

The Immigrant's Journal

Our leaders
who stood for
Unity & Justice



FREE

Protecting God's Children From Distant Lands

www.ijlef.org

Vol.94

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

In the Days of Deportation, All Immigrants Are Targets

BY MELISSA CRUZ

Since the Trump administration announced its crackdown on undocumented immigrants, stories of individuals abruptly deported have pervaded the news. The accounts of long-time residents who have built families, homes, and businesses only to be deported after years in the United States may seem like outliers, but in fact are now becoming the new normal.

Such accounts are found in Slate's *Days of Deportation*, which documents 60 days' worth of immigration arrests in the Trump era. *Slate's* portfolio of immigra-

continued on page 5



Top Terrible Things about
Trump's Budget... see page 7



Who Will and Won't Be Impacted
by the Travel Ban after the
Supreme Court Decision
... see page 3

Acting Brooklyn DA's Policy Regarding Handling of Cases against Non-citizen Defendants

Acting Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez implemented a new policy aimed at minimizing collateral immigration consequences of criminal convictions, particularly for misdemeanor and other low-level offenses. The Brooklyn District Attorney's Office has hired two immigration attorneys to train all staff on immigration issues and to advise prosecutors when making plea offers and sentencing recommendations on cases of non-citizen defendants in an effort to avoid disproportionate collateral consequences, such as deportation, while maintaining public safety.

Gonzalez said, "I am committed to



Eric Gonzalez
Acting Brooklyn DA

continued on page 4

**Scared? Nervous
about President
Trump's
Immigration
Plans?**

**CALL NOW FOR
A FREE**

**CONSULTATION:
Call 718-243-9431.**



Brian Figeroux, Esq.



How to Get a Tax ID
... see page 2



DCA Files Charges for Deceptive
ID4ICE Card ... see page 2

Trump Calls on Congress to Pass Bills Aimed at Undocumented Immigrants

President Trump hosted the families of victims of crimes committed by undocumented immigrants at the White House recently as part of an effort to put pressure on Republicans in the House to pass legislation targeting so-called sanctuary cities.

"You lost the people that you love because our government refused to enforce our nation's immigration laws and that's including the existing immigration laws," Trump told the family members who had joined him in the Cabinet room. "For years the pundits,

journalists, politicians in Washington refused to hear your voices, but on Election Day 2016, your voices were heard all across the entire world. No one died in vain, I can tell you that."

The two pieces of legislation are com-

continued on page 6



What to Do If You're Stopped by
ICE Agents... see page 3

The American Dream: Small Business Boot Camp ...see page 6

HELP US!
Donate to
the IJLEF
Visit
www.ijlef.org



A Special Invitation

to all faith-based
 leaders to empower their
 congregation and membership

from the IJLEF, Inc.

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

**FREE IMMIGRATION
 SEMINARS/
 PRESENTATIONS &
 CONSULTATION CARDS
 (\$100 VALUE) ON
 THE DAY OF THE
 PRESENTATION**

Call 718-243-9431
 to schedule a
 presentation



**Ask the
 lawyer on
 Facebook
 Figeroux &
 Associates**

Department of Consumer Affairs Files Charges against Organization and its President for Deceptive "ID4ICE" Card

NEW YORK, NY—Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Commissioner Lorelei Salas recently announced charges against A New Beginning for Immigrants Rights, Inc. (NBIR) and its president, Carlos Davila, for engaging in deceptive and illegal practices to profit from immigrant consumers. NBIR, a former nonprofit corporation, and Mr. Davila have been preying on the desperation and fear of immigrants by falsely advertising "ID4ICE" cards as a "National Identification Card" that provides immigrants with protection against deportation and immunity from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

In reality, these identification cards, which range from \$50-\$200, offer no such protections and serve only as a scam to collect hundreds of dollars from vulnerable New Yorkers desperate to find a legal way to stay in the United States. DCA's charges, which will be heard at the City's Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH), allege numerous violations and seeks more than \$1.3 million in fines.

"These deceptive tactics not only place immigrant New Yorkers at extraordinary risk, but also violate the City's Consumer Protection Law," said DCA Commissioner Lorelei Salas. "DCA is committed to preventing predatory immigration assistance providers from



taking advantage of vulnerable New Yorkers, and we will continue to investigate anyone who engages in these practices. Immigrants should utilize the City's free and secure services to ensure they are keeping themselves and their families safe."

