

YOUR COMPLETE ACTION GUIDE — What To Do Right Now

Caruso v. Esteva, Case No. 25-DR-1351

Cecilia — you have a very strong legal position. This guide tells you exactly what to do, step by step, starting today. You don't need to figure anything out on your own. Just follow these steps in order.

TODAY — Sunday, March 1

Step 1: Write Down Everything About The Passport

Sit down and write a detailed statement about your passport. Answer these questions:

- When did Biagio take your passport?
- Where were you when it happened?
- What did he say?
- Where do you think the passport is now?

Sign it and date it. This is evidence. Keep the original and make a copy.

Step 2: Gather These Documents

Check what you have access to right now. Make copies of everything you can find:

- Your Argentine birth certificate
- Your marriage certificate (License #22-51145, Naples FL, December 14, 2022)
- Any text messages from Biagio — save them, screenshot them, email them to yourself
- Any photos of injuries or threatening messages
- The Italian cohabitation contract from July 1, 2019
- Any bank statements showing you received \$0

If you don't have some of these, that's okay. Write down which ones you're missing. Your attorney will help you get them.

Step 3: Write Your Financial Statement

Write this down clearly — it will be used in your emergency motion:

- I have \$329 total
- I have no income
- I have no vehicle
- I have no passport — my husband took it
- Biagio controls all the money

Sign and date this too.

TOMORROW MORNING — Monday, March 2

This is the most important day. Follow this schedule.

8:00 AM — Call the Argentine Consulate in Miami

 **(305) 373-7794**

Address: 800 Brickell Ave, Suite 1040, Miami FL 33131

Tell them: *“My passport was taken by my husband during our divorce proceedings. I need an emergency replacement passport.”*

Bring with you:

- Your birth certificate
- Any other Argentine ID you have
- Your marriage certificate

You do NOT need Biagio’s permission or cooperation. The consulate will help you. This is your right as an Argentine citizen.

9:00 AM — Call a New Attorney

You need a new family law attorney TODAY. Your prior attorney Insignares did not help you — that chapter is closed. You deserve real representation.

Call the Florida Bar Lawyer Referral Service: 1-800-342-8011

Ask for:

- A family law attorney

- In Collier County
- Experienced with high-asset divorce
- Experienced with international assets

When you speak to attorneys, say exactly this:

“I am in an emergency situation. My husband took my passport, I have \$329 to my name, and I currently have no attorney. He has two lawyers. I need help immediately.”

Important: Florida law requires Biagio to pay your attorney fees because he has the money and you don’t. A good attorney will take your case knowing this. Your \$329 is not a barrier to getting excellent legal help.

10:00 AM — Call Miami-Dade Court (Your DV Case)

 **(305) 275-1155**

Ask about: **Case 2025-017251-FC-04**

Say: *“What was the outcome of the August 25, 2025 hearing in my case?”*

Write down exactly what they tell you. Word for word if possible. This information is important for your attorney.

11:00 AM — Collier County Clerk (If You Don’t Have an Attorney Yet)

Address: 3315 Tamiami Trail E, Naples FL 34112

 **(239) 252-2646**

If you have not found an attorney by this point, you can file the Emergency Motion for Return of Passport yourself. You have the right to do this.

- Go to floridacourts.org for the forms
- Tell the clerk: *“I need to file an emergency motion. My husband took my passport.”*
- Emergency motions go to the duty judge — you may be heard the same day

THIS WEEK — March 2 through March 8

Once you have an attorney, let them take over. There are 8 motions ready to be filed on your behalf. Your job this week:

- **Let your new attorney file the motions** — they are prepared and ready

- **Do NOT sign anything** Biagio or his lawyers send you without your attorney reviewing it first
- **Do NOT discuss the case with Biagio directly** — all communication should go through your attorney
- **Do NOT leave Florida** without telling your attorney first
- **Collect every piece of evidence you can access:** text messages, emails, photos, financial documents, anything

Apply for VAWA Protection (I-360)

Talk to your attorney (or an immigration attorney) about filing a VAWA I-360 petition. This is critical:

- It protects your immigration status **no matter what happens with the divorce**
- There is a fee waiver available — **it costs you \$0**
- You qualify based on the abuse you have experienced
- Hotline for questions: **1-800-375-5283**

YOUR RIGHTS — In Plain Language

You need to know these things:

- **You are entitled to 50% of everything acquired during your marriage.** That is approximately **\$11.9 million minimum.**
 - **Biagio must pay your attorney fees** because he has the money and you don't. This is Florida law.
 - **You are entitled to temporary financial support** while the divorce is pending. You should not be living on \$329.
 - **Taking your passport is a federal crime.** Biagio can face serious legal consequences for this.
 - **Your immigration status is protected under VAWA.** You will not be deported. The law is on your side.
 - **You have 7 years of evidence** documenting this relationship. Your case is strong.
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IMPORTANT NUMBERS — Save These In Your Phone Right Now

Who	Number
Argentine Consulate Miami	(305) 373-7794
Florida Bar Lawyer Referral	1-800-342-8011
Collier County Court	(239) 252-2646
Miami-Dade Court	(305) 275-1155
National DV Hotline	1-800-799-7233
VAWA Immigration Hotline	1-800-375-5283

Cecilia — you are not alone. You have rights, you have evidence, and you have a strong case. Take it one step at a time. Start today.