

DIRECTORY · GARY

Gary Official Offices Directory 2026: Court, Passports and Apostilles

In this city the first question is not the address but the jurisdiction: which court and which office handle you is set by your paperwork, not by distance. And the city has an acceptance facility of its own.

SHORT ANSWER

The most valuable distinction in this guide first: **you cannot conclude from living in Indiana that your case is in the Indiana court.** The agency's own administrative control list ties a case **not to distance but to the federal field office that issued the charging document**, and in this area the two directions are opposites. The same principle applies on the USCIS side: **we could not confirm which field office and which Application Support Center cover this county**, nor whether they sit on the Indiana side or the Illinois side. **We publish no USCIS, ICE, CBP, SSA or federal tax agency street address**, because we could verify none of them from an official source this round; **the address that governs is the one on your appointment notice.** The good news: **this city has a passport acceptance facility of its own**, and on free legal help this county is better placed than the big city.

Jurisdiction: not the postcode, but who issued the papers

- **The document is the agency's own list.** The administrative control list sorts which cases a court may hear by **the federal field office that issued the charging document** and by named detention facilities. It is the single most useful document found for this question.
- **What is in the Chicago court's row:** the **Chicago district office and all of its sub-offices**, and in that same row Indiana facilities appear by name; Indiana entries show up there **three times. We do not print that court's address in this guide**, because we are not telling you your case will be heard there.
- **What is in the state's only court's row:** the responsibility column names only **two county jails**, and **this county's jail is not one of them.**
- **What follows and what does not.** The list's own wording is **may have jurisdiction over.** So this guide does not tell you where your case will be heard; all it tells you is that the decision is not made by which building you live near.
- **The practical consequence:** when you plan a hearing day, the direction you set off in **is written on your notice.** In this area the two directions are opposites and setting off the wrong way can mean missing a hearing.

The state's only court: three windows and an Eastern clock

If your case is at the Indianapolis Immigration Court, the lines below are for you. The most expensive detail about that court is this: **the window for filing documents is not open all day but in three separate slots**, and in the court's own words **no document is accepted after 4:00 p.m.**

ITEM	DETAIL
Court	Indianapolis Immigration Court, the only immigration court in Indiana
Address	Minton-Capehart Federal Building, 575 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 617, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone	317-464-1399
Court hours	8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern , weekdays; closed on federal holidays
Filing window	Three separate slots: 8:15 to 10:30, 12:30 to 2:00 and 3:30 to 4:00, Eastern
The morning slot in your own clock	Opens at 7:15 and closes at 9:30
Hard cutoff	No document accepted after 4:00 p.m.
Entrance	Visitors enter through the west entrance
General email	Indianapolis.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov
Asylum clock requests	Asylum.Clock.Indianapolis@usdoj.gov. The request must give the name, the alien registration number and why the clock should be corrected; the court states this address is only for those requests
Parking and transit	The court's own text says only this: there is street parking and there are parking garages nearby. No free parking is offered and no transit route is named
Case lookup	acis.eoir.justice.gov (with your A number) · 1-800-898-7180

SIX RULES FOR GOING TO THE COURT FROM HERE

- **The time difference bites twice.** All of the times above are Eastern and you are on Central. Catching the morning window from here means **getting up earlier than it looks**.
- **Catching two windows in one day is hard from here.** Someone living at the state capital can get a time-limited filing to two separate windows in a day; **plan for one window** and leave room for traffic.
- **Do not send a fax.** The court's own statement: unless staff or the judge specifically requested them, faxes and electronic filings are not accepted, and **unauthorized submissions are not docketed and are discarded without being examined and without notice to the sender. Distance does not change this.**
- **There is no free parking and no transit route is named.** You are going to a federal building downtown and the garage fee is part of the budget. **We do not invent a route name.**
- **A remote hearing is worth more from here, but it is still not a right.** The agency publishes a hearing link and a telephone access code for each judge, but whether a case is heard remotely **is the judge's decision**. Make the request early and in writing.
- **Bad-weather closures matter more from here:** the court can close unexpectedly and closures are announced on the agency's operational status page. Check it on a lakeside morning before you set off. **There is security at every visit**, and hearings are open to the public; in the court's own words no advance notice is required for your visit.

