

Immigration Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on legal issues related to the immigration process. This guide covers immigration related legal issues including acquiring a green card or visa, detainment, marriage, divorce, and custody. The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

Related guides: Passports for Children

Statutes and Codes

United States Code of Federal Regulations
<https://www.ecfr.gov/>

- Title 8 Aliens and Nationality
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-8>

Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (INA)
<https://www.uscis.gov/laws-and-policy/legislation/immigration-and-nationality-act>

Texas Statutes Online www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure

- § 2.251 Duties Related to Immigration Detainer Requests
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.2.htm#2.251>
- § 26.13 Plea of Guilty
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.26.htm#26.13>
- § 42.039 Completion of Sentence in Federal Custody
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.42.htm#42.039>

Texas Family Code

- §159.615-159.616 Jurisdiction to Modify Child Support Order of Foreign Country and Procedure to Register Child Support Order of Foreign County for Modification
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/FA.159.htm#159.615>

Texas Penal Code

- § 37.082 Misrepresenting Child as Family Member at Port of Entry
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.37.htm#37.082>
- § 39.07 Failure to Comply with Immigration Detainer Request
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.39.htm#39.07>

Secondary Resources in Print

U.S. Immigration Made Easy (NOLO) KF 4819.6 .S53

Becoming a U.S. Citizen: A Guide to the Law, Exam & Interview (NOLO) KF 4710 .Z9 B73

Fiancé & Marriage Visas: A Couple's Guide to U.S. Immigration (NOLO) KF 4819.6 .B73

How to Get a Green Card (NOLO) KF 4840 .Z9 L49

Basics of Immigration Law for Texas Criminal Defense Attorneys KF 4819 .T4

CLE Materials

Advanced Immigration Law KF 4819 .A2A38 (PDF only)

- 2022 Ch. 1 Current State of Play

Immigration Law 101 Practice Basics for New Immigration Policies KF 4819 .A7I58 (PDF only)

- 2022

Advanced Family Law Course KFT 1294 .S83

- 2019 Ch. 30: Immigration Status and Its Effect on Divorce/Custody

Advanced Employment Law KFT 1534 .E46 (PDF only)

- 2022 Ch. 16 Immigration Update and Hot Topics

Online Resources

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

- Forms <https://www.uscis.gov/forms/forms>
- Laws and Policy <https://www.uscis.gov/laws-and-policy>
- U.S. Citizen Petition for a Spouse <https://www.uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/us-citizen-petition-for-a-spouse>

A Guide to Immigration Law (Texas Young Lawyer's Association)

http://archive.tyla.org/tyla/assets/File/TYLA_Breath_e_Free_A_Guide_to_Immigration.pdf

How to Renew or Replace Your Permanent Resident Card (USA.gov)

<https://www.usa.gov/renew-green-card>

How the United States Immigration System Works (American Immigration Council)

<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/how-united-states-immigration-system-works>

Immigration Law (Texas State Law Library)

<https://guides.sll.texas.gov/immigration-law>

Immigration Law Help and Directory of Texas Resources (Immigration Advocates Network and Pro Bono Net)

<https://www.immigrationlawhelp.org/about/>

The Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services

<https://www.raicetexas.org/>

Texas Law Help (www.texaslawhelp.org)

- Employment Rights of Undocumented Workers
<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/employment-rights-of-undocumented-workers>
- Immigration and Criminal Law
<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/immigration-and-criminal-law>
- The Immigration Process
<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/the-immigration-process-answers-to-common-questions>
- I Want to Understand the Immigration Process
<https://texaslawhelp.org/guide/i-want-to-understand-the-immigration-process>
- Know Your Rights: Immigration
<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/know-your-rights-immigration>
- Navigating Immigration Detention
<https://texaslawhelp.org/article/navigating-immigration-detention-a-guide-for-family-and-friends-of-individuals-in-detention>
- Texas Civil Rights-Immigrant Victims of Abuse Project
<https://texaslawhelp.org/directory/texas-civil-rights-project-immigrant-victims-of-abuse-project>

A Comprehensive Overview of Immigration Laws in Texas (Attorney Blog)

<https://www.austinimmigrationlawyer.com/immigration-laws-in-texas/>

Legal Assistance

Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions (free service)

- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.tarrantbar.org/>
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legalline>

Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service: 817-336-4101 (\$20 for the first 30 minutes)