



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DIVISION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
CIVIL RIGHTS BUREAU

**Re: Matter of Schneiderman v. Figueredo, et al.,
Assurance of Discontinuance No. 10-039; Index No. 401110/12**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please be advised that New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman has established the AIF Restitution Fund (the "Fund") to compensate individuals who were defrauded by American Immigrant Federation, Inc. and American Legal Immigration Services, Inc. a/k/a American Legal Immigrant Services, Inc. These not-for-profit organizations—as well as their corporate affiliates American Immigrant Advertisement Agency, Inc. ("AIAA") a/k/a American Advertising Agency, Inc. ("AAA"), and American Immigrant Services, Inc. ("AIS") (collectively referred to as "AIF")—had primarily engaged in the business of providing immigration-related services for a fee in New York State. All of these entities were run by their president and/or owner Estela Figueredo a/k/a Stella Figueredo (referred to as "Figueredo").

The Fund includes approximately \$300,000, which shall be distributed among eligible former clients who: (1) received immigration-related legal services from AIF; and (2) previously submitted documentation before July 30, 2010 to the New York State Office of the Attorney General (the "OAG") to establish their claim for payments made to AIF for those fraudulent services incurred between May 28, 2006 and April 14, 2010.

To be considered for a disbursement from the Fund, a claimant also must complete, sign, and return the enclosed Restitution Claim Form. You also must provide (or present) one form of identification with the Restitution Claim Form and submit both no later than November 30, 2017. Only individuals who both submit the completed Restitution Claim Form and one form of identification and previously provided documentation to the OAG may be eligible to receive restitution from the Fund. The enclosed Claim Form describes the information and documents necessary to establish eligibility for a restitution payment.

Completed Restitution Claim Forms and the accompanying form of identification can be submitted to the OAG in one of four ways:

(1) **by Mail to:**

New York State Office of the Attorney General
Attn: AIF Restitution Fund
28 Liberty Street, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10005;

(2) **by Email** (Email to: AIF.Fund@ag.ny.gov with “AIF Restitution Fund” in the subject line);

(3) **by Facsimile** (Fax to: 212-416-6030); or

(4) **in Person**, by first scheduling an appointment to present your claim form and form of identification. Call 866-390-2992 to make an appointment to present your documents *in advance* of visiting our offices in person.

Copies of the Restitution Claim Form also are available for download on our website at <https://ag.ny.gov/immigration-fraud/aif-restitution-claim>.

Note that the submission of a Restitution Claim Form and the form of identification required does not, by itself, guarantee payment of restitution. The OAG will evaluate all submitted Restitution Claim Forms and forms of identification. The OAG will verify that you received immigration-related services from AIF based on the information you provide in this form as well as any documents that you previously submitted to the OAG.

Once all completed claim forms have been reviewed, the OAG will contact those applicants deemed eligible and issue a restitution payment from the Fund. Restitution payments will not be issued until all claims have been reviewed and evaluated. After costs and expenses related to the claims administration process are deducted from the Fund, the remaining funds will be distributed to eligible individuals.

Claims will be allocated per case or matter with AIF regardless of how many individuals are tied to the case or matter. For example, only one restitution payment will be awarded where it is established that AIF was retained to file a single family petition. That restitution payment will be divided evenly among all of the family members on that petition who submit timely, valid Restitution Claim Forms.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the OAG by phone at 866-390-2992 or by email at AIF.Fund@ag.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

New York State Office of the Attorney General
Civil Rights Bureau
28 Liberty Street, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10005