



URGENT INFORMATION ABOUT IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

On August 18, 2011, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that it would review deportation cases currently pending in immigration court and temporarily close cases that government officials consider “low priority”.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- The Department of Homeland Security’s Immigration Announcement does **NOT** grant legal status.
- The announcement does **NOT** allow you to sign up for legal status.
- There is **NO** form to be completed and there is **NO** fee that can be paid.
- The announcement **ONLY** applies to cases currently pending in immigration court.
- No one but the government can determine which cases are eligible to be closed.
- Some people in deportation proceedings who have their cases temporarily closed by immigration authorities **MAY** be eligible to apply for a work permit (Employment Authorization Document or “EAD”).
- Not everyone in deportation proceedings will be allowed to apply for a work permit.
- Those not in deportation proceedings **CANNOT** apply for a work permit.
- The announcement **DOES NOT** prevent immigration authorities from arresting, detaining or deporting individuals without lawful immigration status.
- If you are not in deportation proceedings and you contact immigration authorities you **CAN BE DETAINED!**

Consult a qualified immigration lawyer or accredited representative if you have questions. Do **NOT** seek the advice of a notario or immigration consultant! Go to <http://www.thenyic.org/find-help> for a list of low-cost immigration lawyers in New York.