

Other Forms of Victim Assistance

Even if you knowingly entered the country illegally, you could be a trafficking victim if you were forced or coerced into working against your will. ICE's primary concern is your safety and ensuring that you and others like you are not victimized again. ICE will connect you to other organizations that can provide long-term assistance and support.

Your freedom is only the first step to rebuilding your life and restoring your well-being. There are many organizations that can assist you immediately. Your ICE Victim Assistance Coordinator can help connect you to these resources.

Some of the many types of assistance that ICE can refer you to and are available to you at no cost include:

- Housing
- Food and other basic needs
- Medical care
- Mental health services and counseling
- Case management
- Legal assistance
- Transportation
- Translation and interpretation
- English language classes
- Job skills training

If You Need Additional Assistance

We encourage you to contact the ICE Victim Assistance Specialist or Coordinator if you have any questions.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

In regard to the status of the investigation, contact the ICE Special Agent:

Name _____

Phone _____

In regard to other available assistance contact the ICE Victim Assistance Specialist/Coordinator:

Name _____

Phone _____

In regard to the prosecution, contact the U.S. Attorney Victim-Witness Coordinator:

Name _____

Phone _____

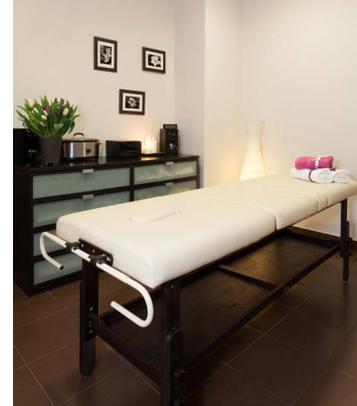
In regard to compensation for medical or other expenses, contact your state's office for crime victim compensation:

Phone _____

For a state program directory, see:
www.nacvcb.org/progdir.html

ICE Victim Assistance Program
Phone (toll free): 1-866-872-4973
Fax: 703-877-3205

VictimAssistance.ICE@ice.dhs.gov



Information for Victims of Human Trafficking



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement



domestic servitude

Information for Victims of Human Trafficking

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Special Agents investigate a variety of federal crimes including human trafficking. Anyone who is forced or coerced, through fear or lies, to perform labor, services, or sexual acts, is a victim of human trafficking. You have a right to fair wages, a clean and healthy work place, and to be free from sexual exploitation. The United States offers immigration benefits to those who are victims of human trafficking. ICE uses a victim-centered approach to combat human trafficking, which places equal value on the identification and stabilization of victims and providing immigration relief, as well as the investigation and prosecution of traffickers.

The Crime of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking victims are found in all legitimate and illegitimate labor sectors, including sweat shops, agricultural fields, restaurants, hotels, massage parlors and domestic service. Violence is often present in human trafficking situations, but exploitation can occur without physical violence. Traffickers often use subtle methods of coercion to induce fear and exert power over their victims. Anyone under the age of 18 and engaged in commercial sex is a trafficking victim.

Common Human Trafficking Scenarios:

- I have been forced or deceived into working against my will and I am unable or afraid to leave employment.
- When I came to the United States, I was told I would provide childcare and would work five days a week for an agreed upon wage. Instead, I have been tricked or forced to work in some other job and am paid very little, if anything.
- My employer took my identification and travel documents when I got to the U.S. I am not allowed to keep them myself and have not seen them since I arrived.
- My employer told me that if I left his employment, he would use his connections to hurt my family members back home.
- I work really long hours in very poor working and living conditions. I have been threatened with jail or deportation if I stop working.
- Someone where I live and work is always watching my every move. My contact with the outside world is very restricted.
- I've witnessed other people try to escape and get beaten or threatened. My employer uses these people as an "example" of what will happen to others if we try to leave.
- I am forced to perform sexual acts against my will. If I do not comply, I fear I will face violence, or my access to my identification and travel documents is restricted and I have been threatened with jail/deportation.

IF YOU CAN RELATE OR ARE IN A SIMILAR SITUATION, YOU MAY BE A VICTIM AND ICE CAN HELP.

What legal rights do I have in the U.S.?

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) is a federal law that guarantees certain legal benefits and services to victims who are in the United States because they were trafficked. The law provides several options for immigration benefits that you can explore with the help of an attorney. If you do not yet have legal representation, we can help refer you to a non-profit organization that specializes in immigration issues.

Continued Presence

Once you are determined by ICE or another law enforcement agency to be a victim of trafficking and a potential witness, you may become eligible for **Continued Presence (CP)**. CP allows you to remain in the United States temporarily (renewable if necessary) during the ongoing investigation or prosecution of the trafficker and you are given temporary work authorization.

T VISA

A **T Visa** is a four-year non-immigrant status that enables victims to stay in the U.S. and assist federal and/or state authorities in the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases. For those older than 18, in order to receive a **T Visa** a victim must be complying with reasonable requests for assistance from law enforcement unless unable to cooperate due to physical or psychological trauma. A **T Visa** recipient must be likely to suffer extreme hardship upon removal from the U.S. Receipt of a **T Visa** also enables recipients to bring certain family members to the U.S.