

## IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION

### **1. Q. What do I have to do to obtain a "Permanent Resident Card" (Green Card) (PRC)?**

A. A person desiring to immigrate to the United States must file the proper paperwork with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS). There are three ways to legally immigrate:

a. You are in the United States legally and must file for adjustment of status with your US Citizen sponsor.

b. Your relative is outside the US; you can petition for that relative to legally enter the United States and then receive the PRC after arrival in the US.

c. If you are a US Citizen, you can petition for a fiancé petition who is outside the US and bring him/her here and then get married.

### **2. Q. What do I have to do if I have already received my PRC and want to become a US Citizen?**

A. A Permanent Resident who wishes to be a United States Citizen must apply for such with USCIS. Prior to filing the appropriate paperwork, you must meet one of the following three requirements:

a. You must have been a Permanent Resident for 5 years; or

b. You must have been married to a US Citizen for 3 years; and you must have resided with that same US Citizens for 3 years; and you must have had your PRC for 3 years; or

c. You have served honorably in the US Armed Forces.

### **3. Q. How long does the Naturalization process take?**

A. While it varies between applicants because of the different backgrounds and different jurisdictions across the United States, the average time in this jurisdiction is 4 months (as long as you have no criminal history).

### **4. Q. How can I get my immigration questions answered?**

A. Due to the high volume of clients concerning immigration, there is nobody available to take your phone questions or answer questions at the front desk. It is highly advisable that you make an appointment with ACS to see the Immigration Specialist prior to submitting any documents on your own. It could be a very costly mistake if you attempt to submit documents without the proper guidance.

5. Q: Can I just go to the Immigration Office and speak with an officer about my immigration questions?

A. No. Immigration will not see you as a walk-in. If you have questions for immigration you can make an appointment to speak with an officer by going through the INFOPASS system. You must visit [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) and make an appointment.

Contact Numbers for Immigration Questions:

Service Members: Mr. Castillo 655-7182

Military Dependents: Ms. Sales 655-1699