

Chapter 6

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The immigration consequences of conviction can be severe and can extend to a large number of criminal dispositions. In some cases, however, your client may be able to avoid these adverse immigration consequences or at least minimize them so that he or she remains eligible for immigration relief from removal.

This chapter presents options for minimizing adverse immigration consequences in the criminal case. Section 6.1 describes approaches that are generally applicable regardless of the specific type of case. Whether that approach is feasible will depend, of course, on the circumstances of the case. The remaining sections are broken down by specific categories of offenses and discuss potential options applicable to that offense type. Bear in mind that the following options are not case-specific—they are not a substitute for individualized research or consultation with an immigration attorney.