November 16, 2022

HDAP Ask an Attorney Monthly Meeting

Agenda:

- Focus Topic of the Month: Green Card Casserole History of, and how to read, Lawful Permanent Residency documents
- Open Question & Answer
- Reminder: Benefits Helpline!





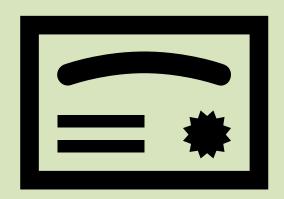




Focus Topic of the Month:

Making Sense of Lawful Permanent Residency Documents

- 1. History of the LPR/ Green Card
- 2. Finding the Information You Need
- 3. Dealing with Expired Documents







Lawful Permanent Residency Basics

- "Green Card" = Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) document
 - First cards were issued in the 1940s
 - Many different versions, some weren't even green!
- Every Card Will Have Information About:
 - When client became a resident
 - How client became a resident
- The Card Might Expire, But Residency Does Not
 - An expired LPR card does <u>NOT</u> mean someone is undocumented
 - But SSA/ DPSS will only accept unexpired documents as proof of status
- Do Not Try to Renew Your Client's Expired Documents
 - Renewing can be complicated legal work that puts you and client at risk!
 - Past success does not guarantee future results



The First LPR Card

- No Expiration Date
- Not Valid Proof of Residency Due to 1950s Update to Immigration Law
- It Was Too Easy to Counterfeit
- HDAP Workers Will Probably Never See One These

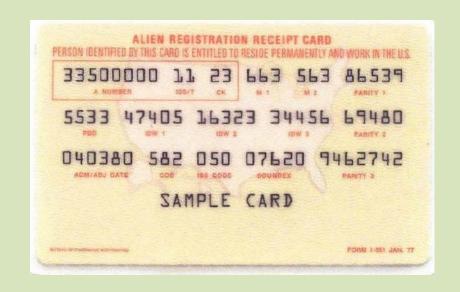






The Never Ending LPR Card





- Issued by DOJ 1977-1989
- Does not expire (even if the picture is really outdated!)
- Still valid, many older HDAP clients will have



The "Not-So-Green" Cards



- Issued by DOJ / INS from 1989 -1997
- Expires after ten years
- Not accepted by SSA, but can be still useful for HDAP

- Issued by DOJ / INS from 1997 2004
- Issued by DHS from 2004 2010
- Expires after ten years
 - Last of these expired in 2020
- Not accepted by SSA, but can still be useful for HDAP





Current Green Cards



- Issued by USCIS from 2017 Present
- Expires after ten years
- All new and recently renewed LPR cards will be this version

- Issued by USCIS from 2010 2017
- Expires after ten years
- Some will be valid until 2027







You Do Not Need To Know Immigration Law!

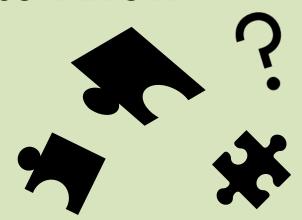




What You Do Need to Know

- Is this document expired?
 - Remember: some don't expire
 - Did it expire within the last year?







- When did client become a resident?
 - This will be listed under "resident since"
 - Was client a resident before 8/22/1996?



- Different eligibility rules apply, generally much easier for pre-'96 LPRs to get SSI (see Desk Guide Section 5 p. 21)
- Has the client been a resident for five or fewer years?
 - If so, generally not going to get SSI without some exception



What You Do Need to Know pt. 2



- Do NOT take Client's word for it!
- Look for the alphanumeric "Category Code"
- Match category code to Desk Guide chart (Section 5 p. 7)
- Check the chart to see if client is a sponsored immigrant



- Depending on how & when client became an LPR, we may need to know about their work history
- Won't be on the card
- Can take client's word for it, rough estimate is fine here!













What You REALLY Need to Know

http://www.changewellproject.com/benefits-helpline

Send us your immigration questions!

- Front & back of card (if possible)
- Any information about work history (helpful, not always needed, but never annoying)







Expired LPR Cards

Can still be helpful to figure out benefits client might qualify for

- When Client became an LPR
- How Client became an LPR
- Whether sponsor deeming might be an issue



But will still need to be renewed





Recently Expired LPR Cards

A Recently Expired LPR Card CAN Still Prove Residency If:

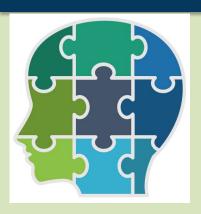
- The LPR Card expired within the last calendar year (1 year)
- Client has applied to renew the LPR Card

Client has a receipt from USCIS stating they've received the application

Then the LPR Card, presented with the receipt, is valid for one more year from the original expiration date (not the date of the receipt)







Questions about LPR Cards?

Please identify yourself: name, county, program

Do NOT identify the client: no full names or identifying health info

Remember: This is a judgment free zone, there are no bad questions!







General Questions!

Please identify yourself: name, county, program

Do NOT identify the client: no full names or identifying health info

Remember: This is a judgment free zone, there are no bad questions!



Asking for Help



ICLC is here to help with your specific questions about SSI/SSDI and CAPI Benefits Advocacy.



Please visit:

http://www.changewellproject.com/benefits-helpline

Next Month



Next Month:

December 21, 2022 at 2:00 pm

Good Cause for Late Filing – A Holiday Miracle



Thank you and see you next week!