

letter to uscis

letter to uscis is an essential phrase for anyone navigating the U.S. immigration process, as effective communication with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) can impact case outcomes. Whether you are providing additional evidence, requesting an update, or addressing a complex situation, knowing how to write a proper letter to USCIS is crucial. This comprehensive guide explores the importance of correspondence with USCIS, outlines step-by-step instructions, and highlights the best practices for formatting and submitting your letter. It also provides sample templates and answers to common questions, ensuring your letter is professional, clear, and compliant with USCIS requirements. By following these guidelines, you improve the likelihood of timely and positive responses to your immigration matters.

- Understanding the Purpose of a Letter to USCIS
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Understanding the Purpose of a Letter to USCIS

A letter to USCIS serves as a formal communication tool between applicants, petitioners, or their representatives and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. This letter can be used for a range of purposes, such as submitting additional evidence, requesting information about a pending case, clarifying application details, or responding to a Request for Evidence (RFE). It is critical to ensure that each letter is concise, well-organized, and contains all relevant information to support the ongoing immigration process. Properly written letters can expedite case processing and minimize misunderstandings or delays.

Key Components of an Effective USCIS Letter

To maximize the effectiveness of your letter to USCIS, it is important to include several key elements. Each component serves a specific function, ensuring your correspondence is easily

understood and correctly processed by USCIS officers.

- **Applicant's Information:** Full name, address, contact details, and official identification numbers (such as A-number or receipt number).
- **Date:** The date the letter is written and sent.
- **USCIS Address:** The correct USCIS office or service center address.
- **Subject Line:** Briefly states the purpose of the letter (e.g., "RE: Response to Request for Evidence for Form I-485, A# 123456789").
- **Salutation:** Addressing the letter to "To Whom It May Concern" unless a specific officer is named.
- **Body:** Clear and structured explanation of the purpose for writing, with supporting details.
- **Supporting Documents:** Clearly referenced enclosures or attachments.
- **Signature:** Hand-signed (if mailing) or electronic signature, plus printed name.

How to Format Your Letter to USCIS

Proper formatting is essential for a professional and legible letter to USCIS. A well-formatted letter enhances credibility and facilitates efficient processing. Follow these formatting guidelines to ensure your letter meets USCIS standards:

General Formatting Guidelines

Use a standard, readable font such as Times New Roman or Arial in 12-point size. Margins should be set to one inch on all sides. The letter should be single-spaced with a space between paragraphs for clarity. Always type your letter; handwritten letters are discouraged due to legibility issues.

Organizing the Letter

Begin with your own information at the top left of the page, followed by the date, and then the USCIS office address. Include a subject line to clarify the purpose of your correspondence. Structure the body into logical paragraphs, each addressing a specific point. End with a formal closing, your signature, and a printed name.

Essential Tips for Writing a Successful Letter

A well-written letter to USCIS can significantly impact your case. Follow these essential tips to improve your letter's effectiveness:

1. **Be Clear and Concise:** Clearly state your purpose and provide only relevant information.
2. **Use Proper Case Details:** Always include your receipt number, A-number, or other identifiers.
3. **Stay Professional:** Use formal language and avoid emotional or informal expressions.
4. **Proofread Carefully:** Check for spelling, grammar, or factual errors before sending.
5. **Reference Attachments:** List any supporting documents at the end of your letter and label them appropriately.
6. **Keep Copies:** Always retain a copy of your letter and supporting documents for your records.

Common Reasons for Writing to USCIS

Applicants and petitioners write letters to USCIS for various reasons. Understanding the most frequent scenarios helps you tailor your message effectively. Some common reasons include:

- Responding to a Request for Evidence (RFE) or Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID).
- Requesting a case status update or expedited processing.
- Submitting additional or corrected documents.
- Updating personal information or notifying USCIS of a change of address.
- Withdrawing an application or petition.
- Requesting a rescheduled interview or biometrics appointment.

Sample Letter to USCIS

Below is a sample template for a letter to USCIS. Adapt the content to fit your specific situation and ensure all required details are included.

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

[Phone Number]

[Email Address]

[Date]

USCIS

[Specific Service Center or Office Address]

Subject: Response to Request for Evidence for Form I-130, Receipt Number: [Receipt Number], A#: [A-Number]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the Request for Evidence (RFE) dated [Date of RFE] regarding my Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative. Enclosed please find the requested documentation, including [list documents].

