What is the IDP Padilla Support Center?

We are dedicated to improving the legal representation of immigrants in Criminal and Family Court. Our goal is to equip attorneys with information and defense strategies so their clients can make informed choices and protect their immigration status when possible. The Padilla Support Center is a natural extension of the work that IDP pioneered in New York at its founding in 1997.

What services do we provide?

We provide training, written resources, and expert legal advice to court-appointed defense attorneys in New York City Criminal and Family Courts. Our FREE case consults include immigration analysis of the following:

» Criminal charges, convictions, and/or plea offers
» Post-conviction relief options
» Family Court dispositions in child support, family offense, and child protective proceedings (respondent and non-respondent adults only)

Do you have a client born outside of the U.S.?

A criminal or family court disposition can trigger deportation or bar your noncitizen clients from obtaining lawful status — even certain:

• Violations or misdemeanors
• Dispositions with no jail time, or probation
• Violations of orders of protection
• Abuse and neglect cases

NYC Appointed Criminal and Family Court Attorneys:

CRIMINAL COURT ATTORNEYS:

You have a duty to advise your clients about the immigration consequences of their criminal cases. The Padilla Support Center was created to help you fulfill that duty.

FAMILY COURT ATTORNEYS:

You may be able to protect your clients from potentially serious immigration consequences.

The IDP Padilla Support Center is one of six Regional Immigration Assistance Centers funded by an innovative grant from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services through the New York City Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice.

Contact the Padilla Support Center

By online form (preferred):
Visit www.immdefense.org/psc

By phone:
Call 212-725-6422. Leave a detailed voicemail.

www.immdefense.org
In 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court held that defense attorneys have a Sixth Amendment duty to advise their clients about the immigration consequences of their criminal cases. Padilla v. Kentucky, 559 U.S. 356 (2010). This advice must be affirmative, individualized, and accurate.

How do I get a consult from the Padilla Support Center?

Gather information from your client and contact us as early in the case as possible. Use these questions as your guide. We will generally contact you within two business days to complete an intake and discuss your case.

- Where were you born?
- What is your date of birth?
- What is your current immigration status? Since when (date)? (e.g. green card or visa holder, undocumented, refugee/asylee, TPS, DACA)
- How did you enter the U.S.? In what immigration status?
- When did you come to the U.S. (date)?
- Do you have an immigration number (A-number)? What is it?
- Have you had past contact with immigration authorities?
- Do you have any pending immigration applications? If so, what? And where are you in the process?
- Is there a deportation case against you?
- What is the immigration status of your mother/father; legal spouse/partner?
- What is the immigration status and age of your children?

Documents needed

If available, make copy of green card, work authorization card, and/or notice to appear (deportation case charging document).

For criminal trial case: charging documents, rap sheet (or list of prior criminal history), status of current case (i.e. indictment status, next court date, any offers, etc.).

For family case: petition, orders of protection, copies of immigration documents, status of current case, information about concurrent criminal case (if any).

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