"It is unconscionable to sell a false bill of goods to immigrant communities during a time of immense uncertainty and fear," said Nisha Agarwal, Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs. "These national IDs are fake, and the City will do everything in its power to hold fraudsters accountable. Any New Yorker without government-issued identification should call 311 to make an appointment to get a free IDNYC card — official ID for entering City buildings, your child's school, and to interact with the NYPD."●

How to Get a Tax ID

An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) is a tax processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The IRS issues ITINs to individuals who are required to have a U.S. taxpayer identification number but who do not have, and are not eligible to obtain, a Social Security Number (SSN) from the Social Security Administration (SSA).

The IRS issues ITINs regardless of immigration status, because both resident and nonresident aliens may have a U.S. filing or reporting requirement under the Internal Revenue Code. They do not serve any purpose other than federal tax reporting. An ITIN does not authorize work in the U.S. or provide eligibility for Social Security benefits or the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Do I need an ITIN?

You must obtain an ITIN if:

1. You do not have an SSN and are not eligible to obtain one.
2. You identify with one of the following categories:

- Nonresident alien who is required to file a U.S. tax return.
- U.S. resident alien who is (based on days present in the United States) filing a U.S. tax return.
- Dependent or spouse of a U.S.

citizen/resident alien.

- Dependent or spouse of a nonresident alien visa holder.

When should I apply?

You can apply for an ITIN any time during the year when you have a filing or reporting requirement. At a minimum, you should complete Form W-7 when you are ready to file your federal income tax return by the return's prescribed due date. If the tax return you attach to Form W-7 is filed after the return's due date, you may owe interest and/or penalties.

Checklist to Obtain ITIN

- 1) Office Fee: \$175 per year (tax preparation)
- 2) Free preparation of IRS Form W-7 (Application for ITIN Number)
- 3) Need a notarized copy of Biographic Data Page of valid and unexpired passport (MUST be notarized by the appropriate Consulate General)
- 4) If last entry into the U.S. was on a validly issued Visa, provide said Visa and last Date of Entry.

Appointment

Call The Immigrant's Journal Legal & Educational Fund, Inc at 718-243-9431 to schedule an appointment to apply for your ITIN today.●

USCIS Introduces Redesigned Form for Green Card Applicants

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services today published a revised Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (Form I-485). The new Form I-485 and instructions have been substantially updated to reduce complexity after collecting comments from the public and stakeholders.

The revised version gives applicants better information to accurately complete Form I-485, including clear navigation to the parts of the form and instructions that are relevant to the applicants' specific situations. These updates should increase the efficiency of the adjudication process by reducing errors and requests for evidence.

Applicants living in the United States file Form I-485 to adjust their immigration status and become lawful permanent residents, which allows one to live and work permanently in the United States. Adjusting status is a critical step for those seeking U.S. citizenship.

USCIS also revised the Form I-485 Supplement A and Form I-485 Supplement J (as well as each supplement's instructions), to provide applicants with more detailed information about how to properly complete, file, and submit evidence if those supplements are applicable to their situation.

Beginning June 26, there will be a 60-day grace period during which USCIS will accept both the 01/17/17 and 06/26/17 editions of Form I-485 and Supplement A and J. Beginning Aug. 25, USCIS will only accept the revised Form and Supplement A and J of Form I-485 and will no longer accept earlier versions of either form.

What's New? USCIS improved Form I-485 to include:

- Better flow and organization of questions to make it user-friendly for both the applicants and USCIS. In addition, readability has significantly improved due to new spacing, columns, flow, white space, and formatting.
- The questions about biographic information (Form G-325A) so applicants will no longer need to file a separate form;
- A list of 27 immigrant categories, which allows applicants to identify the specific immigrant category under which they are applying; and
- A comprehensive, updated list of admissibility-related questions. The added questions to ensure USCIS officers have the necessary information to better assess the applicant's admissibility and eligibility.●

Who Will and Won't Be Impacted by the Travel Ban After the Supreme Court's Decision

BY AARON REICHLIN-MELNICK

The Supreme Court has decided to hear the Travel Ban case when its fall session begins in October 2017. In the meantime, the Court will allow the administration to implement parts of President Trump's second executive order (EO-2), which bans the entry of nationals of Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen from the United States for at least 90 days and suspends the admission of all refugees for 120 days.

