VOICES Act

What is the VOICES Act?

The Voices of Immigrant Communities Empowering Act, also known as the VOICES Act, was effective January 1, 2019, after Public Act 100-1115 passed. The VOICES Act allows "victims of qualifying criminal activity" to request a law enforcement certification form required by federal immigration law certifying that a person is a victim of qualifying criminal activity for use in applying for a U or T-Visa under the United States Code.

Who is eligible to participate?

Those individuals identified as "victims of qualifying criminal activity" as defined in the act who were involved in an incident investigated by the Vienna Police Department.

"Victim of qualifying criminal activity" means a person described in Section 1101(a)(15)(U)(I)(I) of Title 8 of the United States Code, in the definition of "victim of a severe form of trafficking" in Section 7102(14) of Title 22 of the United States Code, or any implementing federal regulations, supplementary information, guidance, and instructions.

"Qualifying criminal activity" means any activity, regardless of the stage of detection, investigation, or prosecution, designated in Section 1101(a)(15)(U)(iii) of Title 8 of the United States Code, any implementing federal regulations, supplementary information, guidance, and instructions.

How Does Someone Apply? Step 1:

Download the appropriate U or T-Visa Law Enforcement Certification Form:

- U-Visa (USCIS Form I-918 Supplement B) https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-918supb.pdf
- T-Visa (USCIS Form I-914 Supplement B) https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-914supb.pdf

Step 2:

Complete Part 1 of the U-Visa or Part B of the T-Visa. **Do not complete any other sections of the application. Incorrectly completed forms may be rejected or may increase response time.**

Step 3:

Complete the questionnaire on the last page. Although this questionnaire is not required, it will assist the Vienna Police Department in locating case reports and supporting documentation for a law enforcement certification application response.

Step 4:

Send the U or T-Visa Law Enforcement Certification form and questionnaire to:

Chief Jim Miller Vienna Police Department Attn: VOICES Act PO Box 1442 Vienna, IL 62995

Applications can also be emailed to policedept@cityofviennail.net

How long does it take to get a law enforcement certification response?

Response times vary and can take up to 90 business days from the time of the request. The VOICES Act has additional response time provisions, which can be found on the Illinois General Assembly website

https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-1115

Who do I contact at the Vienna Police Department for more information?

Chief Jim Miller is the official designated to receive, review, and respond to requests to complete the certification form. He can also assist with questions relating to the VOICES Act. He can be reached at 618-658-5161, or by email at policedept@cityofviennail.net. Mail can be directly addressed to him at PO Box 1442, Vienna, IL 62995.

Vienna Police Department Chief Jim Miller

VOICES ACT QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is not required by the VOICES Act, however; it assists in location cases and relevant supporting information to a U or T-Visa law enforcement certification form.

DATE:
REQUESTER'S NAME:
REQUESTER'S TELEPHONE:
REQUESTER'S EMAIL:
VICTIM'S NAME (IF DIFFERENT THAN REQUESTER):
DATE(S) & TIME(S) OF INCIDENTS OR APPROXIMATE DATES(S), IF EXACT DATE(S) ARE
UNKNOWN:
LOCATION OR ADDRESS OF INCIDENT:
CASE REPORT NUMBER (IF KNOWN):
OTHER INVOLVED PERSONS (NAMES IF KNOWN):
ADDITIONAL INOFMATION RELEVANT TO THE REQUEST:

RETURN COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE WITH u OR t Visa Applications to:

Chief Jim Miller Vienna Police Department PO Box 1442 Vienna, IL 62995

Applications can also be emailed to Chief Jim Miller at policedept@cityofviennail.net
Questions? Call 618-658-5161 or email policedept@cityofviennail.net