

references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

REFERENCES TO ORDER OF REMOVAL DEEMED TO
INCLUDE ORDER OF EXCLUSION AND DEPORTATION

For purposes of carrying out this chapter, any reference in law to an order of removal is deemed to include a reference to an order of exclusion and deportation or an order of deportation, see section 309(d)(2) of Pub. L. 104-208, set out in an Effective Date of 1996 Amendments note under section 1101 of this title.

EXPANDED SPECIAL REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS

Pub. L. 103-322, title XIII, §130007, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2029, as amended by Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, §308(g)(5)(F), (10)(F), title VI, §671(a)(6), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-623, 3009-625, 3009-721, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Attorney General may expand the program authorized by section[s] 238(a)(3) and 239(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 U.S.C. 1228(a)(3), 1229(d)] to ensure that such aliens are immediately deportable upon their release from incarceration.

“(b) DETENTION AND REMOVAL OF CRIMINAL ALIENS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Attorney General may—

“(1) construct or contract for the construction of 2 Immigration and Naturalization Service Processing Centers to detain criminal aliens; and

“(2) provide for the detention and removal of such aliens.

“(c) REPORT.—By September 30, 1996, and September 30, 1998 the Attorney General shall report to the Congress on the programs referred to in subsections (a) and (b). The report shall include an evaluation of the programs, an outcome-based measurement of performance, and an analysis of the cost effectiveness of the additional resources provided under this Act [see Tables for classification].

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

“(1) \$55,000,000 for fiscal year 1995;

“(2) \$54,000,000 for fiscal year 1996;

“(3) \$49,000,000 for fiscal year 1997; and

“(4) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 1998.”

§ 1229. Initiation of removal proceedings

(a) Notice to appear

(1) In general

In removal proceedings under section 1229a of this title, written notice (in this section referred to as a “notice to appear”) shall be given in person to the alien (or, if personal service is not practicable, through service by mail to the alien or to the alien’s counsel of record, if any) specifying the following:

(A) The nature of the proceedings against the alien.

(B) The legal authority under which the proceedings are conducted.

(C) The acts or conduct alleged to be in violation of law.

(D) The charges against the alien and the statutory provisions alleged to have been violated.

(E) The alien may be represented by counsel and the alien will be provided (i) a period of time to secure counsel under subsection (b)(1) and (ii) a current list of counsel prepared under subsection (b)(2).

(F)(i) The requirement that the alien must immediately provide (or have provided) the Attorney General with a written record of

an address and telephone number (if any) at which the alien may be contacted respecting proceedings under section 1229a of this title.

(ii) The requirement that the alien must provide the Attorney General immediately with a written record of any change of the alien’s address or telephone number.

(iii) The consequences under section 1229a(b)(5) of this title of failure to provide address and telephone information pursuant to this subparagraph.

(G)(i) The time and place at which the proceedings will be held.

(ii) The consequences under section 1229a(b)(5) of this title of the failure, except under exceptional circumstances, to appear at such proceedings.

(2) Notice of change in time or place of proceedings

(A) In general

In removal proceedings under section 1229a of this title, in the case of any change or postponement in the time and place of such proceedings, subject to subparagraph (B) a written notice shall be given in person to the alien (or, if personal service is not practicable, through service by mail to the alien or to the alien’s counsel of record, if any) specifying—

(i) the new time or place of the proceedings, and

(ii) the consequences under section 1229a(b)(5) of this title of failing, except under exceptional circumstances, to attend such proceedings.

(B) Exception

In the case of an alien not in detention, a written notice shall not be required under this paragraph if the alien has failed to provide the address required under paragraph (1)(F).

(3) Central address files

The Attorney General shall create a system to record and preserve on a timely basis notices of addresses and telephone numbers (and changes) provided under paragraph (1)(F).

(b) Securing of counsel

(1) In general

In order that an alien be permitted the opportunity to secure counsel before the first hearing date in proceedings under section 1229a of this title, the hearing date shall not be scheduled earlier than 10 days after the service of the notice to appear, unless the alien requests in writing an earlier hearing date.

