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NOTICE

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EOIR Announces Creation of Information Helpdesks

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the creation of the Immigration Court Helpdesk (ICH) Program, which is intended to serve non-detained individuals in immigration proceedings. The primary goals of the ICH are to orient non-detained individuals appearing before the immigration court on the removal hearing process and to inform them about possible remedies and legal resources.

For Fiscal Year 2016, Congress provided EOIR with funding to create these information helpdesks at the immigration courts with the highest backlog of cases. In identifying those immigration courts, EOIR examined the overall number of cases pending, the number of cases pending per immigration judge, and the average time cases have remained pending. The ICH will provide in-person information sessions, self-help assistance to individuals without counsel, and information on available pro bono resources to unrepresented individuals.

The ICH was recently launched in five immigration courts: Chicago; Los Angeles; Miami; New York City; and San Antonio. As of early August 2016, all sites are operational.

— EOIR —

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, immigration judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals interpret and adjudicate immigration cases according to United States immigration laws. EOIR's immigration judges conduct administrative court proceedings in immigration courts located throughout the nation. They determine whether foreign-born individuals – whom the Department of Homeland Security charges with violating immigration law – should be ordered removed from the United States or should be granted relief from removal and be permitted to remain in this country. The Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of decisions by immigration judges. EOIR's Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all of the cases it adjudicates.