

Voluntary Departure Options Comparison Guide

Amaral Law - Immigration Defense Attorneys

6750 N. Andrews Ave, Suite 208, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Phone: 1-844-423-3733 | WhatsApp: (619) 867-1707

Understanding Your Options

When facing removal from the United States, you have several options. This guide compares three main paths: **Court Voluntary Departure**, **Deportation (Removal)**, and the **CBP Home App Self-Deportation Program**.

Complete Comparison Table

Factor	Voluntary Departure (Court)	Deportation (Removal)	CBP Home App
Who Grants/Awards	Immigration Judge in court proceedings	Immigration Judge orders; ICE executes	Self-initiated via CBP mobile app
Eligibility Requirements	1 year physical presence, good moral character, no aggravated felony	No eligibility - this is a consequence of removal order	Undocumented status, no serious criminal history
Financial Cost	You pay travel + bond (500–10,000)	Government pays (but severe consequences)	FREE flight + \$1,000 stipend
Time to Leave	60-120 days to prepare	Immediate or short notice	Quick departure after approval
Immigration Record	No removal order on record	Formal removal order (permanent)	Self-removal recorded
Re-entry Bars	None from departure itself (unlawful presence bars may apply)	5, 10, or 20 years; permanent for aggravated felony	Depends on circumstances; may face unlawful presence bars
Future Visa Eligibility	Generally eligible to apply	Barred; requires waiver	May be eligible; case-by-case
Control Over Process	High - choose departure date/method	None - ICE controls everything	Moderate - you initiate but CBP schedules
Legal Process Required	Must request in immigration court	Result of court proceedings	No court required - app-based
Penalty for Non-Compliance	10-year bar + 1,000–5,000 fine if you don't leave on time	N/A - forcibly removed	Must complete process once started

Factor	Voluntary Departure (Court)	Deportation (Removal)	CBP Home App
Best For	Those who can afford costs and want clean record	N/A - this is not a choice	Those who cannot afford travel and have no defenses

Important Warnings

⚠ Before making any decision:

- 1. Consult an attorney** - You may have defenses you don't know about
- 2. Using CBP Home may affect** your ability to return to the U.S. legally
- 3. If you have pending asylum** or other relief applications, self-deporting may abandon those claims
- 4. Financial incentives may change** - Verify current offers before deciding
- 5. These programs are voluntary** - You cannot be forced to use them

Who Should Consider Each Option?

Consider Court Voluntary Departure If:

- You have no viable defense to removal
- You want to preserve future immigration options
- You have family or business matters to settle
- You can afford travel expenses and any required bond
- You plan to apply for a visa in the future

Consider CBP Home App If:

- You have no viable defense to removal
- You cannot afford travel expenses for court voluntary departure

- You want to leave quickly and avoid detention
- You have no pending applications for relief

Fight Deportation If:

- You have a valid defense (asylum, cancellation, etc.)
- You qualify for relief from removal
- Deportation would cause extreme hardship to U.S. citizen family
- You fear persecution in your home country
- There are errors in your case that can be challenged

Need Legal Help?

Every case is unique. Our experienced immigration attorneys can evaluate your situation and help you understand which option is best for you and your family.

Schedule a Consultation:

- Phone: 1-844-423-3733
- WhatsApp: (619) 867-1707
- Website: www.amaral.law

This information is for educational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Immigration law is complex and constantly changing. Consult with a qualified immigration attorney before making any decisions about your case.

© 2025 Amaral Law. All rights reserved.