(2) Current lists of counsel

The Attorney General shall provide for lists (updated not less often than quarterly) of persons who have indicated their availability to represent pro bono aliens in proceedings under section 1229a of this title. Such lists shall be provided under subsection (a)(1)(E) and otherwise made generally available.

(3) Rule of construction

Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent the Attorney General from pro-

ceeding against an alien pursuant to section 1229a of this title if the time period described in paragraph (1) has elapsed and the alien has failed to secure counsel.

(c) Service by mail

Service by mail under this section shall be sufficient if there is proof of attempted delivery to the last address provided by the alien in accordance with subsection (a)(1)(F).

(d) Prompt initiation of removal

(1) In the case of an alien who is convicted of an offense which makes the alien deportable, the Attorney General shall begin any removal proceeding as expeditiously as possible after the date of the conviction.

(2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to create any substantive or procedural right or benefit that is legally enforceable by any party against the United States or its agencies or officers or any other person.

(e) Certification of compliance with restrictions on disclosure

(1) In general

In cases where an enforcement action leading to a removal proceeding was taken against an alien at any of the locations specified in paragraph (2), the Notice to Appear shall include a statement that the provisions of section 1367 of this title have been complied with.

(2) Locations

The locations specified in this paragraph are as follows:

(A) At a domestic violence shelter, a rape crisis center, supervised visitation center, family justice center, a victim services, or victim services provider, or a community-based organization.

(B) At a courthouse (or in connection with that appearance of the alien at a courthouse) if the alien is appearing in connection with a protection order case, child custody case, or other civil or criminal case relating to domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, or stalking in which the alien has been battered or subject to extreme cruelty or if the alien is described in subparagraph (T) or (U) of section 1101(a)(15) of this title.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title II, ch. 4, § 239, as added Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, § 304(a)(3), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-587; amended Pub. L. 109-162, title VIII, § 825(c)(1), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3065; Pub. L. 109-271, § 6(d), Aug. 12, 2006, 120 Stat. 763.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1229, act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title II, ch. 4, § 239, 66 Stat. 203, as amended, which related to designation of ports of entry for aliens arriving by aircraft, was renumbered section 234 of act June 27, 1952, by Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, § 304(a)(1), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-587, and was transferred to section 1224 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 109-162 added subsec. (e). Subsec. (e)(2)(B). Pub. L. 109-271 substituted “(U)” for “(V)”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-162, title VIII, § 825(c)(2), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3065, provided that: “The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 5, 2006] and shall apply to apprehensions occurring on or after such date.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective, with certain transitional provisions, on the first day of the first month beginning more than 180 days after Sept. 30, 1996, see section 309 of Pub. L. 104-208, set out as an Effective Date of 1996 Amendments note under section 1101 of this title.

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

CONSIDERATION OF MILITARY SERVICE IN REMOVAL DETERMINATIONS

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, § 570B(b), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1399, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—With regards to an individual, an immigration officer shall take into consideration evidence of military service by that individual in determining whether—

“(A) to issue to that individual a notice to appear in removal proceedings, an administrative order of removal, or a reinstatement of a final removal order; and

“(B) to execute a final order of removal regarding that individual.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘evidence of service’ means evidence that an individual served as a member of the Armed Forces, and the characterization of each period of service of that individual in the Armed Forces.

“(B) The term ‘immigration officer’ has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).”

§ 1229a. Removal proceedings

(a) Proceeding

(1) In general

An immigration judge shall conduct proceedings for deciding the inadmissibility or deportability of an alien.

(2) Charges

An alien placed in proceedings under this section may be charged with any applicable ground of inadmissibility under section 1182(a) of this title or any applicable ground of deportability under section 1227(a) of this title.

(3) Exclusive procedures

Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, a proceeding under this section shall be the sole and exclusive procedure for determining whether an alien may be admitted to the United States or, if the alien has been so admitted, removed from the United States. Nothing in this section shall affect proceedings conducted pursuant to section 1228 of this title.

(b) Conduct of proceeding

(1) Authority of immigration judge

The immigration judge shall administer oaths, receive evidence, and interrogate, ex-