

NOTE: THE INFORMATION BELOW IS PROVIDED AS GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY.

Immigration law is very complex, and the stakes for many people are very high. If you are reading this information sheet, it is likely that you have encountered a situation in your immigration processing that our office is unable to help you with, and we are suggesting that you find an outside attorney to help you.

When seeking immigration advice, research practitioners who have experience with exactly your type of case, and who not only process a large volume of similar cases but are respected by their peers in the profession for their contributions to the field. Don't stop at just one referral, and don't just pick the cheapest (it will be vastly more expensive to fix the mistakes of a sloppy or unethical practitioner).

It is important that your attorney is not only knowledgeable, but experienced and respected in the field. If your case is especially complex, your attorney will need to draw on professional resources. His/her reputation with government agencies and with other attorneys can thus be crucial to the success of your case. You may need to speak to several attorneys before choosing one. Some attorneys may turn down your case if they don't feel they can help you. Above all, if anything about the attorney or their practice makes you uncomfortable, do NOT engage that attorney's services.

Each law practice sets its own fees and rates for service, and many are competitive in this area. With most immigration attorneys initial consultation is either free or a minimal charge that is applied towards legal fees if you engage that attorney. Legal fees are often on a "flat rate" schedule, meaning that you are not charged hourly but by the type of matter the attorney is engaged to perform. Additionally, most firms will work out a payment plan that is affordable in your situation.

Resources for Legal Consumers:

American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA): This is the professional organization for Immigration Attorneys. They also run a referral service which can be found on their website at: <http://www.aila.org/default.aspx>

California State Bar Association: http://www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_home.jsp

Los Angeles County Bar Association: has an excellent referral service, which can be reached through their website: <http://www.smartlaw.org/index-f.cfm>

Martindale- Hubbell Directory: This respected directory can be accessed at: <http://www.martindale.com/>

Attorneys:

The attorneys **listed alphabetically** below are drawn from the local Los Angeles Area. These are some with which OIS/FSVS has worked in the past and/or has knowledge of the excellence of their reputations. However, we can't recommend one specifically for your situation. Please feel free to give us feedback about your experiences with them.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Any attorney you engage should at minimum hold membership in both the State Bar of California and AILA (the American Immigration Lawyer's Association).

Audra Behne

14724 Ventura Blvd., 2nd Fl.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
Phone: (818) 881-2155 Email: AudraBehne@aol.com
Website: <http://www.audrabehne.com/>

Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP

12121 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1001
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1168
Phone: 310-820-3322 Email: mdavid@fragomen.com
Website: <http://www.fdbl.com/index.html>

**Note: This is the largest immigration law firm in the U.S., practicing exclusively in employment-based immigration law. In their Los Angeles office Margaret David is tasked specifically with taking on individual cases. Her profile is on their website.*

Adam Green

Attorney at Law
6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1020
Los Angeles, CA 90048
Phone: 323-852-6135 Email: adamgreen@earthlink.net

**Note: Attorney Green is especially experienced with student immigration issues.*

Law Offices of Catherine L. Haight

6080 Center Drive, 6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045-1574
Phone: 310-242-5555 Email: chaight@haightlaw.com
Website: www.haightlaw.com

Wolfsdorf & Associates

1416 2nd Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Tel: (310) 570-4088,
Fax: (310) 570-4080
Website: <http://www.wolfsdorf.com>

**Note: This is the firm USC employs for university faculty and staff cases. They offer reasonable rates to individuals from USC.*

NOTE: THE INFORMATION ABOVE IS PROVIDED AS GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. PLEASE PERFORM YOUR OWN RESEARCH WHEN SEEKING AN IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY TO ENGAGE ON YOUR CASE.