

# HELP FOR NONCITIZENS WITH A CRIMINAL CONVICTION IN SOCAL

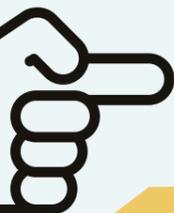
**BE PROACTIVE!** Contact your local Public Defender's Office for **FREE SERVICES** for post-conviction relief. You may be able to vacate your damaging conviction(s).

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

**Current administration has explicitly declared they will target immigrants, specifically those with prior criminal convictions! Even minor convictions can have harmful immigration consequences.**

### GIVE THE PUBLIC DEFENDER THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

1. Your current immigration status
2. What your immigration goals are
3. How has the criminal conviction impacted you in:
  - o Applying for immigration benefits
  - o Your personal life (e.g. has it impacted your traveling, kids school, access to medical care)
  - o Your financial life (e.g. has it prevented you from working or from obtaining certain types of employment, affected you financially, prevented you from applying for benefits?)
  - o Your family (e.g. emotionally, fear of separation from family)
  - o If this conviction was vacated, will that help you?



**If you or someone you know is a noncitizen and has a criminal conviction or arrest, please consult an immigration attorney before pursuing any immigration benefit or initiating contact with immigration officials.**

### PLEASE TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS

#### **YOU SHOULD NOT TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY UNTIL SPEAKING WITH AN ATTORNEY**

1

When you return to the United States, immigration authorities may perform a background check. It is possible that your conviction would cause them to take away your lawful status and bar you from reentering the country. This could be a risk even if you have traveled outside the U.S. without a problem in the past.

#### **YOU SHOULD NOT APPLY FOR ANY IMMIGRATION BENEFIT - INCLUDING VISAS, DACA RENEWALS, GREEN CARD RENEWALS, OR NATURALIZATION - UNTIL SPEAKING WITH AN ATTORNEY**

2

When you apply, immigration authorities will run your fingerprints to obtain your criminal record. It is possible that your conviction would cause your application to be denied and cause you to be placed in deportation proceedings or be detained.

#### **BE SURE THAT YOU ARE WORKING WITH A LICENSED ATTORNEY OR ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE, NOT A NOTARIO**

3

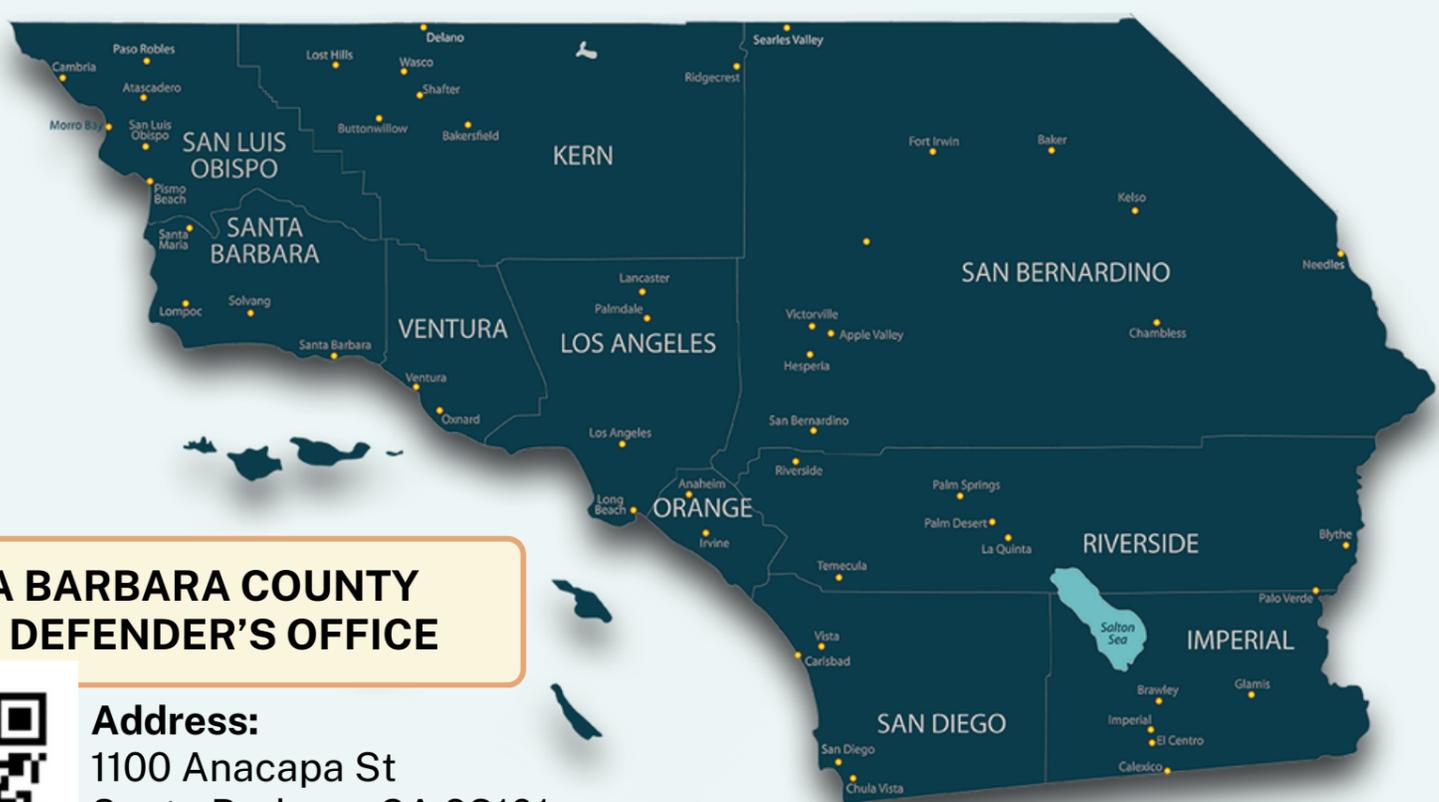
Notarios cannot provide legal advice or represent you in proceedings. Often, they hurt your chance of obtaining immigration status and can cause you to be arrested, detained, and deported. Ask your public defender for a list of local nonprofits and attorneys.

#### **NOT ALL RECORD CLEARANCE REMEDIES CAN REMOVE THE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES OF A CONVICTION**

4

Generally, expungement does NOT eliminate a conviction for immigration purposes (except in certain limited circumstances). You should always speak with an expert in immigration and criminal law to determine what record clearance options, if any, are useful in your specific case.

# SOCAL INDIGENT DEFENSE OFFICES



## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
1100 Anacapa St  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805-568-3470

## LOS ANGELES INDEPENDENT DEFENSE COUNSEL OFFICE



**Address:**  
1945 S Hill St, Rm. 208  
Los Angeles, CA 90007  
213-606-4582  
[Info@idco.lacounty.gov](mailto:Info@idco.lacounty.gov)

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
210 W Temple, Ste 19  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-974-2811  
[Immigration@pubdef.lacounty.gov](mailto:Immigration@pubdef.lacounty.gov)

## SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
323 West Court St  
San Bernardino, CA 92415  
[immigration@pd.sbcounty.gov](mailto:immigration@pd.sbcounty.gov)

## ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
801 Civic Center Dr. West, Ste. 400  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
657-251-6090  
[immigration@ocpubdef.com](mailto:immigration@ocpubdef.com)

## RIVERSIDE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
4075 Main St, Ste 100  
Riverside, CA 92501  
951-955-6000

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
450 B St, Ste. 1100  
San Diego, CA 92101

## VENTURA COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



**Address:**  
800 S. Victoria Ave, #207  
Ventura, CA 93009  
805-654-2201