

# Immigrant Children and Family Program

County of Fresno  
Department of Social Services  
Child Welfare

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# Policy

- The Department of Social Services (DSS) Child Welfare staff shall assist detained undocumented/foreign minors with their return to their country of origin or in obtaining legal residency. The DSS will collaborate with local community organizations to assist undocumented/foreign parents in the strengthening of the family unit. The Immigrant Child and Family Liaison (Liaison) shall document all contacts in CWS/CMS.

# Purpose

- To ensure that the needs of undocumented/foreign minors are met when their families are temporarily or permanently unavailable. This shall be done by addressing procedures that will facilitate the early coordination of legal and social services to children, parents and their relatives that may be necessary to achieve permanency for the child. This includes providing the least restrictive placement and supportive services to maintain family ties, ensure appropriate visitation and maintain the child's ethnic, religious and cultural identity.
- To inform all social worker staff (SW) of the procedure for working with the Liaison on behalf of undocumented/foreign minors and parents who become involved with the child welfare system and juvenile court.
- This procedural guide is applicable to all new and existing referrals and cases. Children and families do not need to have an open case with DSS Child Welfare or be dependents of the court to be eligible for the immigration programs listed in this policy.

# Goals for today

1. Provide basic information regarding immigration terminology.
2. Raise awareness of immigration relief laws.
3. Provide information regarding Immigration Liaison duties.
4. Provide resources available.





# Statistics

- According to the 2010 U.S Census:

	<u>Fresno Co.</u>	<u>CA</u>
• Foreign born persons, 2007-2011	22.1%	27.2%
• Language other than English spoken at home, percent age 5+, 2007-2011	42.9%	43.2%

# Children and Immigrant Economic Hardship Data

- **Limited English Proficient**
  - **25.3 million LEP individuals ages 5 and older in the United States**
  - **Spanish-speaking LEP individuals accounted for 65 percent (16.4 million)**
  - **Chinese, including Mandarin and Cantonese (1.6 million, or 6 percent) and Vietnamese (855,000, or 3 percent) fallow in second and third**
- **Poverty**
  - **15.4 million Children under 18 who lived in poor families**
  - **4.7 million (31 percent) children of immigrants**
- **Education**
  - **32 percent don't have a high school diploma**

\*All data gathered from: The Migration Policy Institute - Frequently Requested Statistics on Immigrants and Immigration in the United States (2013)

# Vienna Convention

## Hague Treaty

- receive information and participate in deciding who is to be appointed as the guardian(s) or trustee(s) in the interest of minor(s) (article 37b).
- visit a foreign national who is in prison, custody, or detention (article 36c)
- preserve the rights and interest of foreign nationals.



# Welfare and Institutions Codes

- 303**: retain jurisdiction until the ward or dependent child attains the age of 21 years
- 368**: searching of relatives and transportation of a minor to another country.
- 391**: dismissal documents.



# Immigration Relief Laws

- VAWA
- Family Visas
- U Visas
- U.S. Citizenship
- Asylum
- Temporary Protected Status
- SIJS





# Emergency Response



- Notify appropriate Consulate
- Search for parents or relatives in country of origin.(WIC 368)
- Request any home studies needed for placement or reunification
- Complete Prucol (Permanently Residing Under Color of Law)

# Hague Adoption Convention

- Preparation of child background study.
- Transmission of child data to foreign entity.
- Reasonable efforts to find domestic placement.
- Preparation and transmission of home study.
- Authorization for the child to enter the receiving country.
- Consent to the adoption/ custody by foreign authorized entity.
- Guardian counseling and consent.
- U.S. authorized entity duties: Secure transfer of the child, Arrangements with a foreign authorized entity on post placement.

# Family Reunification

- Facilitate communication between Consulate and any other agencies
- Request documents.



# •Skype Visitation





# Permanency Planning



- File Immigration SIJS Application provision 101(a)(27)(J) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1990.
- File Work Authorization Application



# Special Immigrant Juvenile Status



- Child must not be ordered reunification with at least one parent.
- Child must be subjected to judicial proceedings and findings that is not in his/her best interest to be returned to his/her country of nationality.
- Child must be unmarried and under the age of 21.

# Immigration process

## Three step process



1. Immigrant petition by employer or relative (USCIS)
2. Visa number (Dept. of State)
3. Apply to Adjust to Permanent Resident (USCIS)

- After 5 yrs of LPR Status, allowed to apply for Naturalization

Allows individuals who are not LPR to be employed in the U.S. for a specific time.

- PERMANENT RESIDENT CARD**
- NAME CRITTENDEN, LEE W.
- US A# 022-345-679
- Birthdate Category Sex  
10/04/43 P28 M
- Country of Birth  
Canada
- CARD EXPIRES 11/01/94
- Resident Since 11/01/97
- C1USA0223456791EAC9730051789<<  
4910040M9411014CAN<<<<<<<<<<<<4  
CRITTENDEN<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

**EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE      Immigration and Naturalization Service

NAME: **BOUTCHER, PATRICIA A.**  
SIGNATURE: *Pat. A. Boucher*  
A000600000  
Valid from: **11/16/91**      Expires: **11/16/92**      DOB: **06/20/58**  
Provision of Law: **8 (U.S. 12 (C) (9))**  
B  
I. Terms & Conditions: **NONE**  
A  
B ISSUED: **11/15/90**

The person identified on the reverse of this card is authorized to engage in employment in the United States pursuant to Section 274A of the Immigration and Nationality Act as amended, during the period of validity of the card and in accordance with the restricting terms stated on the reverse of the card.

This document is VOID if altered and may be revoked pursuant to 8 CFR 274a. This document is not evidence of citizenship or permanent residence in the United States. If this card is found, please return to the nearest office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

RESIDENT ALIEN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

CHOW, LAI PING

MALE

07 10 50

DOB

A028256001

Alien number

07 17 01

Expire date

SAMPLE CARD

**ALIEN REGISTRATION RECEIPT CARD**  
PERSON IDENTIFIED BY THIS CARD IS ENTITLED TO RESIDE PERMANENTLY AND WORK IN THE U.S.

P26 WAS 890714 245 9199001001  
A1USAQ28256001C01CB9D6<<<<<<<<  
5007107U9906297<<<<<<2758C7B79  
CHOW<<LAI<PING<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

Reverse



# Resource Agencies



- Exterior Relations
- Social Service Agencies in other countries.  
Desarrollo Integral de la Familia.
- Civil Registrar's

# Memorandum of Understanding with the Mexican Consulate of Fresno County

- Department Preparation
  - Internal Meetings with Program Managers
  - Development of PPG/Forms
  - Consultations with County Counsel, Analysts, and Administration.
- Presentation to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors
- Official Signing- JUNE 12, 2012



- All photos were obtained from Borders Film Project. [www.borderfilmproject.com](http://www.borderfilmproject.com)

**Thank you for  
your time and  
attention.**



**Immigration Liaison (559) 600-6646  
(559)498-9646**

**CWSUndocumentedImmigration@co.fresno.ca.us**

**Fresno County Hotline (559)255-8320**

**1404 L Street, Fresno CA 93721**