

Immigrants Can Appeal Deportation If Bad Lawyer Work Is To Blame

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As reported in the <u>Dallas Morning News</u>, a rule limiting access to lawyers for immigrants facing deportation has been tossed out by the Obama administration. Here are excerpts from the article:

The rule was issued in the waning days of the Bush administration, angering immigrants' rights groups that immediately sought to persuade the incoming Democratic administration to discard it.

On Wednesday, Attorney General Eric Holder did just that, saying he is vacating the order issued by predecessor Michael Mukasey that said that immigrants facing deportation do not have an automatic right to an effective lawyer.

Mukasey had issued a 33-page decision in January saying the Constitution does not entitle someone facing deportation to have a case reopened based upon shoddy work by a lawyer. Mukasey also said, however, that Justice Department officials have the discretion to reopen such cases if they choose.