

Robert S. White
Principal

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Bob White advises and works with companies from a variety of industries in obtaining all manner of business nonimmigrant and immigrant visas and green card status for their employees, managers and executives, including difficult to obtain working visas for professional service providers and medical practitioners. He represents and defends companies in U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Labor Condition Applications and Form I-9 audits, and counsels in avoiding stiff monetary penalties often incurred in the process of these actions.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. White was an immigration assistant to the former U.S. Senator Alan J. Dixon, and established a business immigration practice in a suburban Chicago law firm.

Mr. White serves as immigration counsel for numerous colleges and universities and is a member of the leadership team of the NAFSA: Association of International Educators Region V. Mr. White was previously Chair of the Chicago Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), member of the AILA Board of Governors and a member of the Chapter's Department of Labor Liaison Committee. Mr. White is currently a member of AILA's ICE Worksite Enforcement Committee.

Mr. White is a frequent lecturer, moderator and panel participant on immigration issues affecting the business and academic communities. He has presented programs at several AILA conferences on how to structure and process applications to avoid problems with the DOL and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Mr. White has lead seminars for the National Association of Computer Consultant Businesses and the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association, and routinely conducts immigration seminars for Human Resource Managers at manufacturing, technology and health care companies. He regularly speaks on immigration topics at colleges, universities, trade and professional schools on how foreign students can properly maintain their status and obtain employment authorization.

Mr. White is an active advocate for the reform of the U.S. immigration laws and frequently travels to Washington to meet with Congressional representatives. He speaks regularly on the topic to international educators, business executives and religious leaders and is a member of the Immigration Reform Taskforce of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Admitted to practice in Illinois, Mr. White received his law degree from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1993 and his B.A. in government from the University of Notre Dame, with honors, in 1990.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Assisted companies in obtaining H-1B status for advanced practice nurses and other professions that do not clearly qualify for H-1B classification.
- Assisted companies in obtaining working visas (including but not limited to H-2B, O, P, L, E, Q, R and TN status) for individuals who did not qualify for H-1B status.

- Assisted and counseled companies in avoiding significant monetary penalties from the DOL as part of the H-1B Labor Condition Application process and during DOL enforcement actions.
- Assisted companies in overcoming challenges by the DOL and State Workforce Agencies (SWA) during the Reduction in Recruitment (RIR) and traditional supervised labor certification stage of the employment-based immigrant visa (green card) process.
- Counseled companies about the sufficiency of their recruiting efforts to qualify their labor certification applications for the expedited RIR processing.
- Assisted companies in documenting for the DOL that their labor certification applications qualify for RIR processing regardless of company and/or industry layoffs.
- Assisted individuals in evidencing for the USCIS that they are extraordinary in their fields and thus they avoided the labor certification stage of the employment-based immigrant visa (green card) process.
- Assisted individuals to obtain family-based immigrant visas (green cards) based upon marriage to a U.S. citizen.
- Counseled individuals on the benefits of consular processing vs. adjustment of status during the last stage of the green card process.
- Overcame objections by consular officials in issuing visas to clients by appealing to the U.S. Department of State's Visa Office and by responding to revocation notices from the USCIS.