



MIMA
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF IMMIGRANT
AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Baltimore City Information Post Election 2016

Following last week's presidential election, it is possible that you and your family members may be experiencing high levels of anxiety and fear.

We know these can be difficult times, but MIMA is committed to being there for you and doing everything we can do to ensure that as a resident or as residents of Baltimore, you feel safe and valued.

As a Welcoming City, we will stand united and protect one another.

The following information was compiled by MIMA in partnership with community stakeholders to guide you and your family over the next few weeks.

First and foremost **DO NOT PANIC**

- Right now, nothing has changed. All existing immigration benefits remain in existence.
- We can't predict what will happen after President-Elect Trump assumes office in January. Once more information becomes available we will have a better idea.

Know your rights and report incidents

It is important to know your rights under the law and to report any incidents where you or your family feel threatened or have been the victim of a crime.

- Know Your Rights:
 - <https://www.nilc.org/get-involved/community-education-resources/know-your-rights>
 - Know your rights – [English](#) – [Spanish](#)

Report Hate Crimes

- **Call 911** if you or your family feels threatened or has been a victim of crime
- Report Hate Crimes to one of the following offices

FBI Baltimore 2600 Lord Baltimore Drive Baltimore, MD 21244 Phone: (410) 265-8080 Fax: (410) 277-6677 E-mail: Baltimore@ic.fbi.gov	State Attorney General's Office 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202 Phone: (410) 576-6300 Phone (Toll-Free): (888) 743-0023 Phone (TDD): (410) 576-6372 Website: http://www.oag.state.md.us/	Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center, Inc. Offers advice and referral services and a Crime Victim Legal Advocacy Program Phone: 1-877-VICTIM-1 (1-877-842-8461)
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Due Process Protections

If you are in the U.S. with lawful status, you have a Constitutional right to due process of law. This means that you cannot be deported without a legal procedure. In this procedure, you must present your case to an Immigration Judge, who then determines if you are eligible to stay in the United States.

Refugee & Asylee Status

If you are a refugee or asylee, you should apply for a green card within **one year** of being admitted to the United States or after the grant of your asylum status. Do this as soon as possible by going to a reputable legal provider.

If you have qualified for protection under U.S. law, which is determined by our approval of various international treaties, such as the UN Convention Against Torture, you cannot simply be removed from the country. The procedure to remove an individual if you previously qualified for protection is long and under current humanitarian law, you cannot be deported. Due process protections also apply to individuals with pending asylum cases and individuals cannot be deported unless and until an Immigration Judge determines that they do not qualify to stay in the U.S. These rights and protections extend to people from all countries, including those from majority-Muslim countries. Any change in due process protections would require action from Congress.

Legal Permanent Residents

If you have been a permanent resident for three or more years, consult with a legal service provider about preparing to apply for U.S. citizenship. If you ever have had an encounter with the police, do not apply unless you have consulted with an attorney. Please see Baltimore City Citizenship Services below:

Organization	Contact	Citizenship Classes	Legal Assistance	Application Assistance	Interview Prep	Exam Prep	General Information
Baltimore City Community College*	(410) 986-3201	X			X	X	X
CASA*+	(410) 732-2694	X	X	X	X	X	X
Episcopal Refugee and Immigrant Center Alliance	(410) 467-3751						X
Esperanza Center*	(443)825-3421/(443)825-3425	X	X	X	X	X	X
Greenmount Senior Center	(410) 396-3552	X					X
Immigrant Outreach Service Center*	(410) 323-8564		X				X
International Rescue Committee*	(410) 558-3260/(410)558-3191		X	X	X		X
Strong City Baltimore	(410) 261-3524				X	X	X
World Relief*	(410) 244-0002		X	X	X	X	X

*Fee waiver assistance available for eligible individuals, contact the organization to see if you qualify

+Financial lending services available

DACA Students

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (“DACA 2012”) provides eligible, undocumented young people who arrived before age 16 an opportunity to remain in the United States and to apply for work authorization. DACA is still in effect.

