



Warnings about Notarios

What are they?

- First, it is important to understand where the word comes from. In some Latin American countries, *notarios públicos* are experts in the law who can help with legal paperwork and representation.
- In the United States, the term **notario** is more ambiguous. It can refer to a **notary** – a person that is only authorized to witness the signature of forms. But more importantly, it is a word that has been used to take advantage of Spanish speaking individuals who are looking for help with immigration.

How it Works

- An individual may approach you and claim to be a notario. They will falsely represent themselves as attorneys who are capable of providing legal advice, so that they can collect heavy fees from you.
- They take advantage of the ambiguity around the word “notario” to make you think that they are experts in the law who can help you in the visa application process.
- Many individuals have lost thousands of dollars by trusting these “notarios.”

What to do?

- How do you know who to trust? First, you can do research on who you want to represent you. Most legitimate attorneys have their information available online, with several client reviews that go over the experience.
- Additionally, you can look out for these common false promises:
 - “I can get you a green card quickly.”
 - “I work for ICE, I can get you a visa.”
 - “I can guarantee you the result you want.”

What to Know

- In the field of immigration, there are no guarantees. Every case is different, and every case takes time. Be suspicious of anyone who claims to be an attorney and makes the application process sound “quick and easy.”
- The good news is, there are lots of experienced attorneys out there who can help with your case. Our firm, **CB Immigration**, takes the time to work with you on every step of your application. We know some things may take time, but we also know what it takes to make sure everything is done right.