

**In order to serve you, we will need to know the following information as early in the case as possible:**

(Please keep in mind that our services are for clients facing criminal or family court cases)

- Client's name, DOB, and country of birth;
- Client's immigration status;
- Dates of client's initial and subsequent entries to and departures from the US;
- Copies of immigration documents, including visa, green card, work authorization, and/or approval notices;
- Information about client's family and their immigration status/history;
- Current criminal charges, or nature of matters pending in family court, including any complaint;
- Any prior criminal history in New York or elsewhere;
- Any plea offer or other disposition you have received or anticipate.

**CONTACT US:**

**NASSAU 18(b)**

Michelle Caldera-Kopf, Esq.

(631) 853-7807

[mcalderakopf@sclas.org](mailto:mcalderakopf@sclas.org)

**SUFFOLK 18(b)**

Elana Rodman, Esq.

(516) 560-6474

[erodman@nclas.org](mailto:erodman@nclas.org)

Long Island Regional Immigration  
Assistance Center  
Cohalan Court Complex  
400 Carlton Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tower  
Central Islip, NY 11722

# Long Island Regional Immigration Assistance Center

A partnership between The Legal Aid Society of Suffolk County, Inc., the Legal Aid Society of Nassau County, Inc., and The NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services which provides

**FREE**

immigration law support for attorneys who provide mandated representation to non-citizens on Long Island



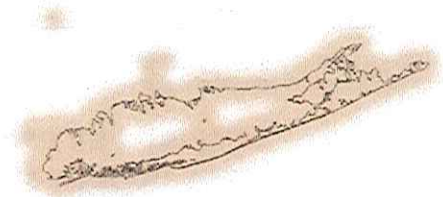
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## Who we are:

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We are dedicated to improving the legal representation of indigent non-citizens by providing training, consultations, and expert immigration advice to appointed counsel on Long Island.

***The Long Island Regional Immigration Assistance Center*** is one of six regional Immigration Assistance Centers funded by an innovative grant from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services. The Long Island Regional Immigration Assistance Center will provide individual case assistance, training, consultations, and support to appointed criminal defense counsel and family court attorneys in their representation of non-citizen clients. These services are free to all counsel appointed to represent indigent non-citizen criminal defendants or family court litigants, regardless of the clients' immigration status or ability to pay for services.



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## Our goal:

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***Our goal*** is to support appointed counsel in helping his/her non-citizen clients to make informed choices regarding any adverse immigration consequences which may arise from a Criminal or Family Court proceeding.

We exist because in 2010, the Supreme Court announced in *Padilla v. Kentucky*, 130 S. Ct. 1473 (2010), that non-citizens facing criminal charges are entitled under the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel provision to informed, accurate advice and assistance from counsel in avoiding the potential negative immigration consequences of any guilty plea. But immigration laws change constantly, are complex, and can be indeterminate. Immigration consequences stemming from even minor criminal charges like disorderly conduct or petit larceny can be serious and certain, including mandatory detention and removal. Defense counsel is obliged to inquire and investigate any potential immigration consequences even those who have lived in the United States for many years.

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## FAQS

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### **QUESTION 1: What can you do for me?**

**ANSWER:** We provide timely and confidential consultations about the immigration consequences of any plea or offer. We help you meet your obligations under Padilla to provide accurate and detailed information to your non-citizen clients about the impact of the criminal charges they face.

### **QUESTION 2: My client is taking a plea to a violation, Disorderly Conduct, or an ACOD. Do I still need your services?**

**ANSWER: YES!** Even seemingly minor criminal convictions can have devastating immigration consequences. Any non-citizen deserves to know the consequences he/she faces, and the Supreme Court says that the 6th Amendment obliges defense counsel to inquire about immigration status, analyze the immigration consequences, negotiate to minimize risk, and advise clients accurately and completely.