In a narrow decision, the Court ruled that the government can only enforce the travel ban against foreign nationals who do not have "a credible claim of a bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the United States."

What this means is that individuals from the six countries will be permitted to enter the United States if they have a "close familial relationship" with someone already here or if they have a "formal, documented" relationship with an American entity formed "in the ordinary course" of business. However, the Court said that such relationships cannot be established for the purpose of avoiding



the travel ban. The government will likely begin applying the travel ban in the limited fashion permitted by the Supreme Court on June 29, 2017.

Who is likely to be allowed to enter the United States?

- Individuals who have valid immigrant or non-immigrant visas issued on or before June 26, 2017.

These individuals are not included in the travel ban.

- Individuals with visas coming to live or visit with family members.

The Court's order is clear that individuals who "wish to enter the United States to live with or visit a family member"

have close familial relationships. The Court used both a spouse and a mother-in-law as examples of qualifying relationships, but it is unclear whether more distant relatives would qualify.

- Students who have been admitted to a U.S. university, workers who have accepted offers of employment with U.S. companies, and lecturers invited to address an American audience.

The Court provided these three examples of individuals who have credible claims of a bona fide relationship to an American entity.

- Other types of business travelers.

It is unclear whether individuals with employment-based visas that do not require a petitioning employer will be able to demonstrate the requisite relationship with a U.S. entity.

- Refugees.

Most refugees processed overseas have family or other connections to the United States including with refugee resettlement agencies. The Court ruled that such individuals may not be excluded even if the 50,000 cap on refugees has been reached or exceeded.

continued on page 5

Stopped by ICE Agents: Know Your Rights

If you are stopped by police officers, immigration agents or other public authorities, you have rights. It does not matter if you entered the country by crossing the border in Mexico, if you are an overstay, green card holder or citizen. As long as you are within the borders of the United States, you have rights. Know them. Use them.

The first step is to call your immigration law and deportation defense attorneys at Figeroux & Associates. The Law Firm team has represented clients across the United States and has a 24/7 emergency line, 855-768-8845. It does not matter what day or time it is — pulled over or stopped by Immigration Authorities, call Figeroux & Associates today. Here's what to do if you're stopped by ICE Agents:

1) No ICE officer should stop anybody based on appearance alone; regardless of your ethnicity, the color of your skin, the way you dress or talk or the language you're speaking. It's the law.

2) If an immigration officer asks for proof that you are a legal resident of the United States and wants to see some identification, you have the right to refuse to give them your ID. You can also refuse to answer any of their questions. Unless they



have a warrant, you have no obligation to interact with them at all. You can ask, "Am I arrested?" If the answer is no, you do not need to give them any information regarding your legal status in the U.S. Showing them your ID is totally optional.

3) If you are being interrogated do not give false information, and do not give them false documentation. You can be charged with identity theft if you show them forged documents, or someone else's documents, even if you have legal status. Remember that everything you say or do can be used against you.

4) If immigration officials (ICE) begin to knock on your door, you have the right not to open the door. They only have the right to enter to your home if they have a warrant from a judge.

5) If you are arrested in an immigration detention center and you don't want to

return to your home country, you have the right to request a meeting with an immigration officer.

6) Do not sign anything you don't understand. You might be signing a voluntary deportation order.

7) Some cases can be resolved with the help of an immigration attorney. The lawyer can request for a court date to meet with an immigration judge and help solve your case. You don't have the right to an attorney provided by the state, but you do have the right to see your own attorney. Call the Law Firm of Figeroux & Associates, at 855-768-8845.

8) Who should you call: Your family member to contact an immigration lawyer. When you enter an immigration center, they will assign you an A#, which is your alien number. Make sure you give your A# to the people you talk to on the outside helping with your case. If you have no one else to call you should call the Law Firm of Figeroux & Associates at 855-768-8845. ●

**THIS IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE.
CONSULT AN ATTORNEY.
CALL 855-768-8845**

TEAM

Publisher
I.Q. INC.

