

San Mateo County Immigrant Forum

June 18, 2026

Meeting Summary

Immigrant Legal Resource Center Updates

USCIS Processing Delays / Travel Ban Litigation

- Last year, USCIS had paused adjudication of benefit applications for individuals from nationals of travel banned countries, including some applicants already inside the United States. (This was distinct from a different travel ban based on a rationale of public charge.) Recent litigation has challenged this pause!
- As a result, a federal court has ordered USCIS to resume adjudications, and practitioners are beginning to report movement on previously paused cases.
 - o New applicants should be prepared for continued delays.

DACA Renewals

- Practitioners continue to report delays in DACA renewals. Due to the end of automatic work authorization extensions for certain renewal applicants, processing delays may result in temporary gaps in employment authorization.
- Individuals experiencing delayed renewals may have options to request assistance or escalate their cases. The NILC has a helpful resource for what to do [here](#).

Adjustment of Status

- New federal guidance directs officers to apply increased discretionary review when evaluating 245a (general) adjustment of status applications, including consideration of factors such as prior immigration history.
 - o Other forms of relief under T- or U-Visa provisions should not be impacted.
- This guidance does not change existing laws or eligibility requirements, but applicants should be prepared to provide strong documentation of positive factors to support their case. The ILRC has a factsheet with further tips [here](#).

Other Legal Updates

- **ICWC v Noem:** this litigation restored some prior guidance related to prosecutorial discretion for certain survivors with pending U visa, T visa, or VAWA-related cases.
- **Recent BIA decisions:** continue to narrow interpretations of certain immigration protections, including standards used to evaluate asylum claims based on particular social groups.
 - o It is important to remember that BIA decisions reflect agency-level interpretations, which may continue to be challenged through the federal court system.
- **TPS for Lebanon:** extended to November 27, 2026 (Was set to expire May 28th)

- RE: nationals of countries **whose TPS protections have already expired** – they may be in a vulnerable position, and should consult a legal provider ASAP to understand what, if any, other options for relief they may have.
- **JOP v. DHS settlement:** preserves protections allowing certain unaccompanied children to have their asylum claims initially reviewed by USCIS rather than in immigration court.
- **Supreme Court:** is expected to issue several immigration-related decisions before the end of the term (between now and early July), including cases related to birthright citizenship and review of TPS terminations. Stay tuned

Guest Presentation

California Civil Rights Department (CRD)

- **Organization Contacts:**
 - Fernando Ponce
 - Email: Fernando.Ponce@CalCivilRights.ca.gov
 - Phone #: 916-579-4690
 - Erin Glenn
 - Email: Erin.Glenn@CalCivilRights.ca.gov
 - Phone #: 213-802-2302
 - Website [here](#)
- **Program Mission:**
 - Their objective is to engage with the community through outreach, tabling events, and presentations for employees, employers, and community members. Presentations are tailored to the audience.
 - CRD works to protect Californians from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations, as well as from hate violence and human trafficking.
 - If someone experiences discrimination or a civil rights violation, they can file a complaint with CRD.
- **Eligibility:** CRD services are available to everyone regardless of immigration status.
- **Cost:** Filing a complaint with CRD is completely free, and all services provided throughout the complaint process are free.
- **Language Access:** Interpretation services are available in more than 200 languages through CRD's language access line (800-884-1684).
- **Accessibility:** Individuals may designate someone to assist them throughout the complaint process.
- **Location Requirements:** Complaints must fall within CRD's jurisdiction -- that means that they must involve violations of California civil rights laws.

- **Confidentiality:** Individuals may initially report anonymously, but anonymity may not be maintained if CRD accepts the case and moves forward with an investigation.
- **Who Can File:** Employees, tenants, consumers, and members of the public who experience discrimination, harassment, retaliation, hate violence, human trafficking, or other civil rights violations are eligible to file a complaint.
- **Tips / Other Information**
 - o Filing online is the fastest way to proceed, may help you get a sooner appointment (as space opens from cancellations).
 - o [Here](#) is a flowchart that shows how complaints and investigations progress.
 - o In employment cases, you must submit an intake form to CRD within three years of the date you were last harmed. In most other cases, you must do this within one year of the date you were last harmed.
- **Resources Available:** CRD offers trainings, educational materials, FAQs, video resources, and certificate programs on topics such as human trafficking prevention. See [their website](#) for more information and resources.

OCA Updates

Immigrant Heritage Month

- OCA is hosting an Immigrant Heritage Month Photovoice Showcase on **Friday, June 26 from 12p.m. to 3 p.m at 500 County Center**, in partnership with the County of San Mateo Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS).
- The event will feature photos and stories submitted by San Mateo County staff and community partners. Attendees can enjoy cultural snacks, participate in a small interactive activity, and share their own stories. Please attend and spread the word!

FIFA World Cup Campaign – Elevating the SMC Rapid Response Hotline

- OCA has created a community resource postcard emphasizing the usefulness of the local Rapid Response Hotline (**203-666-4472**) given any large event, in this case, the World Cup.
- Postcards will be distributed to businesses and community spaces hosting (or near) World Cup watch parties and fan gatherings.
- Community partners are encouraged to display and share the postcards with their networks. You can download postcards in English, Chinese, or Spanish [here](#).

Resource Development

- As part of ongoing efforts to ensure the Immigrant Forum remains a collaborative space where partners can identify shared challenges and develop useful tools, attendees participated in an interactive feedback exercise exploring the need for a potential provider-focused field guide explaining immigration legal services, social service systems, and was to strengthen coordination across services.

- o Participants reflected on challenges like language access, trust, and navigating complicated service requirements, and emphasized the importance of empathy and relationship building in their work with community members.
- The Mentimeter (online poll) used for discussion will remain open through next month's Forum for additional feedback. Providers are encouraged to share input on what information, tools, and resources would be most helpful in supporting immigrant communities.
 - o A link to participate will be circulated via e-mail.