure to save every receipt to back up your claimed deduction.

Increase expenses to lower taxable income. As the end of the year approaches, you can increase your deductions against that year's income by making business purchases before Jan. 1. Need a better desk or cushy new office chair? Buying it before the end of the calendar year means whatever you spend can be deducted against that year's income taxes.

Contribute to your retirement. The

options for self-employed people to save for retirement have never been better. All payments made to a retirement plan—solo 401(k), KEOGH, or SEP plan, are deductible against the current year's income (except, it should be noted, payments to Roth IRAs). Also remember that retirement plans have different contribution limits.

Strongly consider the home office deduction. Many small business owners have at least one room devoted to some aspect of their business, whether it is keeping shipping materials in the garage, or a bedroom that has been converted into an office or filing storage space. With so many small businesses operating partially or completely out of people's homes, the IRS allows small business owners to deduct a portion of rent, mortgage payments, utilities and maintenance for qualifying home offices. ●

Kanetta Baptiste is the V.P. of Small Business Solutions of the New American Chamber of Commerce. She can be contacted at 718-722-9217 for a FREE Small Business consultation.

Visit
www.mynacc.org
for information about
business seminars

Small Business Solutions: FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES

You have
questions...
We have
answers...



Have access to your very own:

- **Legal Department:**
New Business Setups, Retirement/Education Funding and more!
- **Tax Preparation & Audits Department:**
Tax Preparation for Businesses & Individuals, Financial Statement Preparation, Tax Planning, Answering Correspondences with all Tax Authorities, Assistance with Tax Audits, Budget & Cash Flow Projections, Financial Planning and more!
- **Accounting & Bookkeeping Department:**
QuickBooks Pro Advisor
- **Franchising Department:**
Consultations, Review of Agreements and more!
- **Collections Department:**
Letters, Lawsuits and more!

Call our office for a FREE
Small Business Solutions consultation
718-834-0190

IMAGE IS EVERYTHING.
Let us create a professional one for you!



Let us design your
next project!



- ◆ Business Cards ◆ Graphic Design
- ◆ Logos ◆ Flyers ◆ Web Design
- ◆ Newsletters ◆ Brochures ◆ Invitations
- ◆ Postcards ◆ Posters ◆ Menus
- ◆ Newspapers ◆ Banners ◆ T-shirts
- ◆ Promotional Items and much more...

CALL US: 646-434-7349
www.gbsnyc.com | Email: orders@gbsnyc.com

House Committee Takes Up Bills that Would Indefinitely Detain Immigrants and Eliminate Diversity Visas

BY TRAVIS PACKER

In the absence of a federal immigration overhaul, state lawmakers have attempted—many in vain—to address immigration at the state level. Equally misguided, however, are recent efforts by immigration restrictionist to move anti-immigrant legislation on the federal level.

The House Judiciary Committee marked up and passed through committee a bill which promises a safer America yet will likely deliver a more costly and dangerous one.

The Judiciary Committee approved the “Keep Our Communities Safe Act of 2011” (H.R. 1932), which proposes indefinite—that is, potentially life-long—detention of immigrants who pose no threat to public safety. These persons include lawful permanent residents who have already served their sentence and have been productive members of society for many years, refugees, and persons seeking asylum in the U.S. Introduced by Judiciary Chairman Lamar Smith (R-TX), this bill would likely force the government to spend resources on immi-



grants who are not a danger to the public and take resources away from detaining those who are.

Furthermore, H.R. 1932 would also cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars to enforce and is completely out of line with the stated priorities of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

to focus their limited resources on the detention of serious criminals.

The “Security and Fairness Enhancement for America Act of 2011” (SAFE Act) was introduced by Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA). The SAFE Act (H.R. 704) would eliminate the diversity visa—a lottery that offers 50,000 visas per year to

immigrants from countries that send few people to the U.S.

Introduced by members of Congress who are using fear to push an anti-immigrant agenda, these bills are part of a costly and restrictive set of immigration policies masquerading as solutions. Once upon a time, Judiciary Chairman Lamar Smith believed in refraining from the unfair detention and deportation of immigrants who had jobs, families, and U.S. citizen family members.