Managing Editor & Editor-in-Chief
Pearl Phillip

Assistant Editor
Marilyn Silverman

Graphic & Website Designer
Pram Samsoundar

Contributors
Melissa Cruz
Aaron Reichlin-Melnick
Gregory Chen

Email
immjournal@aol.com

Visit
www.ijlef.org
www.figeroux.com

Executive Director
Diandra Archibald

Public Relations
Ruth McSween
Gloria Conttreras

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

Handling of Cases against Non-citizen Defendants/

continued from page 1

equal and fair justice for all Brooklyn residents — citizens, lawful residents and undocumented immigrants alike. Now more than ever, we must ensure that a conviction, especially for a minor offense, does not lead to unintended and severe consequences like deportation, which can be unfair, tear families apart and destabilize our communities and businesses. In Brooklyn, we have been proactive in protecting immigrants from fraud and hate crimes and now, with the unprecedented hiring of immigration attorneys and the implementation of this policy, we continue to lead on this important issue.”

“I want to emphasize that our Office is not seeking to frustrate the federal government’s function of protecting our country by removing non-citizens whose illegal acts have caused real harm and endangered others. Rather, our goal is to enhance public safety and fairness in the criminal justice system and this policy complements, but does not compromise, this goal. We will not stop prosecuting crimes, but we are determined to see that case outcomes are proportionate to the offense as well as fair and just for everyone.”

The Acting District Attorney (ADA) said that non-citizen defendants may face harsh immigration penalties as a



result of criminal convictions, even for minor offenses. Lawful residents (green card holders or students, workers, visitors, refugees and asylees with valid visas) can face deportation, detention during removal proceedings, bars to re-admittance into the country and negative effects on applications for permanent residency or citizenship. A conviction for undocumented immigrants can make them a priority for deportation enforcement or eliminate the possibility of the cancellation of removal proceedings that might be otherwise available based on length of stay, marriage, extreme hardship and other factors.

According to federal law, four factors primarily affect how a conviction impacts a defendant’s immigration consequences:

1. Nature of the crime. Certain offenses, like those involving a controlled substance, domestic violence, firearms, crimes against a child and crimes of moral turpitude, are prioritized and can be determinative on how a state offense

is treated for immigration purposes. For instance: some state misdemeanors, like possession of marijuana and petit larceny, are considered felonies for immigration purposes, while trespass and unauthorized use of a vehicle are not.

2. Length of sentence. Certain misdemeanor dispositions are tantamount to aggravated felonies for immigration purposes.

3. The length of the defendant’s stay in the United States.

4. Whether the defendant has prior convictions and the nature of such convictions.

Given the complexity of the law, a blanket set of guidelines is not applicable when attempting to prevent unintended collateral consequences, and any determination must be made on a case-by-case basis.

Accordingly, the new policy instructs the following:

- When reviewing a case, whether at the initial stages or further along its pendency, all staff must be alert to a defendant’s possible non-citizen status. If such possibility exists, the Assistant District Attorney must flag that fact to defense counsel and note that immigration consequences may be an issue.

- In determining an appropriate plea offer or a sentencing recommendation after trial, every case must be evaluated on its merits so that justice is served. Among the several factors to be considered are the defendant’s present and future immigration status and any humanitarian fac-

tors, such as hardships if the defendant were deported. Whenever possible, if an appropriate disposition or sentence recommendation can be offered that neither jeopardizes public safety nor leads to removal or to any other disproportionate collateral consequence — the ADA should offer that disposition or make that recommendation.

To reach an immigration-neutral disposition, ADAs may consider alternative offenses the defendant can plead to as well as reasonable modifications to the sentence recommendation. When possible, the alternative should be similar in level of offense and length of sentence to that offered to a citizen defendant, while the charge may be different. For example, a plea to a misdemeanor trespass may be offered when appropriate instead of a misdemeanor drug offense. In certain instances, it may be appropriate to offer a non-citizen defendant a plea for a lesser offense in light of the disproportionate immigration consequences a higher level offense may result in.

- Two attorneys with specific expertise in immigration laws as well as broad knowledge of other collateral consequences (bars to housing, education opportunities, etc.) are joining the District Attorney’s staff. They will act as a resource to the entire Office, consulting on individual cases and providing targeted training to all ADAs.●

IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW?

Are you under investigation or accused of a felony or misdemeanor?

Get legal advice from the law firm you can trust: Figeroux & Associates. We handle:

- DUI (Driving Under the Influence)
- Court Order Violations
- Possession of Drugs (with or without Intent to Distribute)
- Crimes with Impact for Deportation with Non-Citizens
- Fraud
- Crimes of Economics

PUT YOUR FUTURE IN OUR HANDS. WE CAN HELP.

CALL NOW. 718-834-0190.

