

Immigration Updates

Actualizaciones de Inmigración

October/ Octubre 2025

Presented by / Presentado por:

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- This webinar covers recent immigration related updates. We'll be sharing these in English from 5 - 5:45 p.m., and then the same updates in Spanish from 5:45-6:30 p.m.
 - *Este webinar estará proporcionando información sobre las más recientes actualizaciones migratorias. Estaremos impartiendo el webinar en inglés de 5 p.m. a 5:45 p.m. y posteriormente en español con las mismas actualizaciones de 5:45 p.m. a 6:30 p.m.*
- Please ask questions in the Q&A at any time. We will do our best to answer them by replying to them in the Q&A tab.
 - *Por favor hagan preguntas en el Q&A en cualquier momento. Haremos todo lo posible por responderlas en la página de preguntas y respuestas de zoom.*
- This presentation will be recorded and available in English and Spanish at nwirp.org/webinars
 - *Esta presentación será grabada y estará disponible en inglés y español en nwirp.org/webinars.*

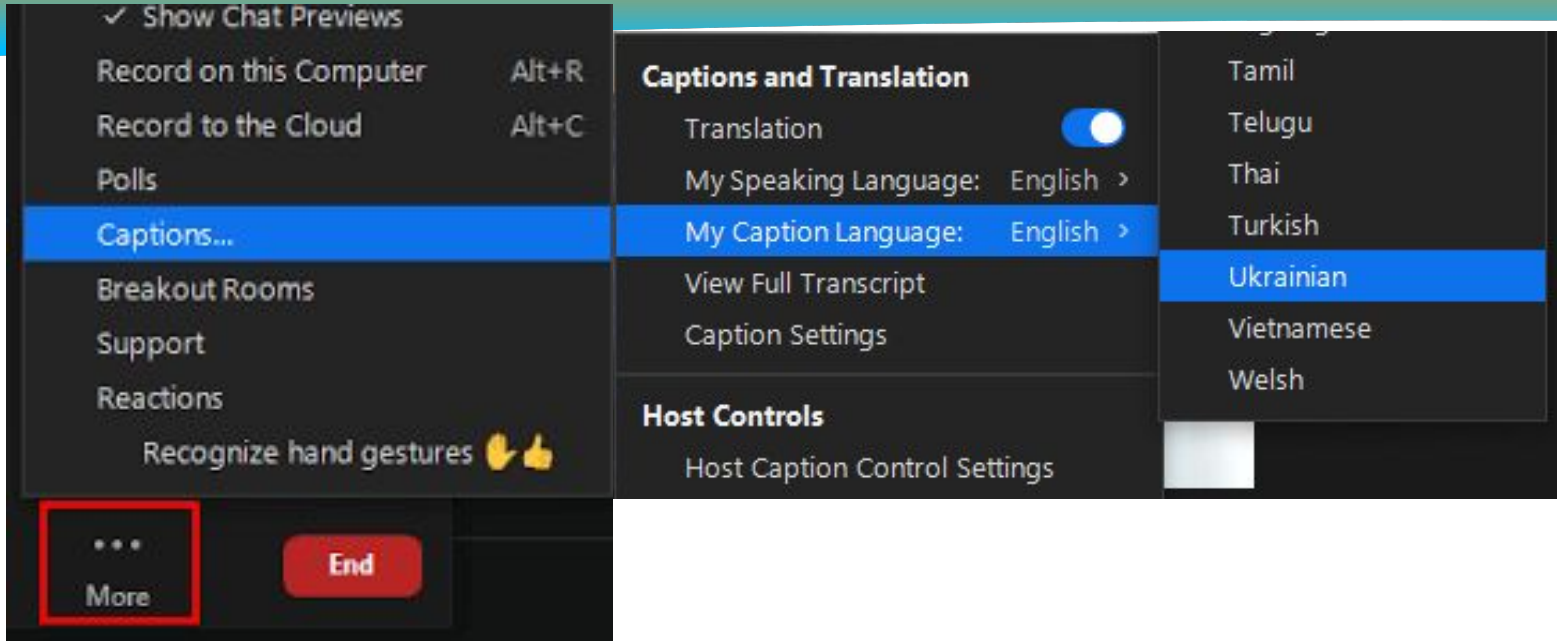
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During English presentation: Access translated captions



- If you need a language other than English, auto-translated captions are available.
- To access, click “...more” button at the bottom of your zoom > *captions* > toggle on *translation* > then select which language you need.

