

Fazila Vaid

Principal, Schaumburg

fvoid@masudafunai.com
847.734.8811

Schaumburg

200 N. Martingale Road
Suite 800
Schaumburg, IL 60173

As the Co-Chair of the firm's Immigration practice, Fazila Vaid assists multinational corporations and business professionals with temporary and permanent residence matters, including a full range of nonimmigrant and immigrant visas and PERM applications. Clients appreciate Fazila's ability to cut through the complex legalese of immigration law by streamlining and explaining the issues or problem at hand and providing a workable solution to realizing the right result.

Fazila's practice focuses primarily on assisting companies to file H-1B petitions for foreign workers, TN applications for Canadian and Mexican nationals, B-1 and B-1 in lieu of H-1B visas for temporary visitors, and securing permanent residency for foreign nationals in the EB-1, EB-2 and EB-3 preference categories. She also counsels companies engaged in trade and investment in the U.S. regarding the transfer of employees utilizing the E and L visa categories. In addition, Fazila provides strategic advice to employers on a wide range of immigration issues, including I-9 compliance and audits, corporate restructuring and mergers and acquisitions, complex Requests for Evidence, nonimmigrant visa waivers, and short and long-term immigration options for corporations and individuals. Fazila also addresses issues related to family-based immigration and citizenship and naturalization matters.

Moreover, Fazila represents clients before the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Labor, and numerous U.S. consular posts worldwide. She has been practicing immigration law exclusively for nearly two decades, and represents clients from a wide variety of industries including energy, information technology, finance, engineering, food manufacturing, automotive parts manufacturing, construction equipment manufacturing, and high-speed railway and railway manufacturing.



Education

IIT-Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.D., 2000

University of Illinois, Chicago, B.A.
Criminal Justice and Spanish, 1996

Admissions

Illinois

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Supreme Court of Illinois

U.S. Court of Appeals: 7th Circuit

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

Practice Areas

Immigration

Languages

Urdu

Urdu / Hindi

Gujarati

Spanish

Fazila has served as pro bono counsel to low-income individuals in asylum matters for the National Immigrant Justice Center. She lectures on immigration issues at professional and community organizations, conferences, universities and professional schools. In the past, she has served as pro bono counsel to low-income individuals in asylum matters for the National Immigrant Justice Center. Prior to joining Masuda Funai, Fazila worked in the immigration department of a mid-size law firm in downtown Chicago, where she represented corporations, universities, hospitals, medical institutions, foreign medical graduates and individual clients with temporary and permanent residence matters.

Experience

- Assisted a multinational manufacturing corporation in seeking B-1 visas at "high fraud" consular posts for multiple overseas employees seeking to attend seminars in the U.S.
- Counseled companies to seek alternative visas after the exhaustion of H-1B quota numbers.
- Provided a comprehensive analysis of a permanent residency process and implemented the process on behalf of companies.
- Assisted and counseled foreign medical graduates to seek permanent residency through the PERM and Physician National Interest Waiver process.
- Provided strategic immigration counseling and assisted companies in complying with USCIS and DOL regulations in connection with corporate restructuring, mergers and acquisitions.
- Assisted physicians seeking National Interest Waiver to submit adjustment of status applications and prepare and submit "preliminary" and "final" evidence to the USCIS.

Memberships

- American Bar Association
 - American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Chicago Chapter - Chair, Social Security Administration (SSA) Liaison Committee
 - American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Chicago Chapter - Member, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Liaison Committee
 - Muslim Bar Association - Former Secretary and Board Member
 - Previous AILA, Chicago Chapter - Co-Chair, SSA Liaison Committee; Vice Chair, Illinois Secretary of State & Attorney General Liaison Committee; Member, Advocacy Committee and Citizenship Liaison Committee
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Distinctions

- *Leading Lawyers*, 2015-2023