



# THE CONSULAR POSTS BOOK 2015-2016 EDITION

Editor: Rami D. Fakhoury

Contributors: Poorvi Chothani, Steven A. Culbreath, Dharamchand Depoo, Marc Ellis, Vic Goel, Edward S. Gudeon, Magdale Labbe Henke, Frederick W. Hong, Christi Hufford, C. Valerie Ibe, Priscilla J. Jones, Noah Klug, Jose E. Latour, Lesa Lawrence, Adam Lee, Mark Levey, Jakob Lipman, Susan Willis McFadden, Christy Nguyen, Claire D. Nilson, Curtis Pierce, Luis A. Pinilla, Jessica L. Rodriguez, Kristina Rost, Emmanuel S. Tipon, Alice Yardum-Hunter

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## Book Outline

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Coming Soon!

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### PART I. MAJOR CONSULAR POSTS

#### **Chapter 1: Argentina**

Buenos Aires, (Consulate) By Christi Hufford

#### **Chapter 2: Armenia**

Yerevan, (U.S. Embassy) By Alice Yardum-Hunter

#### **Chapter 3: Australia**

Sydney, (Consulate) By Noah Klug

#### **Chapter 4: Brazil**

Sao Paulo, (Consulate) By Kristina Rost

#### **Chapter 5: Canada**

Toronto, (Consulate) By Dharamchand "Randy" Depoo

#### **Chapter 6: China**

Beijing, (U.S. Embassy) By Frederick W. Hong  
Guangzhou, (Consulate) By Jakob Lipman and Adam Lee  
Shanghai, (Consulate) By Christy Nguyen

#### **Chapter 7: Colombia**

Bogota, (Consulate) By Luis A. Pinilla

#### **Chapter 8: France**

Paris, (U.S. Embassy) By Curtis Pierce

#### **Chapter 9: Germany**

Frankfurt, (U.S. Consulate) By Steven A. Culbreath  
Munich, (U.S. Consulate) By Magdale Labbe Henke

#### **Chapter 10: Haiti**

Port au Prince (Consulate) By Jose E. Latour

#### **Chapter 11: India**



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Chennai, (Consulate) By Vic Goel  
Kolkata, (Consulate) By Poorvi Chothani  
Mumbai, (Consulate) By Priscilla Jones  
New Delhi, (U.S. Embassy) By Poorvi Chothani

## **Chapter 12: Jamaica**

Kingston, (Consulate) By Claire D. Nilson

## **Chapter 13: Nigeria**

Lagos, (US Consulate) By C. Valerie Ibe

## **Chapter 14: Philippines**

Manila, (U.S. Embassy) By Emmanuel S. Tipon

## **Chapter 15: Taiwan**

Taipei, (Consulate) By Lesa M. Lawrence and Jessica L. Rodriguez

## **Chapter 16: Trinidad and Tobago**

Port of Spain, (US Embassy) By Claire D. Nilson

## **Chapter 17: United Kingdom**

London, (U.S. Embassy) By Edward S. Gudeon

## **Chapter 18: Vietnam**

Ho Chi Minh City, (Consulate) By Marc Ellis

## **PART II. THEORY AND PRACTICE**

### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

A. Data-mining & Real-Time Enforcement: The Future Landscape of the Visa Process

### **Chapter 2: New Attorney Vulnerabilities in International Practice**

- A. Prominent Lawyers Prosecuted for Money Laundering and Obstruction
- B. FBI/DHS Task Force Sting Operation Nets a Leader of the Criminal Bar
- C. The Loss of Attorney-Client Privilege in International Representation
- D. New FISA: H.R. 6304 Blanket Authorizations for Surveillance of International Communications
- E. Section 1801(h) - "Minimization" and exception for "evidence of a crime"
- F. New FISA illustration
- G. Sec. 1806 - The Minimization Loophole
- H. The al-Haramain Case - Targeted Surveillance of Attorney-Client Communications
- I. DOL Audits All Labor Certifications Submitted by Major Immigration Law Firm
- J. International Lawyer: Gatekeeper, Adversary or Defendant?



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- K. Expanding View of Attorney Culpability and Mandatory Due Diligence Requirements
- L. Sarbanes-Oxley
- M. Department of Justice Targeting of Gatekeepers
- N. Enhanced Federal Enforcement and Revised Sentencing Penalties for Compliance Violations
- O. Federal Sentencing Guidelines - Up, Up and Away
- P. 2003 Department of Justice Guidelines
- Q. Further Erosion of Attorney-Client Privilege for Corporate Counsel
- R. Mandatory Disclosure of Representation, and Attorney Certification of Accuracy in all Represented Matters - The Future of Immigration Law?
- S. The End of Employer-sponsored Immigration?
- T. 50 USC, Chapter 36, Subchapter I, Sec. 1806, Foreign intelligence Surveillance, Subchapter I - Electronic Surveillance, Use Of Information
- U. Sec. 805. Review of Federal Sentencing Guidelines For Obstruction Of Justice And Extensive Criminal Fraud

### **Chapter 3: Trade and Immigration Tightening? NAFTA, WTO, GATS Soup to Nuts**

- A. Prospects for Changing Immigration, Surveillance and Global Trade Policies under the Obama Administration
- B. Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR) and DHS Cost-cutting: But, Not Very Comprehensive Reform and Selective Cutting of Enforcement Budgets
- C. Post-FISA Surveillance: When Your Client Calls From Overseas, Uncle Sam is on the line
- D. The NAFTA Super-Highway Meets a Roadblock
- E. Shift to Interior Enforcement - Mandatory E-Verify
- F. H-1B and L-1 Programs Under Siege
- G. Release from Detention for CIR-eligible Aliens
- H. The Bottom-Line Calculus in Business Immigration and Free Trade Policy
- I. Obama: Changes to H-1B Seen as Part of Comprehensive Immigration Reform
- J. Congress: Revolt Against Off-Shoring
- K. WTO/GATT/GATS Reconsidered
- L. Will the "GATS Visa" Replace H-1B?