Please let me know if any additional information is required. I appreciate your attention to my case and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten Signature]

[Printed Name]

Enclosures:

- Copy of RFE notice
- Birth certificate
- Marriage certificate

Submitting Your Letter: Delivery Methods and Best Practices

After drafting your letter to USCIS, it is important to submit it using the correct method. Double-

check the address for the relevant USCIS office or service center. Letters can typically be sent via U.S. Postal Service, courier services like FedEx or UPS, or uploaded through your USCIS online account if instructed. Always use a trackable method to confirm delivery, and keep a record of the tracking number.

Attach copies (never originals) of supporting documents unless specifically requested. Clearly reference all attachments in the body of your letter and label each document. If submitting online, follow USCIS upload guidelines and ensure your files are in accepted formats.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What information should always be included in a letter to USCIS?

A: Always include your full name, address, date, relevant identification numbers (such as A-number or receipt number), the purpose of your letter, and a list of any enclosures or attachments.

Q: Can I email my letter to USCIS?

A: USCIS typically does not accept emailed letters unless specifically instructed. Most communication should be sent by mail, courier, or uploaded via your USCIS online account.

Q: How do I address the letter if I don't know the name of the officer?

A: Use a generic salutation such as "To Whom It May Concern" or "Dear USCIS Officer" if you do not have a specific name.

Q: Should I include copies or originals of supporting documents?

A: Submit copies of supporting documents unless the USCIS specifically requests originals. Keep the originals for your records.

Q: How can I confirm that USCIS received my letter?

A: Use a trackable mailing service and keep your tracking number. Some case updates may also appear in your USCIS online account.

Q: What is the best way to organize multiple supporting documents?

A: Label each document clearly, reference them in your letter, and provide a cover sheet or table of contents if multiple documents are included.

Q: Can I write my letter in a language other than English?

A: All correspondence with USCIS must be in English. If you provide documents in another language, include a certified English translation.

Q: What should I do if I realize I made a mistake after sending my letter?

A: If you made a significant error, write a follow-up letter as soon as possible with a clear explanation and any necessary corrections.

Q: How long does it take for USCIS to respond to a letter?

A: Response times vary depending on the type of request and current processing times. Complex cases or requests for evidence may take several weeks to months for a response.

Q: Is it necessary to use a lawyer to write a letter to USCIS?

A: While not required, legal assistance can be helpful for complex cases or if you are unsure about the content or format of your letter. For straightforward matters, individuals can typically write their own letters using proper guidelines.

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Letter to USCIS: A Comprehensive Guide to Crafting Effective Correspondence

Navigating the complexities of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) can feel overwhelming. A well-crafted letter can significantly impact the outcome of your case, whether you're requesting an update, providing additional evidence, or appealing a decision. This comprehensive guide will walk you through everything you need to know about writing a compelling and effective letter to USCIS, significantly improving your chances of a positive response. We'll cover everything from formatting and tone to content and essential elements to include. Let's get started.

Understanding the Importance of a Well-Written Letter

USCIS processes millions of applications annually. Your letter is your opportunity to stand out and ensure your case receives the attention it deserves. A poorly written or disorganized letter can easily get lost in the bureaucratic shuffle, delaying your process or even leading to negative consequences. Conversely, a clear, concise, and persuasive letter can demonstrate your commitment to the process and provide crucial context that might otherwise be overlooked.

Key Elements of an Effective Letter to USCIS

Before we delve into the specifics, let's establish the core components of a successful letter:

Formal Tone and Professional Language: Avoid slang, colloquialisms, and emotional language. Maintain a respectful and professional tone throughout.

Clear and Concise Writing: Get straight to the point. USCIS officers are busy, so avoid unnecessary details or rambling sentences.

Accurate and Factual Information: Double-check all information for accuracy. Inaccuracies can damage your credibility and hurt your case.

Proper Formatting and Organization: Use a standard business letter format, including your contact information, the date, and USCIS's address.

Relevant Case Information: Always include your receipt number, alien registration number (A-Number), and any other relevant case identifiers.

Structuring Your Letter: A Step-by-Step Guide

1. **Heading and Salutation:** Begin with your contact information (name, address, phone number, email) followed by the date. Address the letter to the appropriate USCIS office or individual, if known. Use a formal salutation such as "Dear Sir/Madam" or "Dear [Officer's Name]," if you know it.

2. **Introduction:** Briefly state the purpose of your letter in the first paragraph. Clearly identify the specific issue you are addressing (e.g., requesting an update on your application, submitting additional evidence, appealing a decision). Reference your receipt number and A-Number.

