**San Mateo County Immigrant Forum**

**June 21, 2024**

**Virtual Meeting**

<https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/96586873538?pwd=cHVYdHlBVHRqaVpOOUM5VnFWODg2dz09>

**ILRC Updates:**

* **President Biden’s Proclamation to limit entry at the Southern Border** 
  + Restrict access to asylum when the 7-day average reaches 2500 or more.
  + When in place, this restriction will remain for at least 21 days. It is unlikely that the suspension will be lifted soon if the rule remains in effect.
  + These restrictions do not apply to migrants who make an appointment with the CBP One App, though there are limited appointments available through the app, and migrants may face technical barriers or have difficulty navigating the app.
  + This rule includes some discretionary language regarding when CBP can process asylum seekers.
  + Migrants who are apprehended under this rule will be placed in expedited removal and will not be asked if they have a fear to return home. The “shout test” refers to a standard in which migrants must articulate a fear of harm without being asked.
  + This rule also raises the standard in initial screenings for people seeking asylum to a standard of reasonable probability which is higher than past standards.
  + Generally, people will be ineligible for asylum if they do not follow these new guidelines. Some exceptions exist for medical emergencies and imminent threats.
  + Fact Sheet with full details can be found [here](https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/06/04/fact-sheet-presidential-proclamation-suspend-and-limit-entry-and-joint-dhs-doj).
* **Parole in Place, June 18, 2024**
  + Parole in place policy may protect up to 500k undocumented spouses of US citizens who have been living in the US for at least 10 years and have been married prior to June 17, 2024.
  + It may grant work permits and deportation protections.
  + May ease the path to permanent residency and ultimately gain US citizenship.
  + It was brought forward to keep families together for those that are undocumented who may live in fear due to deportation because of their legal status.
  + 40% are likely to receive Parole in place, which is like the Parole in place process for military families.
  + Petitioners may be eligible for a 3-year Parole in Place; it is unclear at this time if that parole period would be renewable, but it will offer opportunity to apply for residency.
  + If a spouse is inadmissible for LPR status, it is unclear if they’d be eligible for more than parole.
  + Applications are not available yet; however, it is advised for those who qualify to start gathering documents (marriage verification, proof of living in the US in the past 10 years, etc.) and to watch for scams since there is no actual application yet.
* **DACA and Employment Visas:**
  + The Biden administration announced a measure by which DACA recipients can more easily access employment visas.
  + There is not yet a process in place for petitioners to apply, and there is a possibility of a legal challenge.

**USCIS Updates:**

* Willie Giacofci is the newest Community Relations Specialist for the SNJ area and will assisting with these meetings starting next month. Sai will still be his back-up since they are both co-covering the SFR area.
* **National Engagement**:
  + July 02, 2024: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will continue our Tech Talks sessions to provide answers to your questions about USCIS online accounts.
* **Local Engagements**:
  + June 20, 2024, webinar on **How to Petition Relatives** form I-130 in English from 5-6 pm and on
  + June 25, 2024, webinar on **How to Petition relatives** from I-130 in Spanish from 6-7 pm
  + Visit [https://www.uscis.gov/outreach/upcoming-local-engagements](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/WA_ZC82zM8I4ggLxHnHpYH)
* Updated guidance in the USCIS Policy Manual on family-based immigrant visa petitions (including Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative and, in limited situations, family-based Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant).
  + Included in the updates are: how USCIS handles correcting approval notice errors, requests for consular processing or adjustment of status on the beneficiary’s behalf, and routing procedures for approved petitions.
  + If you are a petitioner submitting Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, you must inform USCIS of the beneficiary’s current address and whether the beneficiary wants consular processing with the Department of State National Visa Center (NVC) or adjustment of status in the United States, if eligible.
  + Providing this information will help in keeping the approved petition for adjustment of status processing or to be sent to the NVC for consular processing, as appropriate. If accurate information on the petition is not provided, it can delay the immigrant visa or adjustment of status process. For example, if USCIS keeps a petition because the applicant provides inaccurate information, applicant must generally file Form I-824, Application for Action on an Approved Application or Petition, with the appropriate fee, to transfer the petition to the NVC.
* All Forms ***I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition***, filed for following to join refugees (FTJ-R) are being processed at the USCIS International Operations Division rather than the Asylum Vetting Center. Any pending Form I-730 FTJ-R petitions filed by refugee petitioners will be automatically transferred from the Asylum Vetting Center to USCIS International Operations.
  + This workload shift took place to better serve Form I-730 petitioners and beneficiaries by establishing a dedicated team with primary responsibility for initial domestic processing of FTJ-R petitions. This workload shift does not change the filing location for Form I-730. All petitioners must continue to file Form I-730 petitions at the USCIS Texas Service Center.
* USCIS Policy Manual (PDF, 313.17 KB) has been updated to clarify how certain petitioners for special immigrant juvenile (SIJ) classification (or their representatives) may file Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widower, or Special Immigrant.
  + SIJ petitioner with less than two weeks before their 21st birthday, may file Form I-360 in person at a USCIS field office, instead of filing by mail. Contact the USCIS Contact Center to request an expedited appointment. If the applicant is not within two weeks of their 21st birthday, they must file Form I-360 by mail, according to the current filing instructions.
  + Children eligible for SIJ classification must file their petition by their 21st birthday. However, many face challenges filing on time because of juvenile court delays issuing the required judicial determinations or other circumstances. Allowing SIJ petitioners to file in person gives them another way to ensure USCIS receives their petition on time.
* USCIS is issuing guidance in the USCIS Policy Manual that interprets that the confidentiality protections under 8 U.S.C. 1367 end at naturalization, which will allow naturalized U.S. citizens previously protected under 8 U.S.C. 1367 (specifically, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitioners and those seeking or with approved T and U nonimmigrant status) the ability to fully access e-filing and other customer service tools.
  + This guidance is responsive to requests from naturalized citizens and other stakeholders, and it provides these U.S. citizens with increased access to customer service tools, helping to eliminate barriers to case processing and improving USCIS response times for certain inquiries.
  + Termination of the protections after naturalization will allow a naturalized citizen to request a replacement naturalization certificate in the case where they may have misplaced this document. It would allow the citizen to ask or answer questions regarding their intent to be a financial supporter for parole applicants.