The agencies whose addresses we do not print, and why

- **USCIS:** the agency's pages were closed this round to both direct access and automated reading, and the archive record was not usable either. **We do not publish an office address from an old archive.** What you need to know is the office types: a **field office** holds interviews, an **Application Support Center** takes fingerprints and photographs, and the two are not the same place. You do not choose the center; which one you attend is stated on the **I-797C notice**. Appointments are free, the Contact Center is **1-800-375-5283**, and any intermediary site charging to book one is a fraud.
- **And in this city there is a second and more important gap:** we **could not confirm** which field office and which Application Support Center cover this county, nor whether they are **on the Indiana side or the Illinois side. We say neither Indiana nor Illinois.** Do not assume; read your appointment notice, and read the **time zone** on it too.
- **Keep three sentences apart. We publish no address,** because we could not verify one. We do not say **there is no office**, because we do not know that. And a third, separate one: **we do not know which office covers this county.** A reader who substitutes one for another either travels for nothing or does not travel at all.
- **ICE and CBP:** no office address, telephone number or name is published, and **we could not confirm which enforcement office covers this county** either. Confirm check-in locations on [the agency's own check-in page](#); if you hold an appointment notice, **the address on it governs**. The detainee information line is **1-888-351-4024**. **We could not confirm** whether Indiana has a detention facility, a port of entry or a county jail under a detention contract, and we write no guess.
- **The border zone question: we write it in neither direction.** This city sits on the lakeshore and near the state line, and **we could not establish from any source** whether a Great Lakes shoreline counts as an

external boundary under the federal regulation. The one thing that is plainly true and needs no source: **a state line inside the United States is not an external boundary.**

- **Errors made at entry** are corrected by deferred inspection offices, and **we could not confirm the location and hours of that office for this area**, so we print no address or days; read the list on the agency's own page and **write first, travel second**, because some of these offices are open only a few hours a week. **They correct only errors made at the moment of entry.**
- **The Social Security Administration:** we could confirm no office in Indiana from an official source this round. Which office covers you is set by **your ZIP code**; ssa.gov/locator, general line 1-800-772-1213. **Do not assume the office is on the Illinois side because Chicago is close**; proximity is not jurisdiction and the locator's answer is the answer.
- **The federal tax agency:** we could not confirm the list of offices reviewing ITIN documents in Indiana and **we publish no address**. Confirm the office and the appointment through [the agency's office locator](#); the appointment line is 844-545-5640.
- **The county benefits and health application offices: we could not confirm whether there is a local office in this county**, because the state's server never opened this round. Apply through [the state's own benefits portal](#) or on **800-403-0864**.

Passports: the city has its own acceptance facility, and two traps

The lines below come from the Department of State's own acceptance facility data file. **Call before you go anyway**: the data file holds hours in a coded form and facilities set their own appointment arrangements. **The right question is not which is closest but which is open**; we print no distance figure.

FACILITY	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE AND HOURS
Gary Main Post Office	1499 Martin Luther King Drive, Gary, IN 46401	219-886-8000 · weekdays 9:00 to 15:30 . The facility inside the city itself
Hammond Post Office	5530 Sohl Ave., Hammond, IN 46320	219-932-2757 · weekdays 10:00 to 15:00
East Chicago Post Office	901 East Chicago Ave., East Chicago, IN 46312	219-397-2415 · weekdays 9:00 to 14:00
Merrillville Post Office	303 W. 80th Place, Merrillville, IN 46410	219-769-2155 · weekdays 10:30 to 15:30
Hobart Post Office	221 Main St., Hobart, IN 46342	219-942-2721 · weekdays 10:00 to 15:00
Crown Point Post Office	128 S. East St., Crown Point, IN 46307	219-663-0062 · weekdays 10:00 to 15:00
Portage Post Office	2701 Willowcreek Road, Portage, IN 46368	219-762-6571 · Monday to Saturday 9:00 to 15:00 . The only Saturday option in this area, and it is in the next county

