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# DIRECTORY OF LEGAL SERVICES FOR BLACK IMMIGRANTS IN THE BAY AREA



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## Why This Directory is Needed

**N**ationally, an estimated **23%** of immigrants are undocumented. Out of this population, **14%** (625,000) are Black immigrants.

Caught in the nexus of racial profiling and an undefined immigration status, Black immigrants suffer the consequences of living in this precarity.

This tenuous legal status, compounded with the language, information, and financial barriers to legal services, make them especially vulnerable to deportation. Moreover, Black migrants exist in a state of “hyper-visibility” which on one hand blends them into existing African American communities, rendering them invisible to immigration service providers; on the other, racism and anti-blackness lead to criminalization, detention, and deportation at disproportionately higher percentages than other immigrants.

This directory was created to inform communities that are virtually invisible to the majority of immigration service providers. It has been compiled to speak to the particular needs of Black foreigners who may not have access to immigration policy and information. It provides an updated, verified, and reliable list of legal service providers that can help them navigate the complex landscape of immigration laws.

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