



# READ THIS BEFORE YOU TAKE LEGAL ADVICE

## **If you have a case in immigration court, only take legal advice from:**

- ◆ **a licensed attorney**

An “attorney” is a person who has a valid license from a state to practice law.

- ◆ **an accredited representative**

An “accredited representative” is an individual who works with a recognized organization and has been given permission by the United States Government to help people in immigration court. A “recognized organization” is a nonprofit, religious, charitable, social service, or similar organization that has been given permission by the United States Government to help people in immigration court.

## **If someone claims to be an attorney** and you want to know if that person is allowed to represent you in immigration court:

- ◆ Ask in what state(s) he or she is licensed to practice law.
- ◆ Call the office that licenses attorneys in that state (this is usually the “state bar association” or the supreme court of that state) and ask that office if the attorney has a bar number and is in “good standing.”
- ◆ Go to the EOIR Web site at [www.justice.gov/eoir/discipline.htm](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/discipline.htm) to find out who is *not* permitted to represent you in immigration court.

**If someone claims to be an accredited representative** and you want to know if that person is allowed to represent you in immigration court, go to the EOIR Web site at [www.justice.gov/eoir/ra.html](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/ra.html) and select “Accredited Representatives List” or call (703) 305-9029 for information.

**If you think you have been a victim of immigration fraud**, contact the EOIR Fraud and Abuse Prevention Program at: [EOIR.Fraud.Program@usdoj.gov](mailto:EOIR.Fraud.Program@usdoj.gov) or (703) 305-0470.