Remember: The lawyer you hire, does make a difference!

How will I get out of this **ABUSIVE** relationship?"

GREEN CARD SLAVERY?

Don't put up with ABUSE anymore! Whether married or not, whether your spouse is a U.S. citizen or Green Card Holder, we can get a Green Card for you and your children PLUS a divorce.

Call 718-222-3155 now for a FREE consultation!

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Days of Deportation/

continued from page 1

tion arrests paints a broad picture of what life is now like for undocumented immigrants—some are picked up taking their children to school, while others are deported to countries they haven't seen since childhood. They have become powerful human interest stories which include tales of community members ripped from their families and homes.

Public outrage has grown as many believed that immigration officials primarily target people who cross the border illegally or are dangerous threats to public safety—not the “good ones” who have spent years contributing to their communities, like many of the people highlighted in *Days of Deportation*.

But in their effort to cast a wider net, the current administration has made it a priority to deport even those people who have lived in the country for decades.

Under the Obama administration, immigration enforcement had refocused its enforcement priorities away from law-abiding long-time residents and towards those who had crossed the border without authorization or who posed a serious threat to public safety. However, under the new administration the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has done



away with the previous priorities and has expanded their scope to include anyone who is unauthorized in the United States, regardless of where they are located, how long they have been in the country, or whether or not they are a danger to their community.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions made this clear in April, when he said that “Everybody in the country illegally is subject to being deported, so people come here and they stay here a few years and somehow they think they are not subject to being deported—well, they are.”

Homeland Security Secretary John F. Kelly echoed these sentiments, saying “ICE will no longer exempt classes or categories of removable [immigrants] from potential enforcement.”

And the numbers already indicate the sea change. Arrests of non-criminal immigrants under the current administration have doubled and studies have

found that roughly half of these arrests were of people with no criminal convictions or were guilty of a traffic violation. This is happening despite the fact that smart law enforcement strategies and limited enforcement resources often dictate that these individuals should not be a priority for deportation.

As a result of this shift, immigration-related arrests have increased by nearly 40 percent since this time last year. And because arrests along the border have plummeted, this means that the majority of the people being picked up and removed are those living in the interior of the country.

The very people, in other words, who have lived in the United States for years, and have likely become deeply integrated in their communities—these are the people the administration is considering a priority for deportation. And both their individual communities and America as a whole will continue to suffer for it.●

Impacted by the Travel Ban After Supreme Court Decision/

continued from page 3

Who may have trouble entering the United States?

•Individuals who form bona fide relationships with individuals or entities in the United States after June 26, 2017.

The Court's decision is not clear on whether it is prospective or retrospective only. Individuals who form such relationships to avoid the travel ban are barred from entering.

•Tourists.

Nationals of the designated countries who are not planning to visit family members in the United States and who are coming for other reasons (including sight-seeing) may be barred from entering.

The real test will come as the government implements the order, which will be under intense scrutiny by Muslim, immigrant and refugee rights organizations. Undeniably, the Supreme Court's decision has opened the door for more confusion and litigation in the months to come.●

**ALL YOUR IMMIGRATION NEEDS
INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM**

FIGEROUX & ASSOCIATES

Member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association Since 1997



FREE CONSULTATION

- ❖ Family-based Immigration Petitions/Green Cards
- ❖ Employment-based Immigration Petitions/Green Cards
- ❖ Labor Certification under PERM
- ❖ Fiancé Visa for Fiancé & Spouse (K-1, K-2, K-3, K-4)
- ❖ Non-immigrant Employment-based Visas (H-1B, H-3, TN, E-3)
- ❖ Extraordinary Ability Visa (O-1, O-2)
- ❖ Business Visas (L-1A, L-1B, E-1, E-2)
- ❖ Entertainment Visas for Performers and Athletes (P-1, P-2, P-3, P-4)
- ❖ Asylum, Battered Spouse Petitions, U Visa, and T Visa
- ❖ Representation in Removal Proceedings before Immigration Court
- ❖ Waivers including J-1 and Conrad 30 Waiver
- ❖ Citizenship Applications & much more

**ALL MAJOR
CREDIT CARDS
ACCEPTED**

“Questions about Immigration Reform?Call Us.”

