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Must I Carry My Green Card With Me At All Times?

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Submitted by Chief Editor on May 1st 2018

Can I keep the notarized copy of my green card instead of original green card? Because I think it's risky to carry GC all the time and have fear of it getting lost. cost and wait time for replacing GC is very high. When I will travel out of town or government buildings I can take my GC with me. But for other day to day routine travel can I keep my GC safe at home ? What is the maximum penalty I have to pay if random checked by immigration officer (very unlikely) I provide my driving license and notarized copy of GC? Is it very serious offense ? Have you seen people getting into immigration(USCIS) trouble for not carrying original GC? Do we have to do police complaint if GC is lost? If yes then can you please explain the procedure, and forms to fill.

ANSWER:

Watch the Video on this FAQ: Must I carry my green card with me at all times? ^[2]

Video Transcript

In Trumps America I would rather not take a chance and if you look at section 264 of Immigration and Nationality Act which is codified as 8 USC section 1304, the subsection, clearly says every alien 18 years and over shall at all times carry with him and have in his personal possession any certificate of alien registration or alien registration receipt card issued to him pursuant to subsection D. So if you don't carry your green card with you, you are guilty of a misdemeanor which means a crime and shall upon conviction for each offence be fined not to exceed a hundred dollars or be imprisoned not more than 30 days or both.

More... ^[2]

Note: This is a verbatim transcript of the referenced audio/video media delivered as oral communication, and, therefore, may not conform to written grammatical or syntactical form.

Green Card:

General Green Card [3]

Loss of green card [4]

FAQ Transcript:

Note: This is a verbatim transcript of the referenced audio/video media delivered as oral communication, and, therefore, may not conform to written grammatical or syntactical form.

Unless the context shows otherwise, all answers here were provided by Rajiv [5] and were compiled and reported by our editorial team from comments and blog on immigration.com [6]

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Links:

[1] <https://immigration.com/faq/general-green-card-loss-green-card/must-i-carry-my-green-card-me-all-times>

[2] https://youtu.be/LymVQLm_oME?t=86

[3] <https://immigration.com/greencard/green-card/general-green-card>

[4] <https://immigration.com/greencard/green-card/loss-green-card>

[5] <http://www.immigration.com/law-offices-rajiv-s-khanna-pc>

[6] <http://www.immigration.com>

[7] <https://immigration.com/JavaScript%3Avoid%280%29%3B>