



MIKE DEWINE

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Protecting Ohio's Families

Notario scams



Spanish-speaking immigrants are being targeted by scam artists who claim to offer legal services. Notarios are not lawyers; they can't give you legal advice or talk to government agencies for you.

People who call themselves notarios — or sometimes immigration experts — will charge you money, but cannot help you with immigration issues.



How to avoid being scammed:

- Don't go to a notario, notario publico, or notary public for legal advice.
- Never pay for blank government forms. Government forms are free, though you'll probably have to pay a fee when you submit them. You can get free forms at www.uscis.gov/forms, by calling the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) at **800-870-3676**, or by visiting your local USCIS office.
- Get immigration information from official U.S. government websites. Make sure the website ends in ".gov," meaning it is a government site.
- Don't let anyone keep your original documents, such as your birth certificate or passport.
- Never sign a form that has not been filled out, that contains false information, or that you don't understand.
- Keep a copy of every form that you submit and every letter you receive from the government.
- Contact the Ohio Bar Association for information on immigration attorneys in your area.
- Ask to see credentials. Work with an attorney licensed to practice law or an accredited representative capable of handling your immigration matters.

Report notario scams to Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's Office at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov or by calling **800-282-0515**.

www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

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