

FRAUD ALERT **PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IMMIGRATION SCAMS**

Scammers are impersonating attorneys, accredited representatives, Esperanza, Catholic Charities, and other organizations to steal money.

They may use real names, bar numbers, photos, logos, websites, or social media profiles and falsely promise legal services, representation, consultations, immigration filings, or the release of a loved one.

REMEMBER:

ESPERANZA DOES NOT:

- **Charge the public for its services.**
- **Provide consultations or legal services entirely remotely.** An in-person meeting is required to begin representation. For legal consultations, Esperanza always gives an option to meet in person.
- **Solicit money or conduct consultations through** WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Telegram, Snapchat, WeChat, Signal, Viber, or Line.
- **Ask clients to pay government fees through third-party payment apps.**

NEVER SEND MONEY THROUGH THESE SERVICES:

- Zelle • Cash App • Venmo • Apple Cash • Samsung Wallet • Google Pay
• PayPal • Remitly • Wise • Western Union

Government agencies **do not accept payment through these services.** If a government fee is required, **pay directly through a secure government website** ending in .gov (such as pay.gov). Verify that the website is secure before making a payment.

ESPERANZA DOES NOT CHARGE CLIENTS FOR SERVICES.

If someone claims to be from, or working with, Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project or Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, and asks you for money, please call us at **(213) 251-3505** or Email us at **EIRP@esperanza-la.org**.

ALREADY SENT MONEY?:

Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project cannot recover money paid to a scammer. Contact your financial institution immediately and report the scam to the appropriate authorities.

Resources to Report Fraud:

General Immigration Fraud: Protect Yourself from Immigration Scams.pdf

Scan the QR code for reporting information in your Southern California county.

