## RIAC<sup>2</sup>



Serving indigent legal service providers in the representation of noncitizen clients in the following Region 2 counties:

**BROOME** CHEMUNG **CHENANGO CORTLAND DFLAWARE HERKIMER JEFFERSON LEWIS MADISON ONEIDA** ONONDAGA **OSWFGO OTSEGO SCHUYLER TIOGA TOMPKINS** 

## **OUR SERVICES**

- Offering free immigration-related CLE accredited trainings to indigent legal service providers and 18-B attorneys assigned in criminal and family court matters
- Support and assistance for language access issues
- Immigration-related legal support and assistance in appellate and postconviction matters
- Supported by a network of statewide regional immigration assistance centers located throughout New York





NY REGIONAL IMMIGRATION ASSISTANCE CENTER, REGION 2

Legal support for attorneys who provide mandated representation to noncitizens in the central region of New York State.



Contact Us: (315) 356-5794
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Tina Hartwell, Esq.
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Rome, NY 13440

#### Who We Are

The Region 2 Immigration Assistance Center was established by Oneida County with assistance from the Oneida County Public Defender Office, Criminal Division. With the support of a grant from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services, we provide training, technical assistance and other legal support to 16 counties located throughout the Central New York region.

## Why We Exist

Changes to immigration laws have dramatically raised the stakes for noncitizens to be subjected to deportation and removal from the United States for a wide array of crimes, including many minor offenses and violations. Consequently, criminal defense attorneys are now required to advise noncitizen clients as to the potential immigration consequences of a criminal conviction under the Supreme Court ruling in *Padilla v. Kentucky*, 559 U.S. 356 (2010).

Similarly, defense attorneys should also consider advising those noncitizen clients in family court proceedings, whose immigration status may directly impact such life-altering decisions as child custody, visitation, adoption, and termination of parental rights.





## Our Goal

To provide training, technical assistance and other support to attorneys in the 5th and 6th Judicial Districts of New York who provide mandated representation to noncitizens in criminal and family court proceedings so they can fully advise their noncitizen clients as to the immigration consequences of their particular case.

## When to Call Us

Attorneys representing clients in criminal proceedings should contact us as soon as possible in order to obtain the legal support necessary to navigate any potential immigration consequences that may arise from a criminal matter (i.e., from the time of arrest and/or arraignment to the completion of sentencing and/or appellate/post conviction representation).

With regard to mandated Family Court representation, please contact us anytime to discuss the possible consequences of an adverse finding or potential settlement.

We offer free CLE trainings. Call us to schedule one in your area or to learn of other CLE trainings scheduled throughout your region.

# <u>Information We Need</u> from You

Please have as much of the following information available as possible when contacting our office:

- Client's name, date of birth and country of birth;
- Client's immigration status, (if known);
- 3. Date of client's initial and last entry into the United States:
- 4. Information concerning current family law issue or pending criminal matter:
- Any prior criminal history (i.e., nature of conviction, disposition, arrest and sentencing dates)
- 6. Any prior or pending immigration matter (i.e., pending immigration court proceeding or application for an immigration benefit);
- 7. Any "immediate family" residing in the U.S. (i.e., (grand) parents, spouse and/or children and their immigration status, if known).





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