IMMIGRANTS AND THE MILITARY

Documented immigrants (those here with green cards) are a major target of military recruiters, armed with promises (sometimes hard to get fulfilled) of immediate citizenship­ along with all the other types of misinformation that military recruiters use to sell youth on enlisting in the military. Both documented and undocumented immigrant males should register with Selective Service when they turn 18, as failure to do so is against the law and could be grounds to deny citizenship in the future. Leave the Social Security number space blank if you do not have a number.

Undocumented immigrants cannot legally enlist in the military so don't believe a recruiter who says otherwise, with the exception that undocumented immigrants with certain highly demanded skills can be enlisted. However, recently some in this category have been deported and some have been discharged from the military. So caution is in order as regulations may change quickly in this arena

**IMMIGRATION REFORM: Comprehensive Immigration Reform:**

Currently the US Congress is not working toward Comprehensive Immigration Reform. So it is not clear what would be in such a bill and hence what impact that Reform would have on immigrants and the military.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM: DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**

During the Obama Administration, action was taken to protect youth who were brought to this country as children by their parents from deportation. DACA recipients are eligible to enlist in the military and males should register with Selective Service once they turn 18.