3. **Body Paragraphs:** This section forms the core of your letter. Provide clear, concise, and factual information supporting your request or argument. Use bullet points or numbered lists to organize information effectively, especially if you have multiple points to make. Include supporting documentation referenced by exhibit numbers.
4. **Conclusion:** Summarize your request or argument in the concluding paragraph. Clearly state what action you are requesting from USCIS. Express your appreciation for their time and consideration.
5. **Closing:** Use a formal closing such as "Sincerely," or "Respectfully," followed by your typed signature and printed name.

Providing Supporting Evidence

If your letter requires supporting evidence, refer to each document with an exhibit number (e.g., Exhibit A, Exhibit B). Ensure all supporting documents are clearly labeled and organized. Submit originals whenever possible; copies are acceptable, but originals are generally preferred.

Following Up on Your Letter

After sending your letter, keep a copy for your records. You can track the status of your case online through the USCIS website. If you haven't received a response within a reasonable timeframe, you can follow up with a phone call or another letter.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

Being overly emotional or aggressive: Maintain a professional and respectful tone at all times.

Including irrelevant information: Focus on the key facts and avoid unnecessary details.

Using informal language or slang: Use formal, professional language.

Failing to proofread: Thoroughly proofread your letter for errors in grammar and spelling.

Conclusion

Crafting a compelling letter to USCIS is crucial for a successful immigration process. By following these guidelines, you can significantly increase your chances of a positive outcome. Remember to be clear, concise, respectful, and accurate in your communication. A well-written letter demonstrates professionalism and commitment, leaving a positive impression on the USCIS officer reviewing your case.

FAQs

1. What is the best way to send a letter to USCIS? USCIS generally prefers letters sent via certified mail with return receipt requested. This provides proof of delivery and ensures your letter reaches its destination.
2. How long does it take USCIS to respond to a letter? Response times vary depending on the nature of your request and current USCIS processing times. It is best to allow ample time for a response.
3. Can I send my letter via email? Generally, USCIS prefers physical mail for important communications. Check the specific instructions for your case to determine if email submission is acceptable.
4. What if my English isn't perfect? If you're not comfortable writing in English, consider seeking assistance from a translator or immigration attorney.
5. What should I do if I don't receive a response? If you haven't received a response within a reasonable timeframe, follow up with a phone call or another letter, clearly referencing your previous correspondence.

letter to uscis: *Preparing for the United States Naturalization Test* The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2019-09-17 A reference manual for all immigrants looking to become citizens This pocket study guide will help you prepare for the naturalization test. If you were not born in the United States, naturalization is the way that you can voluntarily become a US citizen. To become a naturalized U.S. citizen, you must pass the naturalization test. This pocket study guide provides you with the civics test questions and answers, and the reading and writing vocabulary to help you study. Additionally, this guide contains over fifty civics lessons for immigrants looking for additional sources of information from which to study. Some topics include: · Principles of American democracy · Systems of government · Rights and representation · Colonial history · Recent American history · American symbols · Important holidays · And dozens more topics!

letter to uscis: Learn about the United States U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2009 Learn About the United States is intended to help permanent residents gain a deeper understanding of U.S. history and government as they prepare to become citizens. The product presents 96 short lessons, based on the sample questions from which the civics portion of the naturalization test is drawn. An audio CD that allows students to listen to the questions, answers, and civics lessons read aloud is also included. For immigrants preparing to naturalize, the chance to learn more about the history and government of the United States will make their journey toward citizenship a more meaningful one.

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practice test comes with an in-depth answer key. Miss a question? Don't know why? These APEX Test Prep explanations show you where you went wrong. Now, you can avoid making the same mistake on the actual exam. Get the experts of APEX Test Prep on your side. Don't miss out on this top-notch guide. Life is difficult. Test prep doesn't have to be.

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letter to uscis: **Guide to Immigrant Eligibility for Federal Programs** National Immigration Law Center (U.S.), 2002 Comprehensive, authoritative reference with chapters on 23 major federal programs, and tables outlining who is eligible for which state replacement programs. Overview chapter and tables explain changes to immigrant eligibility enacted by 1996 welfare and immigration laws. Text describes immigration statuses, gives pictures of typical immigration documents, with keys to understanding the INS codes. Glossary defines over 250 immigration and public benefit terms.

