

# IMMIGRATION UNDER THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

*Flecha Law, Ltd. is a law firm in Columbus, Ohio focusing on meeting the needs of the immigrant and Spanish-speaking community. We focus on providing competent representation with courtesy and compassion on matters involving immigration, small business, traffic and family law. Both Attorneys speak Spanish and English fluently.*

## PROPOSED IMMIGRATION REFORM IS HERE!

On President Biden's first day in office, he gave a clear signal of his commitment to immigration reform by introducing a proposed immigration reform bill. While Flecha Law is excited for the prospect of immigration reform, it is important to note that no substantive reform to immigration law has occurred. President Biden has merely introduced a series of changes to our immigration law that his administration would like to see Congress implement. If Congress decides to act on immigration reform, the following is a summary of some of the changes the Biden Administration would like to enact.

### Pathway to Citizenship

The bill permits undocumented persons to apply for temporary legal status. After five years, one can apply for a green card if s/he passes criminal and national security background checks and pays taxes. People with DACA or TPS who meet certain requirements would become immediately eligible for a green card. After three years of holding a green card, one can apply for U.S. citizenship if s/he passes additional background checks and demonstrates knowledge of U.S. civics and English.

### Drop "Alien" from our Laws

"Alien" would be replaced with "noncitizen."

### Prioritize Family Unity

Family-based immigration visas have significant backlogs, which would be cleared under the proposed bill. The long wait for family visas would be eliminated. The current limits to visas available per country would be increased. The 3 and 10-year unlawful presence bars, which often separate families, would be eliminated. Persons abroad with approved family visas could join family in the US on a temporary basis while waiting for green cards to become available. Discrimination against LGBTQ+ families would also be eliminated.

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## FLECHA LAW HAS A NEW WEBSITE

Take a look at [www.flechalaw.com](http://www.flechalaw.com) to check out our new website! In addition to publishing our newsletters, we will also be posting articles on hot topics and updates in immigration law.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE LATEST NEWS

Flecha Law, Ltd. is posting updates on immigration, COVID-19, and more on our Facebook, TikTok and Instagram pages. Follow us for the latest news, videos and more on immigration law!

Facebook.com/FlechaLaw

Instagram: FlechaLaw

## WE ARE NOW ON TIKTOK!

Find our account @FlechaLaw

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### Support for Asylum and Humanitarian

#### Visas

The one-year filing deadline for asylum would be eliminated. The annual cap on U Visas for Crime Victims would be increased from 10,000 to 30,000. Protections for foreign nationals assisting U.S. troops would also be expanded.

### Address Root Causes of Migration to the United States

The U.S. would increase assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras conditioned on their ability to reduce corruption, violence and poverty. Designated Processing Centers would be established

throughout Central America to register and process people for refugee resettlement and other means for lawful immigration to the United States or another country partnered with the program. The Central American Minors program, established under the Obama Administration, would also be re-instituted.

Again, NONE of these changes have been implemented. However, the proposed bill gives us an idea of the type of immigration reform we can expect under the Biden Administration.

## FLECHA LAW'S COVID-19 POLICY

We are continuing to meet clients in our office with extra precautions. We continue to limit the amount of appointments and visitors to the office each day, with strict disinfecting between appointments. Masks are required to enter the office, and only one person may enter the office for their appointment, with an exception for spouses.

Virtual appointments on our Zoom platform are also available!