

IMMIGRATION

Attorneys in our Immigration Group focus their practice on corporate immigration law, representing U.S. companies of all sizes. We work with these companies to advise on and facilitate the employment of foreign nationals in the U.S., on both a temporary and permanent basis. Our attorneys have significant experience working with clients in many sectors, including the technology, manufacturing, financial services, medicine, and higher education industries.

Our attorneys counsel corporations on how to make sound decisions when hiring foreign employees, ensuring short- and long-term strategies are in place. We also work with large, multinational corporations to enhance their company-wide immigration programs to support their global mobility operations while ensuring compliance with all applicable regulations.

A large part of our work involves assisting companies to anticipate and avoid obstacles in hiring and retaining employees. Attorneys in our Immigration Practice help companies recognize the importance of developing a plan to maintain compliance with immigration regulations throughout a foreign national's employment. We work to predict and prevent problems employers may encounter throughout the duration of an employee's tenure.

Our attorneys have significant experience preparing successful petitions and applications in the H-1B, L-1, E-1/E-2, O-1, P-1, and TN visa categories as well as all employment-based green card matters. For example, some representative services include:

- Representing companies hiring foreign scientists, researchers, and other highly-trained STEM professionals
- Representing Mexican and Canadian professionals seeking to work under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)
- Representing foreign companies of all sizes expanding or relocating to the United States
- Representing managers or skilled professionals who seek to work in the United States periodically and facilitating their cross-border travel

Attorneys in the Immigration Group have been recognized by Best Lawyers, Super Lawyers, and the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Additionally, our attorneys have held leadership roles in AILA's national and local committees, including service on the national Board of Governors, the governing body of the United States' largest immigration bar association.

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Helpful Resources:

- Know Your Rights: What to Do If You Are Detained at a Port of Entry (Lawful Permanent Residents)
- Expediting NIV Appointments
- Protecting Your Permanent Residency

Please note that these resources do not constitute legal advice.

In the News

Hodgson Russ Names Immigration Duo Practice Co-Chairs
Law360, July 27, 2023

Thought Leaders: Cross-border issues
Buffalo Business First, March 4, 2022

Coronavirus Resource Center

Industry Roundtable: Immigration
Albany Business Review, May 22, 2020

Immigrant-Run Startups In Jeopardy During Pandemic
Law360, May 22, 2020

Working Snowbirds Dip Toes in Both Atlantic and Pacific
The Globe and Mail, November 20, 2015

NAFTA Allows U.S., Buffalo Area to Thrive
Buffalo Law Journal, August 24, 2015

Immigration Practice Group Receives National Tier 1 Ranking
November 17, 2011

Six Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named *Best Lawyers* 2012 Buffalo 'Lawyers of the Year'
October 17, 2011

Hodgson Russ Names Margot L. Watt Immigration Practice Group Leader
January 4, 2011

Press Releases

Hodgson Russ LLP Names Co-Leaders of Immigration Practice
July 25, 2023

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Fifty-Nine Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2022 Edition of Upstate New York Super Lawyers
Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 23, 2022

71 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2023 Edition of *Best Lawyers in America*
Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 19, 2022

Hodgson Russ Receives Top Tier National and Metropolitan Rankings in 2022 Best Law Firms Listings
Hodgson Russ Press Release, November 15, 2021

David Wilks Named to American Immigration Lawyers Association Board of Governors
Hodgson Russ Press Release, June 30, 2021

Hodgson Russ Attorney David Wilks, Appointed to the AILA National Committee
Hodgson Russ Press Release, July 7, 2020

Immigration Attorney David Wilks Joins Hodgson Russ
Hodgson Russ Press Release, January 22, 2020

Hodgson Russ Earns Five National-Level Rankings in *U.S. News & World Report/Best Lawyers 'Best Law Firms' Report*
Press Release, November 18, 2015

Publications

Changes to the Cap H-1B Registration Process
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, February 16, 2024

USCIS Increases Filing Fees Effective April 1, 2024
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, February 13, 2024

H-1B Registration for Fiscal Year 2025
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, February 1, 2024

Department of State Processes Domestic Visa Renewals for Certain Applicants in Limited Pilot Program
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, January 30, 2024

Israelis to be Included in Visa Waiver Program
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, September 28, 2023

Second Selection from FY2024 H-1B Lottery
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, July 27, 2023

COVID-19 Vaccine Requirements for Travelers to the United States
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, November 8, 2021

Oh, Where Are the Good Old Times? Trying to Be an L-1 Intracompany Transferee
AILA Immigration Practice Pointers, June 15, 2021

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Practice Pointer: FAQs Regarding the New Electronic H-1B Registration & Filing Process
American Immigration Lawyers Association, September 22, 2020

Presidential Proclamation on Immigration Issued June 22, 2020
Hodgson Russ Immigration Alert, June 23, 2020

Presentations & Events

2024 AILA Annual Conference and Webcast on Immigration Law
McCormick Place Convention Center West Building, Chicago, IL, June 12 - 15, 2024

2023 AILA Northern Border Conference
500 Pearl Street, Buffalo, NY 14202, October 20, 2023

How the U.S. Immigration System Works
October 3, 2023

Specialized Knowledge and L-1B Practice Today: "I Know it When I See it, But How do I Prove It?"
September 19, 2023

2023 AILA Annual Conference and Webcast on Immigration Law
Orlando, Florida, June 21 - June 24, 2023

Life After F and J Visas
Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, April 20, 2023

David Wilks to Speak to Students at Cornell University
Cornell University, March 20, 2023

Immigration Planning for Employers 2023
February 7, 2023

2022 AILA Fall Conference and Webcast
Lahaina, Hawaii, September 11, 2022

AILA Annual Conference
June 17, 2022