letter to uscis: Litigating Immigration Cases in Federal Court Robert Pauw, 2020

letter to uscis: A Nation of Immigrants John F. Kennedy, 2018-10-16 "In this timeless book, President Kennedy shows how the United States has always been enriched by the steady flow of men, women, and families to our shores. It is a reminder that America's best leaders have embraced, not feared, the diversity which makes America great." —Former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright Throughout his presidency, John F. Kennedy was passionate about the issue of immigration reform. He believed that America is a nation of people who value both tradition and the exploration of new frontiers, deserving the freedom to build better lives for themselves in their adopted homeland. This 60th anniversary edition of his posthumously published, timeless work—with a foreword by Jonathan Greenblatt, the National Director and CEO of the ADL, formerly known as the Anti-Defamation League, and an introduction from Congressman Joe Kennedy III—offers President Kennedy's inspiring words and observations on the diversity of America's origins and the influence of immigrants on the foundation of the United States. The debate on immigration persists. Complete with updated resources on current policy, this new edition of *A Nation of Immigrants* emphasizes the importance of the collective thought and contributions to the prominence and success of the country.

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remediates the harm done to immigrant workers and communities under Trump and advances a bold new vision for the future.

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letter to uscis: Super PACs Louise I. Gerdes, 2014-05-20 The passage of Citizens United by the Supreme Court in 2010 sparked a renewed debate about campaign spending by large political action committees, or Super PACs. Its ruling said that it is okay for corporations and labor unions to spend as much as they want in advertising and other methods to convince people to vote for or against a candidate. This book provides a wide range of opinions on the issue. Includes primary and secondary sources from a variety of perspectives; eyewitnesses, scientific journals, government officials, and many others.

letter to uscis: The Physician Immigration Handbook Elissa J. Taub, Greg Siskind,

2019-01-31 Now in its fourth edition, authors Greg Siskind and Elissa Taub provide the most up-to-date information regarding immigration for foreign physicians in *The Physician Immigration Handbook*. Physician immigration is perhaps the most complicated area of U.S. immigration law, but *The Physician Immigration Handbook*, 4th Edition, simplifies that process in a way that is easy to follow and understand. Updated annually, *The Handbook* explains what foreign physicians need to know to apply for graduate medical training at American teaching hospitals in the United States and how they can remain in the United States to pursue their careers. *The Physician Immigration Handbook* follows the typical American journey for the international medical graduate (IMG). First, the Handbook reviews the application process through which physicians receive ECFMG certification, eventually leading to admittance to U.S. graduate medical training programs. Then it discusses the two major immigration pathways open to IMGs who want to come to the United States for graduate medical training: the J-1 visa and the H-1B visa. The Handbook walks the IMG through training to post-training work, then on to permanent residency (the green card process) and ultimately to U.S. citizenship. It even delves into employment issues, such as layoffs, mergers, and acquisitions, while also discussing special benefits available to foreign physicians in the U.S. military. *The Physician Immigration Handbook* was written as a guide for IMGs, recruiters, human resource professionals, and even government officials who need to know how the U.S. immigration system works and the special rules applied to physicians within that framework. The Handbook includes 24 chapters in an easy-to-follow, question-and-answer format: Qualifying for Graduate Medical Training in the United States The J-1 and the H-1B Visas Seeking a Visitor Visa to Pursue Graduate Medical Training J-1 Visas for Graduate Medical Training The J-1 Home-Residency Requirement Conrad 30 Waivers 'Public Interest' Waivers Hardship and Persecution Waivers J-2 Status for Family Members of a J-1 Exchange Visitor The H-1B Visa Process Cap-Exemption Strategies for the H-1B Visa H-4 Family Members Accompanying an H-1B Visa Holder Consular Processing of Nonimmigrant Visas Lawful Permanent Residency Obtaining Permanent Residency Through PERM Labor Certification National Interest Waivers Other Paths to Achieving Permanent Residency Obtaining U.S. Citizenship The Impact of Employment Termination The Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions Immigration and the Locum Tenens The Role of Physician Recruiters Special Issues Affecting Canadian Physicians Hiring an Immigration Attorney. The Handbook also includes numerous helpful appendices and charts, plus sample questionnaires: Resources and Websites of Interest; Physician Licensing Requirements by State; Physician National Interest Waiver Chart; Preliminary Immigration Questionnaires for Physicians and Physician Employers; J-1 Interested Government Agency Physician Waiver Flowchart; Flowchart for Physicians on Training H-1Bs; Conrad 30 State Chart.