Take a deep breath...

This is difficult content, we want our communities to be prepared with this information but also acknowledge how heavy and unjust this is.

Let's take a deep breath and get started.

NWIRP Services Are Free and Confidential

NWIRP promotes justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community education.

All contact with NWIRP (and other legal services providers) is **confidential**, unless you provide informed consent to disclose information on your behalf.

All NWIRP services are **free**.

Important information. We recommend you obtain legal advice:

- to evaluate your individual situation
- before filing any USCIS forms or motions to immigration court
- before signing any immigration-related documents
- before making any decisions about your stay in the country

*****Today's information is intended for educational purposes only*****

- Individuals with immigration questions should seek the advice and counsel of a reputable and experienced immigration attorney.
- The information provided today is only guaranteed to be updated through today (October 21, 2025).
- To stay on top of immigration law updates, please go to:
 - Immigration Policy Tracking Project:
 - impolicytracking.org
 - Litigation Tracker:
 - justsecurity.org/107087/tracker-litigation-legal-challenges-trump-administration
- Please also join NWIRP's mailing list: www.nwirp.org/join/mailling-list

NWIRP Offices and Contact Information

NWIRP is a statewide legal services organization, with offices in:

- **Granger:** 509-854-2100 / 888-756-3641/ grangerintake@nwirp.org
- **Seattle:** 206-587-4009 / 800-445-5771/ seattlefrontdesk@nwirp.org
- **Tacoma:** 253-235-9279/ TSUintake@nwirp.org
 - Detained Persons - 253-383-0519 /877-814-6444/
detainedreferrals@nwirp.org
- **Wenatchee:** 509-570-0054 / 866-271-2084/
wenatcheeintake@nwirp.org



Today's Presentation: What We Will Cover...

- **Federal Government Shutdown: Immigration Impact**
- **Governor's Executive Order 25-09**
- **DOL Update to Commercial Driver Licenses (CDL)**
- **USCIS Policy Guidance on Spousal Family-Based Petitions - No Change in Policy**
- **New H.R. 1 Immigration Parole Fee**
- **USCIS and EOIR Filing Fees - Paying Annual Asylum Fees**
- **Pretermission of "Incomplete" Form I-589**
- **ICE Operation Targeting Unaccompanied Children**
- **Transfer of People out of ICE Detention Center in Tacoma**
- **Bond Eligibility and Habeas Cases**
- **Coordinated Response in WA to Possible Large-Scale Raids**
- **Preventing Notario and Other Fraud**
- **What Can I do?**

Federal Government Shutdown: Immigration Impact

Shutdown began on October 1, 2025

Impact on Immigration:

- USCIS operations are never affected by shutdowns
 - funded by application/petition fees paid
- Department of State visa adjudication and consular services are primarily fee-funded
- ICE and CBP functions are considered essential
- EOIR (Immigration Court) may be impacted
 - But currently, detained and non-detained dockets continue

Governor's Executive Order 25-09

EO Reaffirming WA's Commitment to Protecting Immigrant Rights

Issued on September 29, 2025

- Establishes Immigration Sub-Cabinet to coordinate state agency action on immigration and related issues
- Sub-Cabinet will include representatives from each state cabinet agency and meet regularly with stakeholder groups to incorporate input from immigrant communities
- Agencies are directed to review data collection, sharing, and retention practices to protect privacy and safety of all WA residents
- The Sub-Cabinet will provide quarterly reports to the Governor, including policy recommendations

Department of Licensing Update: Commercial Driver Licenses (CDL)

New Federal Rule Effective: September 29, 2025

- WA stopped processing all non-domicile commercial learner's permit and Commercial Driver License transactions, including renewals
 - **EAD holders, asylum seekers, refugees, DACA recipients no longer eligible**
 - **Current valid CDLs until expiration or government notice**
- New documentation requirements for certain non-U.S. citizens under employment based visa categories who are eligible:
 - Must present unexpired passport and Form I-94 showing H2A, H2B, or E2 status
 - License Validity: expires with I-94 date or in 1 year - whichever is sooner
 - States must retain copies of application documents, including immigration status documents for at least two years

USCIS Policy Guidance:

