



City of
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News from: Oakland Police Department



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U-Visa Certifications: *If You Have Been Denied U-Visa Certification During The Application Process, We Encourage You To Resubmit Your Application To The Oakland Police Department*

Oakland, CA – During the week of January 15, 2018, the Alameda County public defender brought to the attention of the Oakland Police Department two cases of U-Visa certifications that were improperly denied. Upon learning this, OPD immediately conducted an internal audit, reviewing U-Visa certifications starting from 2007, the first year the visas were made available.

The chart on the following page shows the number of U-Visa applications approved and rejected by the Department each year. The audit found that as many as 25 of the 144 rejected certifications in 2017 may have been improperly rejected based on a misapplication of the legal standards governing U-Visa certifications.

If you have been denied U-Visa certification during the application process, we encourage you to resubmit your application to the Oakland Police Department.

The U-Visa is a non-immigrant, temporary visa, which allows a victim who has suffered substantial physical or mental abuse from certain crimes (specified in federal law), and who provides information that can assist law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of the crimes, to remain in the United States for up to 4 years. An immigrant granted a U-Visa will subsequently be given legal status to live and work in the United States.

To learn more about the U-Visa program, please visit this OPD webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/OPD-u-visa> (in Spanish, <https://tinyurl.com/OPD-laVisaU>; in Chinese, <https://tinyurl.com/OPD-ChineseU-Visa>).

The Oakland Police Department apologizes for any inconvenience to our community members who have been affected.

Year	Number of Applications Received	Approved	Rejected
2008	79	76	3
2009	153	147	6
2010	215	199	16
2011	502	471	31
2012	1034	1030	4
2013	1108	1108	0
2014	1622	1614	8
2015	1170	1159	11
2016	1205	1069	136
2017	940	796	144

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at (510) 238-7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

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