letter to uscis: United States Code United States, 2013 The United States Code is the official codification of the general and permanent laws of the United States of America. The Code was first published in 1926, and a new edition of the code has been published every six years since 1934. The 2012 edition of the Code incorporates laws enacted through the One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Second Session, the last of which was signed by the President on January 15, 2013. It does not include laws of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, First Session, enacted between January 2, 2013, the date it convened, and January 15, 2013. By statutory authority this edition may be cited U.S.C. 2012 ed. As adopted in 1926, the Code established *prima facie* the general and permanent laws of the United States. The underlying statutes reprinted in the Code remained in effect and controlled over the Code in case of any discrepancy. In 1947, Congress began enacting individual titles of the Code into positive law. When a title is enacted into positive law, the underlying statutes are repealed and the title then becomes legal evidence of the law. Currently, 26 of the 51 titles in the Code have been so enacted. These are identified in the table of titles near the beginning of each volume. The Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives continues to prepare legislation pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 285b to enact the remainder of the Code, on a title-by-title basis, into positive law. The 2012 edition of the Code was prepared and published under the supervision of Ralph V. Seep, Law Revision Counsel. Grateful acknowledgment is made of the contributions by all who

helped in this work, particularly the staffs of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel and the Government Printing Office--Preface.

letter to uscis: *Essays on Immigration* Bob Blaisdell, 2013-11-19 This anthology surveys the immigration experience from a wide range of cultural and historical viewpoints. Contributors include Jacob Riis, Edwidge Danticat, Junot Díaz, and many others.

letter to uscis: Welcoming the Stranger Among Us Catholic Church. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2000 Designed for both ordained and lay ministers at the diocesan and parish levels, this document challenges us to prepare to receive newcomers with a genuine spirit of welcome.

letter to uscis: *The Boss* Victoria Chang, 2013 The Boss is an exploration of contemporary American culture, power structures, family life, and ethnic and personal identity. G.C. Waldrep writes that [The Boss] is part meditation on corporate life, part exploration of mother- and daughterhood, part elegy for a father who has not yet died.

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letter to uscis: Responding to Domestic Violence Eve S. Buzawa, Carl G. Buzawa, Evan D. Stark, 2015-10-01 This new edition of the bestselling *Responding to Domestic Violence* explores the response to domestic violence today, not only by the criminal justice system, but also by public and non-profit social service and health care agencies. After providing a brief theoretical overview of the causes of domestic violence and its prevalence in our society, the authors cover such key topics as barriers to intervention, variations in arrest practices, the role of state and federal legislation, and case prosecution. Focusing on both victims and offenders, the book includes unique chapters on models for judicial intervention, domestic violence and health, and children and domestic violence. In addition, this edition provides an in-depth discussion of the concept of coercive control in domestic violence and its importance in understanding victim needs. Finally, this volume includes international perspectives in order to broaden the reader's understanding of alternative responses to the problem of domestic violence.

letter to uscis: **Immigration Outside the Law** Hiroshi Motomura, 2014-05 A 1975 state-wide law in Texas made it legal for school districts to bar students from public schools if they were in the country illegally, thus making it extremely difficult or even possible for scores of children to receive an education. The resulting landmark Supreme Court case, *Plyler v. Doe* (1982), established the constitutional right of children to attend public elementary and secondary schools regardless of legal status and changed how the nation approached the conversation about immigration outside the law. Today, as the United States takes steps towards immigration policy reform, Americans are subjected to polarized debates on what the country should do with its illegal or undocumented population. In *Immigration Outside the Law*, acclaimed immigration law expert Hiroshi Motomura takes a neutral, legally-accurate approach in his attention and responses to the questions surrounding those whom he calls unauthorized migrants. In a reasoned and careful discussion, he seeks to explain why unlawful immigration is such a contentious debate in the United States and to offer suggestions for what should be done about it. He looks at ways in which unauthorized immigrants are becoming part

of American society and why it is critical to pave the way for this integration. In the final section of the book, Motomura focuses on practical and politically viable solutions to the problem in three public policy areas: international economic development, domestic economic policy, and educational policy. Amidst the extreme opinions voiced daily in the media, Motomura explains the complicated topic of immigration outside the law in an understandable and refreshingly objective way for students and scholars studying immigration law, policy-makers looking for informed opinions, and any American developing an opinion on this contentious issue--

letter to uscis: Silva V. Bell , 1979

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letter to uscis: Yearbook of Immigration Statistics , 2004

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letter to uscis: *U.S. Immigration Made Easy* Ilona Bray, 2023-04-25 Covers nearly every option for immigrating to the United States or coming for a temporary stay, including legal options and procedural steps. For anyone seeking to not only understand opportunities for U.S. visas and green cards, but also how to submit a successful application without running into excessive delays.

letter to uscis: Kurzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook Ira J. Kurzban, 2018

letter to uscis: U.S. Immigration Edwin T. Gania, 2004 Explains the process of obtaining a green card, including documents, forms, and laws pertaining to qualifying and filing for a visa, and information on the INS interview and immigration court procedures.