[**Faith In Action**](https://faithinactionba.org/san-mateo-county/) **Bay Area Overview and Updates:**

* Community organizing group.
* In San Mateo County for over 35 years under a different name. Now they are a Statewide organization.
* They work on issues such as social economic justice to low-income people:
  + Immigration
  + Housing
  + Policy
  + Health care access
* They do not work on direct services, however, after Trump administration in 2016, they have worked with [Pangea legal services](https://www.pangealegal.org/) to create a hotline where anyone can call 24 hours a day to declare raids and detentions that are happening in their communities.
  + Connect them with attorneys.
  + Train citizens to be legal observers or witnesses.
  + Connect folks to wrap around services for those families who are left behind.
  + 80% of funding is held for attorneys and Lorena and her team, work the hotline on pro bono to insure there is enough funds for legal providers they use.
* Rapid Response line created in 2016.
  + (203)- NO-MIGRA or (203)-666-4472.
  + Use the number to report ICE raids in your home, workplace, or neighborhood.
  + Moved from the red cards to the yellow ones for those family members that are left to pick up pieces when sole breadwinner has been detained.
  + ICE is no longer knocking on doors as before, instead they are now waiting outside of homes waiting for people in the early morning (prior to people going to work/school) to detain them as they are stepping out of their homes.
  + If you would like to order some posters or cards you can reach out to Lorena at 415-724-4987
  + You can also find them [here](https://faithinactionba.org/resource/).

**Oasis Legal Services:** See slides attached.

* Offer support services with:
  + Screenings for immigrant relief
  + Affirmative asylum only
  + Residency
  + Citizenship
  + Family petitions
* <https://www.oasislegalservices.org/>
* [info@oasislegalservices.org](mailto:info@oasislegalservices.org)
* Call or text: 559-77-6786
* [Resources for Legal Advocates](https://www.oasislegalservices.org/legal-advocate)

**Partner Updates:**

* Reach out to Andrew Craycroft for any ILRC info/questions on updates: [acraycroft@ilrc.org](mailto:acraycroft@ilrc.org)
* For any Immigrant Services information: <https://www.smcgov.org/ceo/find-legal-assistance>
* Kara would like to do more community outreach, please contact Maria Rosas Ramirez at [maria@kara-grief.org](mailto:maria@kara-grief.org), if you would like her to table at your next event. Maria also shared their next event Grupo de Apoyo para Adultos que ha perdido un Progenitor Padre o Madre en Español, beginning on August 15th from 6:30 to 8pm, via zoom, see [flyer](C://Users/csalinas/OneDrive%20-%20County%20of%20San%20Mateo/Pictures/Grupo%20para%20Adultos%20que%20han%20perdido%20un%20progenitor.pdf).
* South San Francisco Promotores, Marisol Durand, would like to invite those who are looking for Dental services to join her and the Magic Tooth Bus this Friday in SSF breezeway from 10am-1pm to get information on dental services covered through Medi-Cal, receive free toothbrushes, floss, and activities for children to keep good dental hygiene, all free!
* Also, Marisol would like to encourage SSF residents who live in District 5 to participate at the **Coffee and Boba Meet you vice Mayor**, Eddie Flores, to talk about services and programs available to those who live in District 5 on Saturday, June 22 from 10am-12pm at Spruce Café. RSVP is recommended, you can visit their [FB](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=852727013557344&set=pcb.852728120223900).
* If San Mateo County is receiving inquiries about the Housing Assistance for Ukrainians (HAU)

 program, potential clients should be referred to Catholic Charities Dioceses of San Diego who is administering HAU in 50 of the 58 counties across the state. Inquires should go to   
CCDSD - HAU@CCDSD.org or they can reach out to [HAU@dss.ca.gov](mailto:HAU@dss.ca.gov).