

A numbers have nine digits (e.g., A 234 567 890). Formerly, A numbers had eight digits (e.g., A 12 34 678). In the case of an eight-digit A number, the caller should enter a "0" before the A number (e.g., A 012 345 678).

For cases before the Immigration Court, ASQ contains information regarding:

- the next hearing date, time, and location
- in asylum cases, the elapsed time and status of the asylum clock
- Immigration Judge decisions

ASQ does not contain information regarding:

- bond proceedings
- motions

Inquiries that cannot be answered by ASQ may be directed to the Immigration Court in which the proceedings are pending or to the appropriate Administrative Control Court. See Chapter 3.1(a)(i) (Administrative Control Courts). Callers must be aware that Court Administrators and other staff members are prohibited from providing any legal advice and that no information provided by Court Administrators or other staff members may be construed as legal advice.

**(d) Inquiries to Immigration Court staff.** — Most questions regarding Immigration Court proceedings can be answered through the automated telephone number, known as the Automated Status Query System, or "ASQ." See subsection (c), above. For other questions, telephone inquiries may be made to Immigration Court staff. Collect calls are not accepted.

If a telephone inquiry cannot be answered by Immigration Court staff, the caller may be advised to submit an inquiry in writing, with a copy served on the opposing party. See Appendix A (Immigration Court Addresses).

In addition, Court Administrators and other staff members cannot provide legal advice to parties.

**(e) Inquiries to specific Immigration Judges.** — Callers must bear in mind that Immigration Judges cannot engage in ex parte communications. A party cannot speak about a case with the Immigration Judge when the other party is not present, and all written communications about a case must be served on the opposing party.