# 428.7 U VISA AND T VISA NONIMMIGRANT STATUS

Under U.Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)). A law enforcement certification for a U visa may be completed by an officerin-officer in order for a U visa to be issued.

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)). A law enforcement declaration for a T visa may be completed by an officer in order for a T visa to be issued.

Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Detective Bureau supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Detective The Detective Bureau supervisor shall:

- Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.
- b. Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.
- c. Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner.
  - The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.
  - Form I-918 Supplement B certification shall be completed if the victim qualifies under Penal Code § 679.10.10 (multiple serious offenses). Form I-914 Supplement B certification shall be completed if the victim qualifies under Penal Code § 236.5 or Penal Code § 679.11 (human trafficking).
- d. Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.
- e. Inform the victim liaison of any requests and their status.

### 428.7.1 TIME FRAMES FOR COMPLETION

Officers and their supervisors who are assigned to investigate a case of human trafficking as defined by Penal Code § 236.1 shall complete the above process and the documents needed for a T visa application within 15 business days of the first encounter with the victim, regardless of whether it is requested by the victim (Penal Code § 236.5).

Officers and their supervisors shall complete the above process and the documents needed for a U visa or T visa application pursuant to Penal Code § 679.10 and Penal Code § 679.11 within 90 days of a request from the victim or victim's family related to one of their assigned cases. If the victim is in removal proceedings, the certification shall be processed within 14 days of the request.

#### 428.7.2 has been added:

428.7.2 REPORTING TO LEGISLATURE

**U**. The Detective Bureau supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure that certification requests are reported to the Legislature in January of each year and include the number of certifications signed and the number denied. The report shall comply with Government Code § 9795 (Penal Code § 679.10; Penal Code § 679.11).

# 428.8.2 and 428.8.3 have both been added:

## 428.8.2 NOTICE TO INDIVIDUALS

Individuals shall be given a copy of documentation received from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) regarding a hold, notification or transfer request along with information as to whether the Cathedral City Police Department intends to comply with the request (Government Code § 7283.1).

If the Cathedral City Police Department provides ICE with notification that an individual is being, or will be, released on a certain date, the same notification shall be provided in writing to the individual and to his/her attorney or to one additional person who the individual may designate (Government Code § 7283.1).

### 428.8.3 ICE INTERVIEWS

**U**.Before any interview between ICE personnel and an individual in custody for civil immigration violations, the Cathedral City Police Department shall provide the individual with a written consent form that explains the purpose of the interview, that the interview is voluntary and that he/she may decline to be interviewed or may choose to be interviewed only with his/her attorney present. The consent form must be available in the languages specified in Government Code § 7283.1.