

# Criminal

## 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(2) Criminal offenses

- 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(2) Criminal Grounds of Removability

# **8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(2)**

## **Criminal Grounds of Removability**

### **(A) General crimes(i) Crimes of moral turpitude**

**Any alien who-**

**(I) is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude committed within five years (or 10 years in the case of an alien provided lawful permanent resident status under section 1255(j) of this title) after the date of admission, and**

**(II) is convicted of a crime for which a sentence of one year or longer may be imposed,**

**is deportable.**

### **(ii) Multiple criminal convictions**

**Any alien who at any time after admission is convicted of two or more crimes involving moral turpitude, not arising out of a single scheme of criminal misconduct, regardless of whether confined therefor and regardless of whether the convictions were in a single trial, is deportable.**

### **(iii) Aggravated felony**

**Any alien who is convicted of an aggravated felony at any time after admission is deportable.**

**(iv) High speed flight**

**Any alien who is convicted of a violation of section 758 of title 18 (relating to high speed flight from an immigration checkpoint) is deportable.**

**(v) Failure to register as a sex offender**

**Any alien who is convicted under section 2250 of title 18 is deportable.**

**(vi) Waiver authorized**

**Clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) shall not apply in the case of an alien with respect to a criminal conviction if the alien subsequent to the criminal conviction has been granted a full and unconditional pardon by the President of the United States or by the Governor of any of the several States.**

**(B) Controlled substances(i) Conviction**

**Any alien who at any time after admission has been convicted of a violation of (or a conspiracy or attempt to violate) any law or regulation of a State, the United States, or a foreign country relating to a controlled substance (as defined in section 802 of title 21), other than a single offense involving possession for one's own use of 30 grams or less of marijuana, is deportable.**

**(ii) Drug abusers and addicts**

**Any alien who is, or at any time after admission has been, a drug abuser or addict is deportable.**

**(C) Certain firearm offenses**

**Any alien who at any time after admission is convicted under any law of purchasing, selling, offering for sale, exchanging, using, owning, possessing, or carrying, or of attempting or conspiring to purchase, sell, offer for sale, exchange, use, own, possess, or carry, any weapon, part, or accessory which is a firearm or destructive device (as defined in section 921(a) of title 18) in violation of any law is deportable.**

**(D) Miscellaneous crimes**

**Any alien who at any time has been convicted (the judgment on such conviction becoming final) of, or has been so convicted of a conspiracy or attempt to violate-**

**(i) any offense under chapter 37 (relating to espionage), chapter 105 (relating to sabotage), or chapter 115 (relating to treason and sedition) of title 18 for which a term of imprisonment of five or more years may be imposed;**

**(ii) any offense under section 871 or 960 of title 18;**

**(iii) a violation of any provision of the Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. App. 451 et seq.) [now 50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.] or the Trading With the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. App. 1 et seq.) [now 50 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.]; or**

**(iv) a violation of section 1185 or 1328 of this title,**

**is deportable.**

**(E) Crimes of domestic violence, stalking, or violation of protection order, crimes against children and (i) Domestic violence, stalking, and child abuse**

**Any alien who at any time after admission is convicted of a crime of domestic violence, a crime of stalking, or a crime of child abuse, child neglect, or child abandonment is deportable. For purposes of this clause, the term "crime of domestic violence" means any crime of violence (as defined in section 16 of title 18) against a person committed by a current or former spouse of the person, by an individual with whom the person shares a child in common, by an individual who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the person as a spouse, by an individual similarly situated to a spouse of the person under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction where the offense occurs, or by any other individual against a person who is protected from that individual's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the United States or any State, Indian tribal government, or unit of local government.**

**(ii) Violators of protection orders**

**Any alien who at any time after admission is enjoined under a protection order issued by a court and whom the court determines has engaged in conduct that violates the portion of a protection order that involves protection against credible threats of violence, repeated harassment, or bodily injury to the person or persons for whom the protection order was issued is deportable. For purposes of this clause, the term "protection order" means any injunction issued for the purpose of preventing violent or threatening acts of domestic violence, including temporary or final orders issued by civil or criminal courts (other than support or child custody orders or provisions) whether obtained by filing an independent action or as a pendente lite order in another proceeding.**

**(F) Trafficking**

**Any alien described in section 1182(a)(2)(H) of this title is deportable.**

**(3) Failure to register and falsification of documents(A) Change of address**

**An alien who has failed to comply with the provisions of section 1305 of this title is deportable, unless the alien establishes to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that such failure was reasonably excusable or was not willful.**

**(B) Failure to register or falsification of documents**

**Any alien who at any time has been convicted-**

**(i) under section 1306(c) of this title or under section 36(c) of the Alien Registration Act, 1940,**

**(ii) of a violation of, or an attempt or a conspiracy to violate, any provision of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.), or**

**(iii) of a violation of, or an attempt or a conspiracy to violate, section 1546 of title 18 (relating to fraud and misuse of visas, permits, and other entry documents),**

**is deportable.**

**(C) Document fraud(i) In general**

**An alien who is the subject of a final order for violation of section 1324c of this title is deportable.**

**(ii) Waiver authorized**

**The Attorney General may waive clause (i) in the case of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if no previous civil money penalty was**

**imposed against the alien under section 1324c of this title and the offense was incurred solely to assist, aid, or support the alien's spouse or child (and no other individual). No court shall have jurisdiction to review a decision of the Attorney General to grant or deny a waiver under this clause.**

**(D) Falsely claiming citizenship(i) In general**

**Any alien who falsely represents, or has falsely represented, himself to be a citizen of the United States for any purpose or benefit under this chapter (including section 1324a of this title) or any Federal or State law is deportable.**

**(ii) Exception**

**In the case of an alien making a representation described in clause (i), if each natural parent of the alien (or, in the case of an adopted alien, each adoptive parent of the alien) is or was a citizen (whether by birth or naturalization), the alien permanently resided in the United States prior to attaining the age of 16, and the alien reasonably believed at the time of making such representation that he or she was a citizen, the alien shall not be considered to be deportable under any provision of this subsection based on such representation.**

**(4) Security and related grounds(A) In general**

**Any alien who has engaged, is engaged, or at any time after admission engages in-**

**(i) any activity to violate any law of the United States relating to espionage or sabotage or to violate or evade any law prohibiting the export from the United States of goods, technology, or sensitive information,**

**(ii) any other criminal activity which endangers public safety or national security, or**

**(iii) any activity a purpose of which is the opposition to, or the control or overthrow of, the Government of the United States by force, violence, or other unlawful means,**

**is deportable.**