



News from: **Oakland Police Department**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OPD Makes U-Visa Information Available

Oakland, CA — On Tuesday, November 19, 2013, the Oakland Police Department (OPD) added a new page, *U-Visa*, to its website.

A form of witness protection, the U-Visa is a non-immigrant, temporary visa, which allows a victim who has suffered substantial physical or mental abuse from certain crimes (specified in federal law), and who provides information that has, is, or will assist law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of the crimes, to remain in the United States for up to 4 years.

The City of Oakland and OPD have been staunch supporters of the U-Visa program since it started back in 2007. The U-Visa program furthers the City's humanitarian policies of providing refuge to victims of human rights violations and crimes abroad. OPD encourages community members, especially those who are non-documented and in fear of deportation, to forward to report crime and seek assistance with the U-Visa program.

For more information, go to the OPD U-Visa webpage at <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/OPD/s/UVisa/index.htm>.

Nixle Tip Watch allows tipsters to send OPD a tip three ways:

1. *Text* **TIP OAKLANDPD** to **888777** from your cell phone
2. *Call* our toll-free tip hotline at **855-TIPS-247** (855-847-7247)
3. *Respond* to OPD's Nixle messages\

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510-238-7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

Visit Nixle.com to receive Oakland Police Department alerts, advisories and community messages, or follow OPD on Twitter, @oaklandpoliceca.

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