These bills, however, as well as Smith’s newly introduced “HALT” Act, are a clear departure from that philosophy and a departure from productive and meaningful immigration reform. ●

Join the IJLEF membership program.
See page 15 for more details

LANDLORD & TENANT CASES

Dedicated, Aggressive & Professional Representation

WE KNOW YOUR RIGHTS & WILL PROTECT THEM!

PROMPT SERVICE • REASONABLE FEES

STOP EVICTIONS NOW!

- Evictions
- Orders To Show Cause
- Non-Payments
- Holdovers
- Appeals
- Tenants' Rights
- Co-ops
- Leases
- Obtain Services
- Rent Abatements
- All D.H.C.R. Proceedings
- Overcharges
- Primary Residence
- Owner Occupancy
- Buyouts
- Relocations
- Article 78's
- Jury Trials

LAW OFFICE OF FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES

26 Court Street, Suite 701, Brooklyn, NY 11242 718-834-0190	108-04 Liberty Ave. Richmond Hill, NY 11419 718-322-3190	1105 Nostrand Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11225 718-363-7788
--	---	---



P: 718.323.8900
F: 718.323.6770
info@uhccsc.org

United Hindu Cultural Council



Senior Center

Invites you to attend
For Men and Women of All Backgrounds 60 Years and Older

PROGRAM: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – MONDAY TO FRIDAY

118-09 SUTTER AVENUE, OFF LEFFERTS BLVD.
SOUTH OZONE PARK, NY 11420

VOLUNTEER...DONATE NOW... BE A SUPPORTER

FUNDED BY THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING

Testimonials from Journal Members

Immigration

I have been a member of the Immigrant's Journal Legal & Educational Fund since 2006. I was lost until I found this organization, which provided me with an identification card and my taxes. There were so many options open to me that I was not aware of before consulting with attorney Brian Figeroux as a member of the Journal. The free services and monthly seminars helped me to stay strong and informed.

Mary

Abused Spouse

I finally found someone who I fell in love with and who was willing to help me. In 2008 we were married, and my husband proceeded to file a petition for an alien relative under the attorney's advisement. Everything seemed fine for a little while, and then my husband began to behave strangely. He began to hold the fact that I was undocumented over my head and he was emotionally causing me grief. I felt abused. Our situation got better and then it got worse; at our initial interview there were many discrepancies, which caused us to fail the first interview. We were granted a Stokes interview. I was so worried after the first one had failed that I begged my husband to straighten up, but he refused. We failed the Stokes interview, and I was put into deportation proceed-

ings. I was so distraught. I ran to the office of Figeroux and Associates; with my unlimited free consultations I was able to speak to the attorney for free. He told me not to worry; my husband was abusing me by refusing to cooperate with me and taunting me about my undocumented status. Mr. Figeroux and the Immigrant's Journal helped me through the most difficult time in my life. I filed the self-petition for abused spouses, (VAWA), and I got my green card!

I just want to say thank you, and share my story.

Jennifer

Divorce

I am undocumented and was looking for an attorney who I could trust, and I would handle my case admirably. I became a Journal member in 2009 and decided to get a divorce the following year. I used my free consultations as a member of the Journal to meet with the attorney, Brian Figeroux. I felt good about him handling my case after speaking with him. My husband was a bit troublesome, so in November of 2010 Mr. Figeroux advised me to file a contested divorce being that my husband and I had a few assets, and we could not come to an agreement on who would get what. As a member of the Journal I was able to file taxes which came in handy while going

through a contested divorce. About nine months later after a lot of back and forth between my husband and I, I was divorced, happy and a lot wealthier than when I was married!

Thank you so much,
Claudette

Personal Injury

I am a permanent resident, and I have been a member of the Immigrant's Journal Legal and Educational Fund since 2005. I support the organization in any way I can. It has been very helpful for me and my family. Early this year my son and I were in an auto accident. Thank God our lives were spared, but the right side of the car was totaled. I suffered minor back pain, and my son seemed to be fine, maybe because he was secured in his car seat. Using my free legal consultations awarded to me by the Journal, I made an appointment and spoke to the attorney. He took my case and at the end of it all I was very thankful. I received full property damage from the other driver's insurance company. I also received money for the wages lost during the time I had to take off from work, and full medical coverage for soft tissue damage and \$7,500 for pain and suffering.