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letter to uscis: Becoming a U.S. Citizen Ilona Bray, 2023-09-26 Everything you need to become a naturalized U.S. citizen Green card holders who take the next step and become U.S. citizens gain a host of benefits: the right to vote and apply for certain federal jobs, faster immigration for family, protection against deportation or new anti-immigration legislation, and more. But the application process itself can be long and confusing—and at worst, create a risk of deportation. With Becoming a U.S. Citizen, you can save months, or even years, and avoid complications. Learn how to: • make sure you are eligible for citizenship • understand the risks and rewards of applying • fill out application forms • study for the citizenship exam • interview successfully, and • deal with delays and setbacks. Becoming a U.S. Citizen also shows you how to ask for a reduced fee or take advantage of special exceptions if you have a disability, are in the military, or are the spouse of a U.S. citizen.

letter to uscis: Immigrating to the United States: My Story with Actual Documents and

Other Facts Adrianee Ray, 2021-10-24 The path to becoming a citizen of the United States of America can be arduous. My book lays out in great detail how immigrants can become U.S. citizens by simply following the guidelines laid out by the USCIS. This book shows the processes involved in becoming a U.S. citizen and explain what needs to be done each step of the way. Beginning with an initial application, to biometrics, to interview, and all the forms filled out along the way - the process of immigrating to the U.S. is clearly spelled out for anyone who has an interest in moving to the U.S., or bringing a family member into the U.S. You will see actual immigration forms that I used in my own process and the response received from USCIS at each leg of my journey, along with the timelines for each part of the application process. In addition to all this, there is a question and answer chapter that provides answers to some of the many questions that arise during the immigration process. Fun facts and other tidbits are also included.

letter to uscis: Immigration Practice - 15th Edition Robert C. Divine, 2014-06-01 Immigration Practice guides readers through all aspects of immigration law in one volume, complete with over 3,000 footnote citations to the wide range of statutes, regulations, court and administrative cases, policy memos, operations instructions, agency interpretive letters, and internet sites that a lawyer needs for complete understanding of a particular problem. No other source merges the practical with commentary and analysis so helpfully. The book explains in understandable language and meaningful and dependable detail the substantive issues and the practical procedures a lawyer needs to handle a specific immigration matter, complete with checklists of forms, supporting evidence, and other strategies needed for application/petition packages. The book has unparalleled coherence, integration and consistency. * Liberally cross references to other sections in the book where related topics are discussed (because so many topics are interrelated). * Line-by-line instructions on how to complete the most commonly used forms to avoid embarrassing mistakes. * Lists the contents of packages to file with government agencies: forms and fees, detailed support letters, and other supporting evidence. * Explanations of potentially applicable visa options organized according to the attributes of the foreign national (and the employer), rather than classifications in alphabetical order, so that practitioners can make sense of options in light of the client in the office. * Comparisons and charts of attributes and procedures of such topics as nonimmigrant visa classifications, procedures to permanent residence, and standards of extreme hardship. * Citations throughout the book, and collection in the extensive CD-ROM Appendix, to primary source materials and the most useful Internet site URLs with explanation of the increasingly helpful free databases and tools available through each one. • Internet Links: Constantly increased and updated links to government web sites containing current contact information, forms, primary law sources of all types, case status information, and processing and substantive guides--all referenced by pinpoint citations in the text. See Chapter 5 explaining sources of law, Appendix C and D-1 showing web links, and the CD-ROM in the back cover providing one-click access! Readers are strongly encouraged to review and use the CD-ROM and to consider saving Appendix C, D-1, and E-1 into their hard drives or saving the links to their internet browser favorites or bookmarks for ready reference all the time. • Upgraded removal-related treatment: significant improvements to Chapters 10, 11, and 16 by attorney who has worked for immigration courts several years. • Supreme Court decisions: effects of limited marijuana distribution offense as aggravated felony (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); tax offenses as aggravated felonies (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); rejection of comparable grounds rule for 212(c) eligibility (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vii)); modified categorical approach applies only to divisible statutes (§ 10-6(b)(2)(i)); non-retroactivity of Padilla decision (§ 10-6(b)(2)(vi)); rejection of the statutory counterpart rule for § 212(c) waivers (§ 11-5(f)); invalidation of the Defense of Marriage Act § 14-7(a)(2)(i); non-imputation to child of firm resettlement of parents (§ 16-4(c)). • Lower federal court decisions: concerning such issues as: recognizing a beneficiary to have standing to challenge a USCIS petition denial (§ 2-2(a)(1)(I)); reviewability of good moral character determinations and other (§ 2-2(a)(1)(I)); court order of USCIS to speed up FOIA certain responses (§ 4-2); CBP FOIA process (§ 4-2); DOL case disclosure data (§ 4-5); need to exhaust remedies under DHS TRIP to challenge inclusion on watch list (§ 10-3); CIMT crime