- If you have an upcoming DACA renewal, you may want to renew this within the time frame required. Attempt to renew prior to January’s inauguration (January 20, 2016) if possible, or as soon thereafter as possible. The USCIS fee for the renewal is not refundable.
- If you have not applied for DACA, go to a reputable legal provider for a consultation to discuss your options. Please go to these websites for more information about reputable legal providers: [BIA Roster of the Department of Justice](#) and the [American Lawyers Association](#)
- It is recommended legal Individual Consultation for clients who already an Advance Parole travel document.
- It is also important to be screened for other immigration benefits. Make an appointment for a legal consultation with a qualified legal service provider as soon as possible to see if you are eligible for a permanent form of relief.

Be Aware of Immigration Scams and/or Notarios!

Sadly, this is the time when many unscrupulous people will attempt to offer benefits or protections that do not exist. Only seek legal help from reputable legal providers, using the [BIA Roster from the Department of Justice](#) and American Immigration Lawyers Association’s [Lawyer search](#). To report fraud:

Maryland Attorney General, Consumer Protection English: 410-528-8662 Español: 410-230-1712	Federal Trade Commission (FTC) 1-877-382-4357	Executive Office for Immigration Review 703-305-0470
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Legal Service Providers in Baltimore City

Esperanza Center	430 S Broadway Baltimore, MD 21231	410-522-2668
World Relief Immigration Services	7 East Baltimore Street Baltimore, MD 21202	410-244-0002
International Rescue Committee	3216 Eastern Avenue Baltimore, MD 21224	410-327-1885
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services	700 Light Street Baltimore MD 21230	410-230-2700
CASA	2224 E. Fayette Baltimore, MD 21231	410-732-2694
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)		443-470-9437

DO NOT PANIC

The American Action Forum, a right-leaning policy institute based in Washington D.C., estimates that immediately and fully enforcing current immigration law would cost the federal government \$400 billion to \$600 billion. It would shrink the labor force by 11 million workers, reduce the real GDP by \$1.6 trillion, and take 20 years to complete. Everyone in a community benefits when more people can fully participate.

The government has priorities for who is to be removed from the United States. These priorities have not changed. If you do not fall in one of these priorities, it is less likely (but not impossible) that the government will attempt to deport you. You can learn more about these priorities at your consultation.

What if....

In the unfortunate event of the detention or deportation of a family member, it is important that other family members, especially children, know the plan. Make sure you know which adult is in charge of children, and have all necessary paperwork regarding children and other family members who need assistance in one place, ready for the remaining adult to handle. For a toolkit for families, developed by We Are CASA, please see this [document](#) to know your rights and create a safety plan. For service providers interested in helping families create a family safety plan, please see this [manual](#) by the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC).

Baltimore City Schools

Schools are safe places. In 2011, the federal government issued a [policy](#) designed to ensure ICE enforcement actions do not occur at nor are focused on sensitive locations such as schools and churches.

What should I do if my kid is being bullied at school?

Option 1. Contact your child's school to report the incident(s). The school principal (or designee) *must* investigate within two school days of receiving a report, and parents should expect to hear about resolution within two further school days. The principal also reports the investigation and action taken to the district office in this time frame, using this [investigation form](#).

Option 2. Complete a "Bullying, Harassment or Intimidation Reporting Form." [Reports can be completed and submitted online](#) or by printing out a [hard copy \(español\)](#) and submitting the completed form to the school. If you don't have access to a printer, copies can be obtained at your child's school.

If you are not satisfied with the investigation, please contact the CEO Ombudsman at **443-984-2000**.

Safety

The Baltimore City School Police Force ensures that students and staff have a safe environment in which to learn and teach. If you have questions or concerns related to the safety of your child while in school, please contact the call center at **443-984-2000**. For all other emergencies call 911.

Additional Information and Resources

Please see list of documents providing further information regarding services and resources

- Welcome to Baltimore Guide – MIMA-[English-Spanish](#)
- Citizenship Services – MIMA-[English-Spanish-French-Arabic-Burmese-Chinese-Nepalese-Korean](#)
- Know your rights – [English](#) – [Spanish](#)
- How to prepare for the Changes in the Presidential Administration – [English](#) – [Spanish](#)
- Center for Child and Family and Family Traumatic Stress Kennedy Krieger: **443-923-5980**
- Probono Counseling: **1877-323-5800 - (301) 805-8191**
- Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline: **1-800-422-0009**
- Baltimore Crisis Information and Referral Line **410-433-5175**

This document was created by the Mayor's Office of Immigrant and Multicultural Affairs

For questions, comments or feedback, please contact mima@baltimorecity.gov



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