26 Court Street, Suite 701, Brooklyn, NY 11242

Website: www.figeroux.com

Phone: 718-834-0190

Email: bfigeroux@msn.com

Bills Aimed at Undocumented Immigrants/

continued from page 1

ing up for a vote in the House, “Kate’s Law” and “No Sanctuary for Criminals Act,” align with the President’s tough-on-immigrants approach. Kate’s Law, which is named after a woman who was killed by an undocumented immigrant who’d been deported five times in San Francisco, would allow mandatory minimum sentences to be imposed on immigrants who are convicted of re-entering the country illegally. The Sanctuary bill reduce the amount of Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security grant funds available for jurisdictions that are found to have “sanctuary policies” that the administration says violate federal law.

The White House issued statements in support of both pieces of legislation on June 27. Trump called on Congress to get the bills to his desk quickly. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan told Fox and Friends a vote on the two bills would come this week.

“It’s time to support our police to protect our families and to save American lives and also to start getting smart,” Trump said.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions also released a statement in support of the bill, saying criminals and gangs take advan-



tage of sanctuary policies in order to wreak havoc on communities.

“Closing these loopholes in our laws must be a priority if we are to make America safe from these dangerous transnational organizations,” Sessions said in a statement. “These bills can restore sanity and common-sense to our system by ending abusive attempts to undermine federal law, and they can prevent future tragedies by empowering law enforcement.”

While the White House is putting its muscle behind these two pieces of legislation, pro-immigration advocacy groups, some law enforcement groups, and others have raised concerns. In a post on the right-leaning Cato Institute’s website, the think-tank’s immigration policy analyst David Bier described the “No Sanctuary” bill as anti-federalist and said parts of it pose a threat to state

sovereignty. The National Fraternal Order of Police sent a letter to House leaders saying that while they believe state and local law enforcement should cooperate with their federal counterparts, they are opposed to any legislation that withholds federal funding from law enforcement programs. “It is unjust to penalize law enforcement and the citizens they serve because Congress disagrees with their enforcement priorities with respect to our nation’s immigration laws,” the letter reads.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has also come out against the bills. In a statement, Lorella Praeli, the director of immigration policy and campaigns at the ACLU said the bills were “riddled with constitutional violations”. “The true intent of these bills is to empower Trump’s deportation force and anti-immigrant agenda,” Praeli said. “We

urge the House to reject these bills, to defend the Constitution, and protect the rights of all people, no matter their background.”

Families of victims, however, have praised the President’s efforts to seek justice for those who’d been attacked by illegal immigrants. A mother of a victim told the *New York Times* she was so overwhelmed by the President’s statements on immigrations she cried.

“It was almost an out-of-body experience after being so deeply hurt and nobody listening and nobody wanting to talk to you about this,” Sabine Durden told the *Times*. “It’s almost like I put on a little Superwoman cape because I knew I was fighting a worthwhile fight.”

Trump has put an emphasis on rooting out criminal immigrants from the U.S. since he’s been in office, ramping up immigration enforcement capabilities under two executive orders, though the enforcement has made all undocumented immigrants vulnerable to action. According to a White House Fact Sheet, there have been boosts in Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations, arrests of undocumented immigrants, and removals of gang members since Trump took office. ●

This article was originally published on TIME.com

Small Business BOOT CAMP

Seminars Series

- ✓ **Business Plan Basics**
Your Business, Your Business Plan
Wednesday, August 2, 2017 - Time: 6:00pm
- ✓ **Financing Your Business**
Traditional & Non-Traditional
Wednesday, August 9, 2017 - Time: 6:00pm
- ✓ **An Intro to Marketing & Social Media**
Wednesday, August 16, 2017 - Time: 6:00pm
- ✓ **Small Business Solutions**
Legal, Tax & Accounting Issues and QuickBooks Basic
Wednesday, August 23, 2017 - Time: 6:00pm
- ✓ **Minority Certification & the 8A Program**
Wednesday, August 30, 2017 - Time: 6:00pm

Visit www.chambercoalition.org to register

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

Seating is limited. Must register.
Website: www.chambercoalition.org
Phone: 718-722-9217

Presented by:

The U.S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) participation in this co-sponsored activity (Authorization #16-0202-68) does not constitute an express or implied endorsement of any co-sponsor’s, donor’s, grantee’s, contractor’s or participant’s opinions, products or services. All SBA programs and co-sponsored programs are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Why Join Our Chamber?

Because membership in the local chamber offers numerous benefits and keeps business owners on top of important, ever-changing issues and trends within their community and local marketplace.