- **The first trap, and it belongs to this county:** the Town of Merrillville, **7820 Broadway, Merrillville, IN 46410**, telephone **219-769-3501**, is also listed as an acceptance facility, but its own note reads: **open the last Friday of each month and one selected Saturday per month**, with Friday hours of **9:00 to 11:00**. That

is **two hours a month**. Someone who finds it on a map and drives there on a Tuesday has wasted the trip, and **the row itself says to ring first**. Do not confuse the two: the post office in the table above is in the same town but is **a separate institution, open every weekday**.

- **The second trap is Saturday:** for a household that cannot take a weekday off, the only Saturday option appears to be in the next county. Confirm it by telephone first.
- **Which transactions are in person:** first-time adult applicants, children under 16, people whose passport was lost, stolen or damaged, and people whose passport was issued before they turned 16 or is more than 15 years old. **Renewal is done by mail**. Find the nearest facility with your ZIP code on [the department's facility finder](#); statewide there are **128 facilities in 114 cities**.
- **We print no fees**. We could not read passport fees from the department's own page this round; read the current amounts on [the department's fee page](#). You make two separate payments: the passport fee to the department and the acceptance fee to the facility.
- **There is no passport agency in Indiana**. On the department's list the two nearest are in neighboring states and **we print neither address nor hours**, because the source pages could not be read directly. **But in this city the advantage is yours:** the nearest agency is **in the same city as the Consulate General**, so an urgent passport errand and a consular appointment can fit into **one trip**. The detail is in our consulate guide.
- **Who qualifies:** international travel within **14 calendar days**, or a foreign visa needed within **28 calendar days**; death and life-or-death emergencies are a separate category. **Booking is free** and the agency says so itself; you confirm a chosen slot **within 15 minutes** and up to seven people from one household may share a record. **Being close does not put you in the urgent category**.
- **After you apply** the information line is **877-487-2778**, weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and weekends 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Eastern**. Because you are on Central time, **that window is 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. here, and 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the weekend**. A small detail: the **first two digits** of your application locator number tell you which office holds your file.

The apostille: the state's only office, and it is not in this city

ITEM	DETAIL
The office	The authentication department within the Indiana Secretary of State
Address	302 W. Washington Street, Room E-018, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Branches	None . The office's own answer: the only office in the state is at that address
How it works	By appointment only, and on Eastern time
Fee	\$2.00 per authentication issued , non-refundable
Payment	Cash (exact change), check, money order or credit card; checks and money orders are made out to the state office
Normal turnaround	One to two business days from the date of receipt
In person with an appointment	Up to 10 documents while you wait; beyond that a self-addressed stamped envelope is required
In person without an appointment	Up to 5 documents while you wait

ITEM	DETAIL
By mail	Documents received before noon are mailed the next business day, those received after noon within two business days. A self-addressed stamped return envelope is required
Telephone	Two official sources give two different numbers: (317) 232-2677 and 317-234-9768 . We could not work out which is current and we take no side; if one does not answer, try the other

A source caution, because this touches your money and your calendar: we could not read any of the lines above from the office's own live pages. The state's server never opened from this machine this round and the information came from **archive captures taken between 2023 and 2025**. **Confirm the fee, the turnaround and the appointment requirement by telephone before you set off.** Two things matter especially from here: **the office is on Eastern time**, so the appointment you are given **falls an hour earlier in your own clock**; and in the office's own words **postal service deliveries are not made directly to this office**, so do not choose ordinary mail for a time-limited document. The office's own warning in capitals belongs here too: **authentications issued by this office may not be used in the United States.**

City or county: here the question has a real answer

This split is **the opposite** of the arrangement in the state's largest city. There the city and county are consolidated and most tasks go through one door; in Gary there are **two doors** and knowing which one saves a day. Municipal services sit with Gary's own departments; property tax, deeds, the courts and the sheriff sit with **Lake County**.