Spousal Family-Based Petitions

No Change in Policy

- Requires more robust vetting and closer scrutiny of relationship authenticity (but does NOT change eligibility requirements)
- USCIS may require interviews in certain family-based cases (e.g. inconsistent evidence, age gaps, prior petition history, etc.)
- Emphasizes that approval of a family-based petition does NOT grant immigration status or protect against removal
 - USCIS may issue a Notice to Appear if beneficiary is otherwise removable
- Best practices for filings:
 - Careful screening and risk assessment
 - Ensure all required documentation is consistent and complete (proof of petitioner status, relationship evidence, previous marriage termination if applicable)
 - Prepare for possible USCIS interview and potential risk that approval of Form I-130 does not shield against removal proceedings

New H.R. 1 Immigration Parole Fee

Effective October 16, 2025

- \$1000 fee required each time an individual is paroled into the U.S., re-paroled (extension), granted parole-in-place, or paroled from DHS custody
- Fee is in addition to filing or biometrics fees
- Payment is triggered when approval is imminent and must be submitted before final grant
 - e.g. fee is collected when paroled/ entry on DACA advance parole
- Amount subject to annual inflation adjustment
- Fee does NOT apply to certain categories, such as urgent humanitarian cases, medical emergencies, and TPS travel on parole

USCIS and EOIR Filing Fees

- Asylum applications:
 - \$100 filing fee, **plus \$100 annual fee** for each year pending
- Employment Authorization:
 - Initial: \$550, Renewal: \$275
 - Categories: (a)(4), (a)(12), (c)(8), (c)(11), (c)(19), and (c)(34)
- Fee waivers not allowed for new fees

Note: Applicants for affirmative asylum are starting to receive an annual fee notice from USCIS with payment instructions. Only one notice will be received about having to pay the annual fees. It is the applicant's responsibility to remember to pay the fee annually. Make sure you have proof of payment!

Pending defensive asylum applications have not yet received notices of payment.

Pretermission of Incomplete Form I-589s

- The Immigration Judge may pretermit Form I-589 without a full evidentiary hearing if factual allegations underlying the claim do not establish prima facie eligibility for relief. *Matter of H-A-A-V* (BIA 2025)
- Best practices for filings:
 - Seek legal advice and develop claim early on
 - A complete form requires responses to all questions with sufficient detail, and any corroborative evidence

ICE Operation:

Targeting Unaccompanied Children

Announcement on October 3, 2025

- ICE sent letters offering unaccompanied children in ORR custody \$2500 to voluntarily return to their home countries in exchange for waiving immigration relief claims and legal rights
- Letters warn of enforcement consequences for declining, such as transfer to adult detention upon turning 18, or potential enforcement action against sponsors/family members in the U.S.
- Important that advocates/service providers ensure children understand their legal rights, and seek legal counsel before signing or accepting anything

Transfers out of ICE Detention Center in Tacoma

- We learned that more than 100 community members in detention at the Northwest Detention Center were transferred to other detention centers across the country, including in Louisiana
- Online locator System
 - <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/#/search>
 - Can search using the person's A Number and Country of Birth, or using their exact full name, country of birth and date of birth
- Visit NWIRP's webpage for more information on how to locate a loved one <https://nwirp.org/resources/nwdc/>

About the Northwest Detention Center

Our Guide for Detained Immigrant (English)

Our Guide for Family and Friends (English)

Our Guide for Detained Immigrant (Spanish)

Our Guide for Family and Friends (Spanish)

Bond Eligibility and Habeas Petitions

NWIRP and partners litigating this issue and multiple courts across the country are finding this practice unlawful

- Tacoma Immigration Judges interpretation
 - NWIRP filed a class action lawsuit in March 2025
 - District Court in Washington State granted summary judgement on behalf of a class of persons detained in Tacoma
 - ICE and EOIR are disregarding the order
- July 8, 2025: DHS Memo altered detention and bond eligibility nationwide
 - Redefined what it means to be an applicant for admission, to include people arrested inside the U.S. long after they crossed the border
 - Effectively eliminated bond hearings before an immigration judge
 - This is a an unlawful reading of the statute
 - *Pending litigation - nationwide class action out of Central District of California*
- September 5, 2025: Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) adopted a similar interpretation in *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*

Attorneys at NWIRP and across the country are filing **multiple habeas petitions** each week

- Success with local courts rejecting the government's position and releasing our clients (some on alternative bond amounts set by immigration judges)

