



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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June 22, 2011

### **The Executive Office for Immigration Review Enhances Outreach to Combat Immigration Fraud**

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the release of a new [flyer](#) to help in the fight against the unauthorized practice of immigration law.

Beginning today, all 59 immigration courts will distribute this flyer to respondents in removal proceedings to help them determine whether representatives are licensed or accredited to practice before the Nation’s immigration courts.

“We are committed to enhancing our outreach efforts to ensure that unauthorized practitioners do not victimize individuals who appear in immigration courts,” said Director Juan P. Osuna. “We believe this effort will benefit both respondents and the efficiency and integrity of our immigration system.”

In addition to the [flyer](#), EOIR provides information on its website regarding immigration fraud in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#), as well as information about [finding legal representation](#).

— EOIR —

*The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, immigration judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals interpret and adjudicate immigration cases according to United States immigration laws. EOIR’s immigration judges conduct administrative court proceedings in immigration courts located throughout the nation. They determine whether foreign-born individuals — whom the Department of Homeland Security charges with violating immigration law — should be ordered removed from the United States or should be granted relief from removal and be permitted to remain in this country. The Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of decisions by immigration judges. EOIR’s Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all of the cases it adjudicates.*



# READ THIS BEFORE YOU TAKE LEGAL ADVICE

## **If you have a case in immigration court, only take legal advice from:**

- ◆ **a licensed attorney**

An “attorney” is a person who has a valid license from a state to practice law.

- ◆ **an accredited representative**

An “accredited representative” is an individual who works with a recognized organization and has been given permission by the United States Government to help people in immigration court. A “recognized organization” is a nonprofit, religious, charitable, social service, or similar organization that has been given permission by the United States Government to help people in immigration court.

## **If someone claims to be an attorney** and you want to know if that person is allowed to represent you in immigration court:

- ◆ Ask in what state(s) he or she is licensed to practice law.
- ◆ Call the office that licenses attorneys in that state (this is usually the “state bar association” or the supreme court of that state) and ask that office if the attorney has a bar number and is in “good standing.”
- ◆ Go to the EOIR Web site at [www.justice.gov/eoir/discipline.htm](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/discipline.htm) to find out who is *not* permitted to represent you in immigration court.

**If someone claims to be an accredited representative** and you want to know if that person is allowed to represent you in immigration court, go to the EOIR Web site at [www.justice.gov/eoir/ra.html](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/ra.html) and select “Accredited Representatives List” or call (703) 305-9029 for information.

**If you think you have been a victim of immigration fraud**, contact the EOIR Fraud and Abuse Prevention Program at: [EOIR.Fraud.Program@usdoj.gov](mailto:EOIR.Fraud.Program@usdoj.gov) or (703) 305-0470.