



Refugee  
Empowerment  
Center

# Identifying and Supporting Immigrant Victims of Violent Crime and Trafficking

## What you will learn:

- The barriers to reporting crime and cooperating with law enforcement that are unique to immigrant victims of violent crime and trafficking
- How law enforcement agencies can better develop rapport and establish trust with immigrant victims
- Common fact patterns in labor and sex trafficking cases seen in Nebraska
- How the U Visa and T Visa can help law enforcement detect, investigate, and prosecute crimes
- U and T Certifications and law enforcement's role as a certifying agency
- How Nebraska's LB 518 bears on law enforcement's responsibilities as a certifier
- How to properly assess whether an incident is a qualifying criminal activity for certification purposes
- Additional means of supporting victims of violent crime and trafficking beyond U and T Certifications

## August 15, 2024

### TIME

- 10 a.m. - noon: Victims of Violent Crime
- 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.: Victims of Trafficking

### LOCATION

Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, Classrooms J and H,  
3600 North Academy Road  
Grand Island, NE 68801

### REGISTER

RSVP by August 9 to  
[astrid@immigrantlc.org](mailto:astrid@immigrantlc.org)

## Speakers



As the Lead U/T/VAWA Attorney at Immigrant Legal Center in Omaha, Astrid provides direct representation to clients who have survived violent crime, domestic violence, and severe forms of trafficking. Originally from Western Nebraska, Astrid earned her bachelor's of journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her law degree from Washington University in St. Louis. She is licensed to practice law in Maryland and Nebraska and is fluent in Spanish. In addition to her legal practice, Astrid is an adjunct at the Nebraska College of Law, where she has taught pretrial litigation since 2021. She is also deeply engaged local-level civic engagement.



Jodi Garrelts is a U/T/VAWA Attorney with Immigrant Legal Center in Lincoln supporting survivors of violent crimes and human trafficking. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Spanish Translation/Interpretation from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, Jodi joined the United States Peace Corps, serving in Mozambique as a health volunteer for two years. Jodi has practiced immigration law since 2016 with the last two years focusing specifically on immigration relief for immigrant victims.