



Catholic Charities Bureau,
Inc. Diocese of St. Augustine
Central Administration

President
Bishop Felipe J. Estévez

February 16, 2017

Chief Executive Officer
Diocesan Director
Anita Hassell

Dear Clergy and Catholic faithful,

President Trump has issued a number of Executive Orders impacting immigrants and refugees, which are populations served by Catholic Charities Bureau, Diocese of St. Augustine. Because of these orders, we expect the number or refugees that will be allowed into the U.S. next year to be reduced significantly despite the fact that these are the most vetted people entering the U.S. and highly motivated for success.

Ninety-four percent of refugees we serve are financially self-sufficient after 180 days. For immigrants, the specific implications of the orders are less clear however, we expect to see an increase in enforcement activity. Immigrants have rights regardless of their immigration status and we want to be sure they are aware of them and know what to do if approached by law enforcement.

Attached is information in English and Spanish that you can distribute. Anyone with specific immigration issues can get a free evaluation/information next Friday, February 24th by calling our Legalization and Immigration Program at (904) 354-5903 or by coming to our offices located at 134 E. Church Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. On that day, we will review an individual's immigration issues. If the situation is something we can help them address, we will assign an BIA accredited representative to them and make a follow up consultation appointment.

Details and instructions about what to bring on intake day are available by calling 904-354-5903. Our staff only handles immigration issues. We do not handle cases in which an immigrant has been arrested for a crime.

I hope you find this information helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Blessings,

Anita Hassell

Anita A. Hassell
Diocesan Director/CEO
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