BODY	DETAIL
City service line	Gary 311 · 219-881-1311 · the portal is on the city's own site and there is a phone app · bill payment included · response within 24 to 48 hours . We could not verify which languages it serves or whether anonymous reports are accepted
City hall	401 Broadway · front desk 219-881-1300 · council office 219-881-1315 · hours 8:30 to 16:30 , and the city states on its own page that these are Central time . The legislative body is the Gary Common Council and there is a separately elected Gary City Clerk
Trash, sewer and wastewater	Gary Sanitary District, a city department · 219-944-1211 · \$24.15 a month · second cart \$10 a month plus \$25 delivery · for the service list call 219-882-8445 and ask for extension 3
Electricity, gas and water	Electricity and gas from NIPSCO, water from Indiana American Water. For a rate or billing complaint, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission and the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor. We could not verify where the sewer and trash rates are set
Rental registration and inspection	The city's own program; the duty falls on the landlord · \$5 per unit, up to four units · late fee \$25 · penalty starts at \$250 · the program's own pages did not open and we could not verify that a public registry exists

BODY	DETAIL
Eviction and small claims	In the Lake County courts. We could not verify which court covers which address, its hours or its contact details; read the court name and address on the notice itself
Library	Gary Public Library, the city's own system . Main building 220 West 5th Avenue; branches 3953 Broadway and 501 South Lake Street; telephone 219-886-2484 . The card asks not for a number but for identification and a current address inside the district; the first card is free , a replacement is \$2.00 . The county library system does not serve this city
Property tax and the homestead deduction	With the Lake County auditor. We could not verify the offices' contact details; call about the filing date, the current amount and what is accepted in the number field, and ask for the answer in writing
Marriage license	Lake County Clerk, and the counter is not in this city but at the courts building at the county seat . Cash only · \$25.00 if one of you lives in this county, \$65.00 if neither is an Indiana resident · hours 8:30 to 15:30 , the shortest of the five counties · telephone 219-648-6996 , second number 219-755-3466 · judges for ceremonies 11:00 to 12:45
Birth and death certificates	Two routes: the state vital records division and the county health departments. The county is faster , but the long form comes only from the state and an apostille requires the state copy. A foreign passport is on the primary identification list and is sufficient on its own . We could not read the identification list the county division accepts
Apostille	Indiana Secretary of State, 302 W. Washington Street, Room E-018 · by appointment only · \$2 per authentication · Eastern time

Free legal help: which office covers this county

ORGANIZATION	WHERE AND HOW	ITS LIMITS
Indiana Legal Services, Inc.	A nonprofit law firm providing free civil legal assistance across all 92 counties. The branch covering this county is the Merrillville Office , 7863 Broadway, Suite 205, Merrillville, IN 46410, telephone (219) 738-6040 , weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central . The statewide intake line is 1-844-243-8570 , Monday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern , which is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. here ; the online application is open five days a week	There is a status limit and we write it in the same breath: the organization may represent only citizens, people with established lawful immigration status, and people without status who are victims of crime or trafficking. There are income and asset tests as well. A decision is given in about 14 days , and applying does not mean the case is accepted
Immigrants and Language Rights Center	The same organization's immigration arm, working statewide out of the state capital. The case types it publishes: visas for survivors of crime and trafficking, petitions under the Violence Against Women Act, naturalization, asylum, removal defense, adjustment of status, family-based immigration and language access cases	The center says it holds in-person consultations only on an emergency, case-by-case basis ; the route in is the telephone line or the online form

ORGANIZATION	WHERE AND HOW	ITS LIMITS
Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic	Provides free services statewide and says itself that it does immigration work. Its single office is at the state capital; the telephone is (317) 429-4131 , answered weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and text messaging is available on request	And here the advantage is yours , see the box below

