## San Mateo County Immigrant Forum

## **September 19, 2024**

## **Virtual Meeting**

https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/96586873538?pwd=cHVYdHIBVHRqaVpOOUM5VnFWODg2dz09

#### **ILRC Updates:**

- Parole in Place, June 18, 2024
  - Temporarily blocked by a district court judge in Texas on August 23<sup>rd,</sup> four days after the program launched.
  - Some people were able to file and were granted Parole in place, most of them already
    had filed a i601A file with biometrics on file which allowed them to get approved quickly
    for Parole in Place.
  - On September 4<sup>th</sup> there was a short term but renewable pause and then again last week it was again paused by the 5<sup>th</sup> circuit court of appeal, the Parole in Place will be paused, in an indefinite pause until the circuit court decides.
  - People can still file for applications, but USCIS will not approve any applications during this pause, it is a case-by-case process if people would like to continue to apply for Parole in place.
  - Some people will hold off to apply but others way want to continue with the possibility that the program becomes reinstated.
- Board of Immigration appeals decision on the matters of Restriction on Removal or Protection (RTP):
  - In 2018 Pereira line of cases where the Supreme court ruling called into question the validity of the notice to appear in immigration court, which were missing key pieces of information, such as the time, place, and date of hearing and left blank on notices.
  - o ICE has been serving notices like these for years and routinely with the fields left blank making it difficult for people to make it to their court hearings.
  - There has been a back and forth with case law as the BIA (Board of Immigration Appeals) has attempted to create different pathways for ICE to overcome serving a deficient notice to appear without having to terminate removing proceedings as being procedurally deficient.
  - o In the case the respondent was personally served with a notice that did not have a date or time of his hearing. He appeared at his first hearing without council and then appeared at his second hearing with consul and objected to the notice to appear as it was missing the date and time of his proceeding. The judge found that he had waived his hearing but since he had attended his first hearing, found him removable. DHS gave three options: 1. To add charges which would contain hearing date and time from the first hearing notice 2. File a copy of the first page of the non-compliant notice as exhibit and add a written amendment with date and time 3. Make the necessary written abandonments to the notice with date and time to appear. The respondent objected these options and the judge concluded that the options were not proper and terminated the removal processing. DHS appealed this decision.
  - On appeal the DIA held that there are several criteria to remedy a non-compliant notice to appear:



- 1. Remedy should be a single document but maybe amended.
- **2.** Remedy should be consistent with rules governing the use of such procedures to comply with the rules to add documents.
- 3. Remedy should promote the purpose of the Claims processing rule.
- 4. Remedy should not cause any legal harm to the respondent.
- The Supreme Court ruled that a notice to appear must include the date and time of the hearing to trigger the stop-time rule for cancellation of removal. If this information is missing, the individual remains eligible for cancellation of removal.
- The decision has significant implications for many non-citizens who received NTAs lacking the necessary details, as it can prevent their removal proceedings from being initiated.
- The Pereira ruling has influenced debates about due process in immigration proceedings, emphasizing the necessity of clear and complete documentation.

#### **USCIS Updates:**

- National Webinars
  - o Engagements in Spanish
  - Engagements in <u>English</u>
- Temporary Protected Status Extension and Redesignation for Haiti
  - Thursday, Sept. 24, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm PST

USCIS will provide an overview of the extension and redesignation of Haiti for TPS. We will then hold a question-and-answer session. We will not address case-specific questions, questions outside the scope of the engagement, or issues under active litigation.

- To register, click here
- Local Outreach
  - Click here for full calendar.
- Asylum Overview Thursday, September 19 at 5:00 pm PST
  - Webex, Meeting number: 2824 730 5890, and password: f3mSMcf3M57\* (33676233 when dialing from a phone or video system)
- How to Become a U.S. Citizenship Thursday, September 26 at 5:00 pm PST
  - Webex, Meeting number: 2826 838 7312, and password: jgEp3CSFH8\*6 (54373273 when dialing from a phone or video system)
- For full USCIS announcements, please click here
- On September 18, 2024 announced USCIS Extends Green Card Validity Extension to 36
   Months for Green Card Renewals
  - Effective Sept. 10, 2024, USCIS automatically extended the validity of Permanent Resident Cards (also known as Green Cards) to 36 months for lawful permanent residents who file Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card.
  - Lawful permanent residents who properly file Form I-90 to renew an expiring or expired Green Card may receive this extension. Form I-90 receipt notices had previously provided a 24-month extension of the validity of a Green Card. USCIS has updated the language on Form I-90 receipt notices to extend the validity of a Green



Card for 36 months from the expiration date on the face on the face of the current Green Card for individuals with a newly filed Form I-90 renewal request.