TOP 10

reasons to join:

- Brings credibility to your business
- Increases your visibility in the community
- Creates networking opportunities
- Gain a voice in government
- Make business contacts
- Receive Chamber newsletters
- Acquire customer referrals
- Attend Chamber events and programs
- Benefit from promotion and publicity
- Free small business consultations

Become a Chamber member today.
Call 718-722-9217 or visit www.chambercoalition.org

Time to take your business to the next level!

Victoria Falk
CEO, Passionate Travel
VP, AAICC

Ready to join our Chamber?

Keep in mind, however, that you can’t just be a member of the Chamber to reap the benefits of chamber membership. Paying your annual dues just isn’t enough. You must also make an investment of time and effort in Chamber activities and become involved. Simply put, what you get out of Chamber membership is directly relative to what you put in.

The Top Terrible Things in Trump's Budget

BY GREGORY CHEN

There are a lot of things wrong with the President Trump's Fiscal Year 2018 budget request. Some of the immigration-related provisions have been mentioned in the press or by advocates, while others are flying relatively unknown under the radar. But they all have one thing in common: they are meant to help the Trump Administration deport as many people as possible. Here are the top terrible (immigration-related) things in the president's 2018 budget:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) got \$1.7 billion more to its budget, which already sits at about \$42 billion. Increases to the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) budgets are extremely high. The budget proposal irrationally increases ICE and CBP funding while cutting DHS programs that are vital to security and public safety, such as FEMA grants to state and local governments to prepare for disasters, secure ports and waterways, and protect mass transit, as well as TSA efforts to improve security at airport checkpoints, ports, and other transportation hubs.

What's the increase for ICE? A whopping 18% (bringing the total to \$7.57 billion). About \$900 million (yes, almost a billion dollars) is allocated for detention beds, bringing the average daily detained population to 51,379. This 66% increase over the previous quota of 34,000 detention beds is an unprecedented expansion in the nation's immigration detention system, at a time when border apprehensions are plummeting (down 75% since last October). There is no need for these additional beds. Clearly the president wants to use them to detain huge numbers of people who have no criminal backgrounds and have been in the U.S. for a

very long time. That kind of enforcement won't improve public safety, but it will hurt American families and business.

Cutting detention conditions standards at a time when deaths in detention are the highest in years. DHS disclosed in the Administration's budget that ICE will no longer expect the overwhelming majority of its detention facilities to comply with ICE detention standards. Instead, it will let county jails and private prison facilities use a rudimentary checklist. Placing ever greater numbers of undocumented immigrants, including families, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable individuals, in facilities that don't even meet ICE standards is a recipe for disaster.

Hiring 1,000 new ICE agents, after years of massive build up in ICE personnel. In fact, the number of ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations agents has already close to tripled in the past 13 years. The only way those agents are going to be kept busy, again considering that border apprehensions have cratered, is by targeting long-time residents who are no threat to public safety and in fact have contributed to the prosperity of communities around the nation. ICE director Thomas Homan admitted as much recently, saying that all undocumented people should live in fear and be looking over their shoulder.

The request includes a reprehensible attempt to do an end-run on local law enforcement through the budget process. One provision would attempt to compel state and local law enforcement agencies to honor ICE detainer requests that have been ruled unconstitutional in courts around the country. Nothing in federal statute right now requires localities to comply with ICE detainer requests; however, in its budget request, the Administration asks Congress to prohibit localities from limiting compliance

with detainers. It's a terrible idea for public safety reasons, and it likely violates the 10th Amendment, which prevents the federal government from commandeering the resources of local governments in order to implement federal laws.

CBP's massive increase in the budget includes \$1.6 billion for the unnecessary, ineffective, and costly border wall development. CBP's total budget would go up 17% (bringing the total to nearly \$14 billion). The border wall has been shot down by Congress already and President Trump hasn't been able to show any constructive reasons to invest in less than a hundred actual miles of border wall at such an immense cost.

In addition to the 1,000 ICE agents in the budget, the Trump Administration wants 500 more Border Patrol officers – but they can't offer any justification for the increase. Again, border apprehensions have plummeted 75% since October – why do we need hundreds more agents when CBP can't fill the open positions it currently has? Congress certainly should not waive the CBP's critical polygraph test requirement to enable it to quickly fill positions with subpar candidates.

