Self-Help Guide

Do You Have a Form Called A Notice to Appear ("NTA")?

Information on Notices to Appear

The information in this packet was prepared by the U.S. Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR). It is not intended, nor should it be construed in any way, as legal advice. The information does not extend or limit the jurisdiction of the Immigration Courts as established by law and regulation. Nothing in this packet shall limit the discretion of Immigration Judges to act in accordance with law and regulation.

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In removal proceedings under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
File No:
In the Matter of:
Respondent: currently residing at:
(Number, street, city, state and ZIP code) (Area code and phone number)
 1. You are an arriving alien. 2. You are an alien present in the United States who has not been admitted or paroled. 3. You have been admitted to the United States, but are deportable for the reasons stated below:
The Department of Homeland Security alleges that you:
On the basis of the foregoing, it is charged that you are subject to removal from the United States pursuant to the following provision(s) of law:
This notice is being issued after an asylum officer has found that the respondent has demonstrated a credible fear of persecution.
Section 235(b)(1) order was vacated pursuant to : $8 \text{ CFR}208.30(f)(2)$ 8CFR235.3(b)(5)(iv)
YOU ARE ORDERED to appear before an immigration judge of the United States Department of Justice at:
on (Complete Address of Immigration Court, Including Room Number, if any) (Date) to show why you should not be removed from the United States based on the (Time) (Time) (Time)(Time) (Time) (Time) _
(Signature and Title of Issuing Officer)
Date:
See reverse for important information Form I-862 (Rev. 08/01/07)

What is a Notice to Appear ("NTA")?

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) uses a Notice to Appear, or "NTA," to explain <u>why it wants to deport you</u>. Everyone in immigration proceedings receives an NTA. If you lose your NTA, tell the Immigration Judge that you need a copy of it at your first hearing.

The sample NTA in this packet is blank. Your NTA contains important information about your case:

- 1. Address. The top of your NTA states your current address. If the address is not correct, you must file a Form EOIR-33/IC, Change of Address/Contact Information Form, *as soon as possible* so that the Court can contact you with information about your case.
- 2. **Facts/Allegations**. Your NTA contains a list of facts, which are also called "allegations." Each fact has a number. The facts usually say which country you are from, when you came to the U.S., and how you entered the country. If you had permission to come to the U.S., the facts also say how long you were allowed to stay. If you committed any crimes, those crimes might be listed here too.
- 3. **Charge(s)**. Your NTA indicates why the Department of Homeland Security believes you should be removed from the United States. These are called "charges." The "charges" indicate the immigration laws that you may have violated. Some "charges" might be that you came to the U.S. without permission, that you stayed here longer than you were allowed to stay, or that you committed certain crimes.

At your first hearing, the Judge may ask you whether the "allegations" in the NTA are true and whether you agree with the "charge" in the NTA. This is your opportunity to tell the Judge if anything in your NTA is incorrect. You can ask the Judge for time to find an attorney before admitting or denying anything in the NTA. Even if the Judge finds that you are "removable" from the United States, it does not mean that you will be deported. You can still ask to stay in the United States and apply for asylum, withholding of removal, protection under the Convention Against Torture, or another immigration benefit. More information on these applications is available at the Immigration Court's Self-Help Legal Center and online at www.justice.gov/eoir/self-help-materials.

4. **Hearing Date**. Most NTAs contain the date, time, and place of your first hearing. If your NTA does not have this information, the Court will mail you a notice with the time, date, and place of your hearing. *It is extremely important* to arrive to your hearing on time. *If you are not at your hearing, the Judge may* <u>order you deported from the United States</u>. If you forget your hearing date, you can call the Immigration Court Hotline at 1-800-898-7180.