# • On August 30, 2024, announced to Open a USCIS International Field Office in Quito, Ecuador

- USCIS opened a new international field office in Quito, Ecuador on Sept. 10. The Quito Field Office will focus on increasing refugee processing capacity, consistent with USCIS commitments under the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, and helping reunite individuals with their family members already in the United States.
- With a field office in Ecuador, USCIS staff will be able to provide immigration expertise to U.S. embassy and regional partners in support of the Oficinas de Movilidad Segura, or Safe Mobility Offices, in Ecuador.
- The Safe Mobility initiative facilitates expedited refugee processing through the U.S.
   Refugee Admissions Program and provides information and referrals to other lawful migration pathways to the United States and other countries.
- In addition to supporting refugee processing in Ecuador and the region, USCIS staff will focus on family reunification work and resume other critical USCIS duties at the embassy.
- Some tasks can include interviewing and processing Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee
   Relative Petition, fingerprinting beneficiaries of certain USCIS applications, overseeing collection of DNA samples, and performing essential fraud detection activities.

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## Keeping Families Together Administrative Stay Remains in Effect Through Sept. 23, 2024

- On Aug. 26, 2024, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, in <u>Texas v. Department of Homeland Security, Case Number 24-cv-306</u>, administratively stayed DHS from granting parole in place under Keeping Families Together for 14 days. Subsequently, the court issued another order, and the administrative stay remains in effect through Sept. 23, 2024.
- To comply with the district court's administrative stay, USCIS will, not grant any
  pending parole in place requests under Keeping Families Together, continue to accept
  filings of Form I-131F, Application for Parole in Place for Certain Noncitizen Spouses
  and Stepchildren of U.S. Citizens, and continue to schedule biometric appointments
  and capture biometrics at Application Support Centers (ASCs).
- The district court's administrative stay order does not affect any applications that were approved before the administrative stay order was issued at 6:46 p.m. Eastern Time on Aug. 26, 2024.

## **Thrive Alliance Translation Hub:**

How to non-profits can request translation services through the translation hub





- Visit the Thrive Alliance Translation hub and scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the green rectangular shape that says: Translation Services Request Form
- o Interpretation is available for in-person (digital materials) and virtual events.
- o Please give Thrive a 3 weeks' notice to request assistance with translation or interpretation.
- Thrive is hiring locally through <u>Upward Scholars</u> who have been certified to be trained interpreters.
- o Languages include Spanish, Tagalog, Chinese, with some Tongan.

### **Community Alliance to Revitalize Our Neighborhoods (CARON)**

#### • CARON in action

- Video
- Was founded in 1999 by the SMC Sheriff's Office to serve the residents in NFO and unincorporated coastal communities.
- o It was established to help many immigrant families who were affected by high levels of violence, gangs, and fear from reporting these to law enforcement.
- Today, CARON works in the communities to bride the gap of these disparities by hosting community academy, events, parenting classes, workshops to address the needs of the community and collaborate with other community-based partners to meet the need of the community they serve.
- o Programs are tailored to meet the current needs of the community, such as immigration, traffic safety, mental health, fentanyl/drug addiction and more.
- CARON establishes trust, community engagement and a sense of support through a
  government agency and through these academies. The main goal is for community
  members to not fear law enforcement.
- 2023 achievements: CARON hosted 18 education workshops, had 612 participants join these workshops, partnered with 47 CBOs to establish meaningful collaborative relationships, participated in 44 events, and served 7871 people through the events, classes, and local engagements.
- If you would like to learn more about the work that CARON is doing, please click here.



## **Partner Updates:**

- Join Redwood City Together, Casa Circulo Cultural, CARON and The Office of Community Affairs
  on September 21 from 1:30-3:30pm at 1900 Broadway to Stand United Against Hate at the
  Voices of Unity event, Spanish Flyer.
- Join the Jefferson Union High School District and the Office of Community Affairs on September 26, 2024 from 5pm-7pm at the <u>Immigration Resource Night</u>, <u>Spanish</u>, <u>Chinese</u>, and <u>Tagalog</u> flyer.
- Open to Community Based Partners who are interested in joining the Office of Community
  Affairs to stand together for United Against Hare <u>Unity Walk</u> on September 25, 2024 at County
  Center from 4pm-4:30pm.