Thank you,
Rondel

A Special Invitation

FREE IMMIGRATION SEMINARS/PRESENTATIONS

to all church and faith-based organizations to empower their congregation and membership from the IJLEF, Inc.,

a 501(c)(3) approved not-for-profit organization offering

PLUS FREE CONSULTATION CARDS ON THE DAY OF THE PRESENTATION (\$100 value)

Call 718-243-9431 to schedule a presentation at your church or faith-based organization

*"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."
—Hosea 4:6*

FREE CITIZENSHIP DRIVE

presented by The Immigrant's Journal Legal & Educational Fund, Inc.



The Law Firm of Figeroux & Associates
(www.falaw.us) supports the
Journal's "Deportation Inoculation Drive"



TO MEET BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR CITIZENSHIP, YOU MUST:

- Have your Green Card for 5 years or be married to a U.S. citizen, for 3 years
- Be in the U.S. for over 30 months
- Read, write and speak English
- Be of good moral character

YOU MUST BRING:

- Your passport
- Green Card
- Two passport pictures
- A money order or check for \$680

SATURDAYS 10AM-3PM

BROOKLYN:

26 Court Street, Suite 701,
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Tel: 718-243-9431

By train: **2, 3, 4** or **5**, to MetroTech / Court Street.

By bus: Take the downtown-bound B25, B26, B37, B41, B45 or B52 to Court Street.

QUEENS:

108-04 Liberty Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419
Tel: 718-322-3190

By train: Lefferts **A** to 111 St.
By bus: Q112 to 108 St.

TUES & THURS 5PM-7PM

1105 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225
Tel: 718-363-7788

By train: **2** or **5** to Sterling St.
By bus: B44 to Maple St.

FREE LEGAL CONSULTATIONS FREE MEMBERSHIP ID

Become a Journal Member.

Prepare for Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

Annual Membership Benefits

- Free legal consultations for one year on immigration issues such as spousal abuse, spousal & relative petition, deportation, green card replacement, citizenship with arrest OR other legal issues such as divorce, real estate, bankruptcy, personal injury, medical malpractice, wills and estate planning, etc.
- Free monthly seminar, the last Thursday of every month
- Free assistance with your citizenship application
- Assistance to get your Tax ID
- Assistance to open a bank account

Annual membership fee is \$150.00

PERSONAL INJURY?

OUR ATTORNEYS COME TO YOU

PERSONAL INJURY

- Auto Accidents
- Slip And Fall
- Sidewalk Accidents
- Stairway Accidents
- Construction/Scaffold Accidents
- Wrongful Death
- Medical Malpractice
- No-Fault Claims
- Dog Bites
- Insurance Claims

HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS
FREE RIDE TO OUR OFFICES

WE FIGHT TO GET YOU THE
MAXIMUM
POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT
QUICKLY

SE HABLA ESPANOL
NO FEE UNLESS WE WIN
Disbursement at conclusion

**“WE TAKE THE LEGAL
BURDEN FROM YOU SO
YOU CAN CONCENTRATE
ON GETTING WELL”**

CRIMINAL DEFENSE

- Driving While Intoxicated - DWI
- Violation Of Orders Of Protection
- Shoplifting
- Drug Possession Or Sale
- Handled by **Former Assistant District Attorneys**

COURT STREET
718-834-0190

FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES
• 26 Court Street, Brooklyn • www.Falaw.us

CALL ANY
TIME
DAY / NIGHT



FREE CONSULTATION!

POLICE BRUTALITY

Standing up for Blacks, Latinos and Non-Citizens

Police are tasked with a very dangerous job. However, they must follow regulations and should not discriminate when apprehending suspects and interacting with civilians.

The attorneys at Figeroux & Associates have experience with cases of police brutality. We respect the hard work most law enforcement officers do, but we are prepared to hold individuals and the city accountable for acts of police misconduct. Call our office today at 718-834-0190 for a free consultation regarding any of the following:

- False Arrest
- Shooting
- Use of Tasers or Stun Guns
- Death while in Police Custody
- Excessive Force/Physical Brutality
- Harassment
- Unjustified Strip Search/Sexual Assault
- Attack by Police Dogs
- Racial Profiling/Non Citizen Profiling/and other Racially Motivated Conduct
- Unlawful Detention
- Malicious Prosecution

Our attorneys and staff will investigate the incident that caused your injuries and seek compensation from the liable parties.