determinations (§ 10-6(b)(1)(iii)); effect of a single firearm sale (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); 212(h) waiver eligibility in regard to post-entry adjustment but not as to stand alone request (§ 10-6(b)(3)); interference with police helicopter using laser light as CIMT (§ 10-6(c)); whether post-entry adjustment is an admission for § 212(h) waivers (§ 10-6(b)(3)); whether there is an involuntariness or duress exception to the terrorism support bar (§ 10-6(c)); enforcement of I-864 financial support obligations (§ 10-6(d)(2)); mandatory bond hearing after six months of detention (§ 11-3(f)); ICE detainers found to lack authority (§ 11-3(g)); representation in immigration court at government expense for aliens with serious mental disabilities (§ 11-4(g)); stop-time and petty offense exceptions relating to cancellation of removal (§ 11-5(f)); revelation of the BIA's erroneous reliance for decades on nonexistent provisions of Mexican Constitution affecting legitimation issues (§ 12-3(d)(3)); rejection of BIA's rule against nunc pro tunc adoption orders (§ 14-7(b)(3)); invalidation of FSBPT efforts to restrict applicants from certain countries to sit for physical therapy exams (§ 15-2(c)(2)); use of impeachment evidence only to terminate asylum (16-2(b)); asylum claims of German homeschooled, and mixed motive cases (§ 16-4(a)(3)); social group asylum claims (§ 16-4(a)(3)); expansive implications of inconsistencies in testimony (§ 16-4(a)(4)); particularly serious crimes barring asylum claims (§ 16-4(c)); special asylum procedures for unaccompanied children (§ 16-4(c)); adjustment eligibility of alien who entered without inspection and then obtained TPS (§ 16-7(a)(6)); eligibility of after-acquired spouse under Cuban Adjustment Act (§ 16-7(e)); preempted state law provisions aimed at aliens, employers, and landlords (§ 19-4(l)(3)). • BIA decisions on such issues as: what constitutes a drug trafficking crime (§ 10-6(b)(1)(iv)); implications of child pornography conviction (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); possession of ammunition by a convicted felon (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); availability of stand-alone § 212(h) waiver without adjustment application (§ 10-6(b)(3)); service of NTA on a minor (§ 11-3(b)); service of NTA and other safeguards for aliens with serious mental conditions (§ 11-4(g)); approval of administrative closure of removal cases (§ 11-5(d)); termination of asylum, then removal and relief in proceedings (§16-2(b)); relocation issues in asylum claims (§ 16-4(a)(3)). • Regulations, government policy memorandums, other decisions, and government web site enhancements concerning such matters as: differing government renderings of single name for certain persons (§ 1-6(a)(3)); USCIS refusal to accept stamped signatures for attorneys on G-28 (§1-6(a)(3)); USCIS use of bar codes for forms, and danger of making marginal notes on forms (§1-6(a)(3)); USCIS use of customer-completed e-Request Service inquiries (§ 2-2(a)(1)(F)); movement of all visa processing to the electronic CEAC system (§ 2-3(a)); replacement of the CBP Inspectors Field Manual with the Officer's Reference Tool and the beginning effort to replace the USCIS Adjudicators Field Manual with the online Policy Manual (§ 5-4); replacement of the paper I-94 card for air and sea entries with an automated online I-94 record (§ 7-4(b) and other sections); new section on Other Redress for Adverse Results (on visas and admissions, § 7-4(c)(14)); the radical implications of Matter of Arrabally and Yerrabelly concerning the effects of departure under advance parole (§§ 8-7(d)(2)(i) and 10-6(f)); modernization of the immigrant visa process (§ 8-8); new Provisional Unlawful Presence Waivers within the U.S. using Form I-601A (§ 10-6(f)); exception to false claim to U.S. citizenship inadmissibility if claim made before individual was age 18 (§ 10-6(g)); EOIR Online representative registration system (§ 11-3(e)); ICE Parental Interests Directive and ICE eBOND online bonding process (§ 11-3(f)); ICE non-renewal of 287(f) agreements (§ 11-3(g)); Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (§ 11-3(h)(3)); ICE recognition and implementation of statute allowing post-removal challenges (§11-8(b)); new USCIS Policy Manual provisions on naturalization eligibility and process, including residence, selective service, § 319(b) special rules, and other issues, and new N-400 form and instructions (Chapter 12); Government-side implementation of the Supreme Court's recognition of same-sex marriage (various chapters); exceptional circumstances allowing foreign-country filing of I-130 petitions where no USCIS office is located (§ 14-5(a)); implications of a withdrawn I-140 (§ 15-1(h)); various policy developments concerning EB-5 investors (§ 15-2(f)); numerous BALCA cases and DOL positions affecting the PERM labor certification process and the publication of data about applications (§ 15-3); updated Affirmative Asylum Procedures Manual (§ 16-3(a)); USCIS memo on exceptional circumstances for failure to appear at asylum

