

CALIFORNIA POST-CONVICTION RELIEF FOR IMMIGRANTS

1ST EDITION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1	WHY IMMIGRANT POST-CONVICTION RELIEF?.....	1
§ 1.1	Overview of “Crimmigration” Landscape.....	2
§ 1.2	Legal Framework for Deportation Based on Crimes	3
§ 1.3	Obligations of Justice Stakeholders to Immigrant Defendants	4
§ 1.4	Importance of Post-Conviction Relief.....	5
CHAPTER 2	GATHERING CASE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS	7
§ 2.1	Screening.....	7
§ 2.2	Gathering Documents.....	9
§ 2.3	Understanding the Facts of the Case: Developing a Chronology.....	11
Appendix 2-A	Crim-Imm Questionnaire	13
Appendix 2-B	Immigration and Criminal History Chronology	16
CHAPTER 3	DEVELOPING A CRIM-IMM ANALYSIS AND POST-CONVICTION RELIEF STRATEGY	19
Part One: The Crim-Imm Analysis and the Four Questions.....	20	
§ 3.1	Use a Crim-Imm Expert to Create the Crim-Imm Analysis.....	20
§ 3.2	The Post-Conviction Relief Attorney Will Explain the Analysis.....	21
§ 3.3	Question 1: Might the Client Already be a U.S. Citizen?	22
§ 3.4	Question 2: Is Your Client a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR)?.....	23
§ 3.5	Question 3: Is Your Client Undocumented or Otherwise Removable (Such as a Deportable LPR)?	25
§ 3.6	Question 4: Does the Client Have Some Immigration Status or Benefit, But Less Than LPR?.....	27
Part Two: Immigration Statutes: Crimes-Based Grounds of Deportability and Inadmissibility, Bars to Relief, and the Definition of Conviction.....	27	
§ 3.7	Overview: Crimes-Based Grounds of Inadmissibility and Deportability.....	28
§ 3.8	Crimes-Based Removal Grounds	28
§ 3.9	Penalties for Being Inadmissible or Deportable under the Crimes Grounds	29
§ 3.10	Conduct-Based Removal Grounds: Admitting an Offense, “Reason to Believe,” and Violation of a Protective Order.....	31
§ 3.11	Bars to Various Forms of Relief.....	34
§ 3.12	Definition of Conviction for Immigration Purposes	34
Part Three: Developing a Post-Conviction Relief Game Plan	37	
§ 3.13	The Post-Conviction Relief Plan.....	37

Appendix 3-A	Four Questions to Develop Crim-Imm Case Goals.....	39
Appendix 3-B	IDP Immigration Consequences of Crimes Checklist.....	41
CHAPTER 4	POST-CONVICTION RELIEF VEHICLES: GETTING YOUR CASE HEARD IN CRIMINAL COURT.....	43
Part One: Vehicles for Vacating Convictions and Sentences for Cause	44	
§ 4.1	Penal Codes §§ 236.14 and 236.15	45
§ 4.2	Penal Code § 1018 Motion.....	47
§ 4.3	Direct Appeal	48
§ 4.4	Habeas Corpus.....	49
§ 4.5	Motion to Vacate Under Penal Code § 1016.5.....	50
§ 4.6	Penal Code § 1473.7.....	54
§ 4.7	PCR for Cases Handled Under Prop. 36 (Penal Code § 1210.1) or the former Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJ) (former Penal Code § 1000).....	64
§ 4.8	Chart: Vacatur Based on Legal Error.....	67
Part Two: “Rehabilitative Relief”	68	
§ 4.9	Penal Code § 1203.4(a) and Other “Rehabilitative Relief”.....	68
§ 4.10	<i>Lujan-Armendariz</i> : Relief for Minor Drug Convictions from On or Before July 14, 2011	69
§ 4.11	Executive Pardons	71
Part Three: Sentence Reductions and Reclassifications.....	74	
§ 4.12	Penal Code §§ 17(b)(3), 18.5(a).....	76
§ 4.13	Penal Code § 1172.6.....	83
§ 4.14	Penal Code § 1172.1.....	85
§ 4.15	Proposition 47 Reclassification and Resentencing.....	86
§ 4.16	Penal Code § 18.5(b).....	87
§ 4.17	Proposition 64 Modification of Marijuana Convictions.....	88
Appendix 4-A	Sample 236.14 & 236.15 Vacatur Order.....	92
Appendix 4-B	Sample 1018 Motion	96
Appendix 4-C	Sample Habeas Petition.....	102
Appendix 4-D	Sample 1016.5 Motion	120
Appendix 4-E	Sample 1016.5 Order.....	134
Appendix 4-F	Sample 1473.7 Motion	136
Appendix 4-G	Sample 1473.7 Order.....	148
Appendix 4-H	Text of DEJ Statute, Former PC § 1000 et seq. as of 2017	150
Appendix 4-I	California Felonies, Wobblers, and Misdemeanors and Their Potential Sentences.....	155
CHAPTER 5	GROUND OF LEGAL INVALIDITY	157
§ 5.1	Ineffective Assistance of Counsel	157
§ 5.2	Due Process Right to a Knowing and Voluntary Plea.....	162
§ 5.3	Prejudicial Error	164

§ 5.4	Other Grounds that Apply to All Defendants, Including Noncitizens	165
§ 5.5	Practical Considerations: Obtaining Evidence to Prove a Ground of Legal Invalidity	166
Appendix 5-A	Sample Defendant Declaration.....	172
Appendix 5-B	Sample Crim-Imm Expert Declaration.....	177
Appendix 5-C	Sample Defense Counsel Declaration	181
CHAPTER 6	SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION WITH PROSECUTOR AND IDENTIFYING A SAFE HAVEN.....	183
§ 6.1	How to Identify a Safe Haven	183
§ 6.2	Reaching Out to a Prosecutor.....	186
Appendix 6-A	Alameda County DA Policy March 2020	189
CHAPTER 7	HUMANIZING YOUR CLIENT: DEMONSTRATING EQUITIES.....	193
§ 7.1	Equities and Prejudice.....	193
§ 7.2	Client and Community Engagement in Demonstrating Equities.....	194
§ 7.3	Demonstrating Equities	195
Appendix 7-A	Declaration of XXXXX, Respondent's United States Citizen Wife	197
CHAPTER 8	WINNING THE CASE IN CRIMINAL COURT.....	201
§ 8.1	Court Hearing on the Motion and Repleading	201
§ 8.2	Successful Order	202
CHAPTER 9	WINNING THE CASE IN IMMIGRATION COURT AFTER POST-CONVICTION RELIEF	203
§ 9.1	Choosing a Motion to File When an Order of Removal Has Not Yet Been Issued	203
§ 9.2	What Motion to File When a Final Order of Removal Has Been Issued	205
§ 9.3	Your Noncitizen Client has Departed the United States after a Final Removal Order	213
§ 9.4	Obtaining a Bond Redetermination Hearing in Immigration Court Pending an MTR	216
§ 9.5	Burden of Proof.....	217
§ 9.6	Conclusion.....	218
Appendix 9-A	Sample Motion to Terminate.....	219
Appendix 9-B	Sample Reply to DHS's Opposition to Terminate.....	226
Appendix 9-C	Sample Motion to Reopen.....	233