

DO NOT MAKE FALSE CLAIMS TO U.S. CITIZENSHIP

It jeopardizes applications and future legalization

Immigration law has harsh penalties for any alien who falsely claims to be a U.S. citizen to obtain a benefit under immigration law or any state or federal law.

A non-citizen must not present him or herself as a citizen to officials.

NON-CITIZENS SHOULD NOT:

- register to vote.
- use false U.S. citizen documents.
- falsely claim to be a U.S. citizen in immigration applications might also result.

The law says that any alien who falsely claims to be a U.S. citizen after September 30, 1996 is inadmissible. It also makes the alien deportable – which means the person can be removed from the U.S. by immigration for this offense.

False claims of citizenship can bar a non-citizen from legally entering or staying in the U.S.

There is no waiver for this bar. There is only one narrow exception, and that is for a child of a U.S. citizen who made the claim because he mistakenly believed he was a U.S. citizen.

Someone without citizenship who presents him or herself as a U.S. citizen could be permanently barred from the U.S.