The Department of Justice would see a surge in hiring of U.S. Attorneys – 70 more – but not attorneys detailed to prosecute dangerous criminals who threaten public safety. No, instead, the new attorneys would only prosecute illegal entry and reentry. Immigration prosecutions already make up more than half of all federal prosecutions—more than for drugs, weapons, fraud and other federal crimes combined. Most of these folks are reentering the country to reunite with family or trying to seek asylum. Prosecuting border crossings before prosecuting serious crimes is shortsighted in the extreme.

Nearly \$2 million in additional funding to fight challenges to immigration laws, regula-

tions, and policies. The DOJ Office of Immigration Litigation (OIL) is certainly going to be busy as they try to defend potentially unlawful actions the Administration takes in the immigration law arena. Instead of funding more government attorneys, it would be fiscally sensible to just stop making bad—and unconstitutional—policy.

Almost \$132 million would be allocated for the E-Verify program, to work toward mandatory, nationwide use of the program. An effective employment verification system could be valuable, but only if done in a way that works for businesses and protects authorized U.S. and foreign workers. Those protections are definitely not built into this budget request.

Last but not least, slashing funding for international refugee and humanitarian assistance is part of this budget – a 31% cut to refugee resettlement programs, reducing the number of refugees to the U.S. to 50,000, and the complete elimination of the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance account, which is critical for the U.S. government's capacity to respond to urgent crises.

What can you do? Call or email your members of Congress to let them know they need to stand up against Trump's mass deportation machine through the power of the purse. The Trump Administration can ask for funds but Congress controls those purse strings – tell them why these are bad policies and urge them to reject the increases that will hurt American families and businesses, and instead protect funding for programs that increase our shared prosperity. ●

Gregory Chen is Director of Government Relations for the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)



Creditors' Harassments! Lawsuits! Foreclosures! Wage Garnishments!

Get the legal help you need NOW! Call 855-768-8845!

FREE BANKRUPTCY CONSULTATION

Save Your:

- *Home
- *Business
- *Car
- *Health
- *Peace of Mind/Health
- *Marriage/Relationship



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!

The Law Offices of Figeroux & Associates

26 Court Street, Suite 701, Brooklyn, NY

Visit us at www.figeroux.com

WE SUPPORT Immigration Legalization



Angela Davis

Colin Powell

Eva Longoria



Trump's Immigration Plan Will Destroy the U.S. Economy, Cause a Brain Drain and Violate Human Rights

Become an Immigrant's Journal Member

Annual Membership Benefits:

- Membership ID
- Free Consultations
- Discount on Tax Returns
- Free assistance with Citizenship Applications, Tax ID Application, Opening a Bank Account, Visa Lottery Annually
- 24/7 Emergency Assistance- Leave a message, we will call
- Legal Letters and Phone Calls on Your Behalf
- Legal Document Review (up to 10 pages each)
- Standard Will Preparation
- Standard Will with yearly reviews/updates

Includes the G28 which shows you have attorney representation



Mighty Sparrow
Calypso King of the World
Voice of the I.C.E. Radio Jingle

The Membership Covers:

- The member
- The member's spouse
- Never-married dependent children under 21 living at home
- Dependent children under age 18 for whom the member is legal guardian
- Full-time college students up to age 23; never married, dependent children
- Physically or mentally challenged children living at home

FREE Consultation on: President Barack Obama Executive Order of November 20, 2014.

- What is expanded DACA?
- What is DAPA? (Programs that give a 3 year work permit)
- Do I need a Provisional Waiver?
- What is Advance Parole?
- How do I qualify for Comprehensive Immigration Reform when the law is passed?

Like us on Facebook and schedule a FREE consultation or call 718-243-9431

Free Citizenship Drive

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

The New American Chamber of Commerce (NACC) Supports the Journal's "Deportation Inoculation Drive"

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Have a 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 \$725.00



SATURDAYS 10:00am - 3:00pm
Downtown Brooklyn Office

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

DIRECTIONS:

By train: **2, 3, 4 & 5**, to Borough Hall or **A, C & F** to Jay Street/MetroTech.
By bus: Take the downtown bound B25, B26, B37, B41, B45 or B52 to Court Street.

Call
718-243-9431
to Schedule an
Appointment
Now!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.IJLEF.ORG FOR MORE IMMIGRATION NEWS AND UPDATES