Large-Scale Raid Response Collaboration

WAISN HOTLINE: 1-844-724-3737

- **WAISN Hotline (and other local hotlines) receive reports of potential ICE raid**
 - Hotline staff receive reports of a potential large scale raid
 - Hotline staff communicate with NWIRP staff, including via ****largescaleraid@nwirp.org**** to determine potential raid location (before large-scale is confirmed) ****partners communicate with NWIRP****
- **Rapid Response Teams**
 - Trained rapid responders gather initial information, usually connected via Hotline
 - Verify large scale raid (immigration enforcement) is actively happening
- **NWIRP Legal Response Team (Staff and Volunteer Attorneys)**
 - NWIRP staff and volunteers are mobilized once large-scale raid is confirmed
 - Once on-site, provide legal assistance and information

Preventing *Notario* and other Fraud

- Only licensed attorneys or fully DOJ accredited representatives can represent you in immigration court, can provide legal services, and can give legal advice
 - Check credentials: Practicing attorneys have a State-issued bar license; DOJ accredited representatives can be searched here:
<https://share.google/AohylzsM5r2gW6raW>
- Do not sign documents that are blank, that you do not understand, or that have false information
- Do not pay money without understanding the process and obtaining a receipt and a copy of your retainer
- Do get copies of all applications or other documents prepared for you or filed on your behalf
- If the advice seems too good to be true, get a second opinion

Preventing *Notario* and other Fraud

- Be alert to digital scams
 - Be skeptical of social media posts promising new or rapid immigration relief
 - There is no communication from the government via WhatsApp or social media
 - Generally, there is no communication by phone—with limited exceptions
 - Avoid sharing unverified information on social media
- Do report *notario* fraud or other scams to the Attorney General's Office
 - Victims may file a complaint online at www.atg.wa.gov or call 1-800-551-4636 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays. Written complaints can be filed in Spanish at www.atg.wa.gov/en-espanol.

What can I do?

For Impacted Community Members:

- Print a “know your rights” flyer to have at your home and/or workplace (waisn.org/kyrice)
- Create a safety plan with your family (lcywa.org)
- Create a sample defense plan, in addition to a family safety plan
 - See this resource specific to Colorado:
 - https://coloradoimmigrant.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Family-Preparedness-Packet-2025-ENG_SPA.pdf
- Join community based groups to support each other (e.g. [Mijente](#), [Undocublack Network](#), [My Undocumented Life](#), [United We Dream](#), [NAKASEC](#) and others)

LCYC Family Safety Plan - Virtual Appointments

- **Legal Counsel for Youth and Children (LCYC)**
 - Immigrant Safety Plan
 - Schedule a virtual one-on-one appointment
 - <https://lcyawa.org/isp>

IMMIGRANT SAFETY PLAN



What can I do?

For those who work with and/or care about immigrant community members:

- Listen to and respect community needs
- Offer to help immigrant community members that you know - be humble, ask what they need, let them lead the conversation.
 - Example: help them fill out a family safety plan (lcywa.org)
- Discuss with your workplace how to keep safe from ICE (search nilc.org for guides)
- Order/print Red Cards to have at your workplace, to share at businesses you frequent so they can make available to their customers (ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas)
- Learn about and join efforts of existing community members for accompaniment (waisn.org, [JCIJ NW](http://JCIJNW.org), [The Church Council of Greater Seattle](http://TheChurchCouncil.org)), or other ways to directly help (AIDNW.org, fairfightbondfund.org, [NDLON Adopt a Day Labor Corner](http://NDLON.org))

Accompaniment Training

- **Jewish Coalition for Immigrant Justice NW (JCIJ)**
 - Accompaniment - <https://www.jewishcoalition.org/accompaniment>
 - **Upcoming in-person training on Sunday, October 26** - limited capacity
 - Registration is at tinyurl.com/accompanyoct

Join JCIJ Accompaniment today!

Join the Jewish Coalition to accompany immigrant community members, volunteer with organizational allyship, and support mutual aid efforts. We will provide orientation, training, and support.

Request a JCIJ Accompaniment Training

Would you like to host an Accompaniment Training for members of your organization or congregation? Training includes Immigration 101, purpose of Accompaniment, connection to Jewish tradition, role of the volunteer, specific roles and training, and practice role playing.

Next NWIRP Webinar

- Please join us for our next Immigration Updates Webinar on **December 11, 2025** at 12:00 p.m. in Spanish and at 12:45 p.m. in English + other languages in captions
 - Register
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AJ28vybUTvK1sBaIM2nztA

Watch recorded webinars here:

nwirp.org/webinars/

Thank you!