interview (§ 16-3(a)(1)(iii)); litigation settlement agreements to share asylum officer interview notes in FOIA (§ 16-3(a)(2)), concerning asylum applicant work authorization process and Clock (§ 16-3(c)), and failure to appear at I-730 interview (§ 16-3(f)); bundling of related L-1 petitions (§ 17-3(b)(4)(i)); presumed L-1 visa validity for maximum reciprocity duration but sometimes more limited stays from CBP (§ 17-3(b)(7)); filing I-129 petition for Canadian TN, and duration of Mexican TN separate from visa validity (§ 17-4(c)(2)(ii)); H-1B and H-2A flip-flopping administrative and congressional positions (§ 17-4(d) and 17-5(e)(1)); B-1 in lieu of H in effect but under review (§ 18-3(1)(2)(B)); accreditation requirements for F-1 language training programs (§ 18-4(d)(1)); cessation of CBP stamping of I-20 forms (§ 18-4(d)(3)); use of electronic ELIS system for certain changes of status (§ 18-4(d)(4)); new cap gap and STEM OPT extension policies (§ 18-4(d)(9)(iii)); possible need for separate waivers for different J experiences subject to § 212(e) (§ 18-5(b)(2)(ix)); revisions to M-274 Handbook for Employers for I-9, USCIS I-9 Central web site, and IRS tightening of ITIN application process (§ 19-4(b)); ICE policies about auditing electronically generated I-9 forms (§ 19-4(h)); OCAHO reductions of ICE I-9 fines on employers (§ 19-4(j)); ICE definition of technical and procedural errors subject to correction under good faith rules (§ 19-4(j)); USCIS revision of E-Verify MOU and new notice to workers about TNC resolution, expansion of E-Verify photo tool, and lock out of suspect SSNs from E-Verify (§ 19-4(l)(1)).

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letter to uscis: IMMIGRATION LAW HANDBOOK. , 2023

letter to uscis: U.S. Citizenship For Dummies Jennifer Gagliardi, 2022-05-27 Become a U.S. immigration wiz with this hands-on and practical guide to U.S. citizenship In U.S. Citizenship For Dummies, expert citizenship and ESL instructor Jennifer Gagliardi walks you through the ins and outs of the complicated process of obtaining citizenship in the United States. From preparing for test day to understanding the interview process and learning about recent changes to immigration laws, this book demystifies the legal process of transforming a foreign national into a citizen of the U.S. In this book, you'll get: Up-to-date info on the various application and immigration forms you'll need to complete to become a citizen Needed preparation for the all-important interview Complete coverage of the different visas and green cards available to foreign nationals and how you can qualify for them Whether you're an immigrant-to-be who's interested in becoming an American citizen, or you're already a citizen but you want to bone up on U.S. history, government, and civics knowledge, U.S. Citizenship For Dummies is the perfect guide to the procedural and substantive knowledge you need to understand the American immigration system.

letter to uscis: How to Get a Green Card Ilona Bray, 2024-05-28 An all-in-one immigration guide for spouses, fiancés, and other family of U.S. citizens, as well as victims of crime in the United States, people fearing persecution in their home countries, and others seeking information on whether they qualify for a green card and how to successfully apply for it.

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