ON THIS ITEM THE BIG CITY IS NOT THE ADVANTAGED ONE

- The clinic above runs a free general legal advice **online service open to Indiana residents living outside the four counties around the state capital. This county is not one of those four**, so you can go through that door from your own computer, while a reader at the state capital cannot and is directed to the office. **The usual balance in this series reverses here.**
- A second item works the same way: the statewide self-help service Indiana Legal Help offers a search by ZIP code or county, a calendar of clinics where you can speak with an attorney, a route to ask a volunteer attorney a question free of charge, and court forms. Items like the **fee waiver form** are the sort of thing a newcomer does not know exists. We print the service's own disclaimers too: **using it does not make you a client and your communications are not protected by attorney-client privilege.** The site does not state which body operates it, so we name no operator.
- **The branch hours are published in Central time, and that is a corroboration.** The organization publishes this county's branch hours in Central and its four other branches' hours in Eastern. **But the statewide intake line's hours are in Eastern;** the branch's clock is your clock and the line's clock is not.
- There is also a center at the state capital that **connects** immigrants to legal resources, the Immigrant Welcome Center, 2049 N Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202, telephone 317.808.2326. **We found no statement that the center itself provides legal representation**, so we do not write it up as a place to expect representation.
- **We found no Indiana state board, council or program specific to Türkiye**, and no Indiana-based Turkish association either. A Chicago-based cultural organization was mentioned this round, **but we could not read its own site and could not verify its activity;** so we do not name it. **We do not say there is none.**

A LOCAL DELEGATION AGREEMENT: UNANSWERED, AND THE REASON IS STRUCTURAL

- The state has a statute in force and it requires cooperation: a governmental body may not enact or implement an ordinance, resolution, rule or policy that **restricts** its staff from communicating with federal officials, sending information to the Department of Homeland Security, maintaining information or exchanging it with another governmental entity. We set the provisions out in [our Indiana guide](#). **Read this as neither a protection nor a threat.**
- The chapter's final section states that it **shall be enforced without regard to race, religion, gender, ethnicity, or national origin**. We pass that on not as a promise but as an instruction the legislature gave to those enforcing it. Another section requires **written notice** to every law enforcement officer and notification of the county sheriff during jail intake after an arrest. **That is a notification duty, not a detention authority.**
- **Source caution:** we could not read the chapter on the General Assembly's own site and read it from a commercial legal publisher whose text is stamped **current as of January 1, 2026**; any amendment from the 2026 session would not appear there.
- **We could not confirm a federal delegation agreement for this county.** The agency's list of participating agencies and its data files were closed to access. **We do not say there is none;** we say the research could not confirm it.
- **And here the county question is not even one question:** this county contains many separate municipalities and many separate police departments, and a list covering the sheriff's office does not cover those departments. **So a county answer does not answer every address.** Put the question to your own municipality's department as well.
- **The Attorney General's own agreement is known from news reporting and the sources conflict:** they do not even agree on how many sheriff's offices are involved. **We give no figure and take no side.**
- **There is a question this chapter does not answer and we do not treat its silence as an answer:** whether a local agency may hold someone on the basis of a federal civil detainer falls outside it. We write nothing in either direction.
- **Do not use this guide to decide which side of the state line to live on.** Choosing an address by these lines gains you nothing and gives you either false comfort or false fear.

Emergency and information lines

LINE	NUMBER
Emergency (police, ambulance, fire)	911
Suicide and crisis line	988
City service line	219-881-1311
Trash and sewer department	219-944-1211
Detainee information line	1-888-351-4024
USCIS Contact Center	1-800-375-5283

LINE	NUMBER
Immigration court case lookup	1-800-898-7180
State benefit applications	800-403-0864
Free legal help, the branch covering this county	(219) 738-6040

Addresses and hours change. No USCIS, ICE, CBP, SSA or federal tax agency street address is printed here, because none could be verified from an official source this round; always go to the address on your appointment notice, and read the time zone on it. The apostille office's lines came from archive captures and two official sources give two different telephone numbers. Information as of October 9, 2026.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN GARY **Have a question about your immigration status?**

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