Opinion: Federal agencies are going after fraudulent immigration advisers

By Tony West, Alejandro Mayorkas and Edith
Raltne946r 9 a By c Tc .0005tne9Sp1rJ TJ T* .0003 Tc -.0048 Tw [(the system.)-6.7(Sometimes known)]TJ 13.84 0 TD .0006 Tc .0016 Tw [(as "notarios,

Format Dynamics:: CleanPrint:: htt/pvww.mercurynewscom/ci_18250617?IADID=Se Page 2 of 2

inform them about the legal process and provide information about where to find legitimate legal advice and representation.

Despite these efforts, we still need your help.

Before paying for immigration services, check www. uscis.gov/avoidscams and learn how to verify any claims being made. And if you are already a victim of someone posing as an immigration "professional," report the crime to your state attorney general and to the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftc.gov/complaint. Working together, we can stop these scams, prosecute those who are responsible and make sure people can find the legitimate help they need.

TONY WEST, who grew up in San Jose, is assistant attorney general for the Civil Division of the Department of Justice. ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS is the director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security. EDITH RAMIREZ is a member of the Federal Trade Commission. They wrote this for this newspaper.