

Detainees Immigrants in the Southeast Lack Meaningful Access to Lawyers

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) imprisons roughly 350,000 people each year while their civil immigration cases are adjudicated.¹ Even though most of these immigrants are not accused of violating any criminal laws, they are often held in prisons, sometimes for months or even years at a time – often far from family, friends and resources. People facing immigration removal proceedings have the right to be represented by a lawyer, but only if they can find and retain one in the isolated communities where many immigration prisons are located.

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