### **Chapter 4: Tips for Avoiding B-1/B-2 Visa Denials and Correcting other Refusal Issues with the Consul**

- A. Common Reasons B-1/B-2 Visas Are Denied - INA Section 214(b), INA Section 221(g)
- B. Overcoming 221(g) Refusals and Related Grounds for Denial - Interpretation of Notices of Denial
- C. Reapplication - Section 214(b) Factors Favoring Approval Upon Reapplication
- D. Short-term Business and Tourism Visa Refusal Rates, by Country, Fiscal Year 2007 Table

### **Chapter 5: The Visa Waiver Program (VWP): Not As Simple and Easy As It Looks**

- A. VWP Expansion
- B. New VWP Procedures
- C. Criminal History Issues
- D. Terrorism, Security and Related Issues



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- E. Rules for B-1/B-2 Visitors and VWP
- F. ESTA Visa Waiver Application Illustration
- G. Form I-94 Illustration
- H. Form DS 156/157 Illustration I. Supplemental Form DS 157 Illustration
- J. US VISIT Biometrics and Traveler Information
- K. 9 FAM 40.21 Notes (Sec. 212 Inadmissibility - Criminal Determinations)

## **Chapter 6: Non-Immigrant Classes and Their U.S. Tax Obligations**

- A. Generally
- B. Your status as a tax resident - U.S. tax resident, Non-Resident Alien (NRA), or dual-status - determines whether and how you must file an income tax return.
- C. Two tests for tax residency
- D. FICA Tax and Totalization Agreements
- E. Tax Considerations for B-1, E-1/E-2, H-1B, L-1, and O Visa Holders
- F. 2007 Filing Requirements Chart for Most Taxpayers
- G. Visas and Taxes At a Glance

## **Chapter 7: E-1/E-2 Treaty Traders and Treaty Investors**

- A. The principal applicant (whether a natural person or corporation), along with any employee seeking to enter on an E-visa, must be a national of the same treaty country.
- B. The international trade must be "substantial" in the sense that there is a sizable and continuing volume of trade (E-1)
- C. Valuation of investment (E-2)
- D. Commercial Enterprise (E-2)
- E. Substantiality Test (E-1/E-2)
- F. Proportionality Test (E-2)
- G. Continued "Course of Trade" (E-1)
- H. Possession and Control of Funds (E-2)
- I. Lawful Source of Funds (E-1/E-2)
- J. Tax Considerations for E-1/E-2 Visa Holders
- K. Applying for the Visa - Required Documentation
- L. E-Treaty Countries

## **Chapter 8: The Consular Role in L-1 Blanket Petitions**

- A. Basic Requirements
- B. Procedures
- C. Where to File for the Visa
- D. What to File
- E. Who's Eligible to File
- F. Professional Occupation Requirement for the L-1B Blanket Petition
- G. Period of Admission-Initial Entry and Extensions of Stay
- H. Amended Petitions and Transfers

## **Chapter 9: H-1B "Dependent Employees": From Labeling to Lawbreaking**



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- A. The Electronic Dragnet: H-1B and L-1 Data-mining
- B. LCA Enforcement: DOL Gets "A Piece of the Action"
- C. Who is an H-1 Dependent Employer? (USDOL)
- D. 20 CFR 655.736 - What are H-1B-dependent employers and willful violators? (USDOS)

## **Chapter 10: Temporary Assignment of H-1B Employees to Client Work Sites**

- A. Discussion
- B. Short-term Placements: A Question of Time
- C. The Roving Employee
- D. Long-Term Placements: A Question of Control

## **Chapter 11: State Department Name-Checks and Security Advisory Opinions (SAOs)**

- A. The SAO Data-mining trigger
- B. CLASS Lookout System
- C. Visas Condor SAO
- D. Visas Eagle Mantis and Visas Donkey Mantis SAOs
- E. Guidelines for Visas Eagle Mantis and Donkey Categories
- F. Sample Reciprocity Schedule, Index to Available Documents, SAO Requirements, and Country-specific Footnotes (IRAN)
- G. Sample Employment Letters (SAO-related)

## **Chapter 12: ICE Data-Mining and Federal Benefits Fraud Task Forces - Send In the Marines: Best Practices to Survive Audits and Task Forces**

- A. Avoiding and Surviving Immigration Benefits Fraud Investigations
- B. Surging Immigration Fraud Investigations
- C. Fraud Prosecutions of Immigration Lawyers
- D. The Immigration Bar Begins to Recognize Risks
- E. Federal Fraud Statutes Related to Immigration
- F. Federal Perjury Statutes, Title 18
- G. Federal Obstruction of Justice Statutes, Title 18
- H. Federal Task Force Investigations of Immigration Benefits Fraud
- I. Prosecutions of Immigration Fraud Crimes Committed Years Earlier
- J. Selective Prosecutions of Targeted Nationality Groups
- K. H-1B Enforcement and ICE Random Fraud Audits
- L. Government Data Mining of Immigration and Consular Applications
- M. Due Diligence and Ethical Duties for Immigration Attorneys in the Age of Data- Mining and Warrant less Intercepts
- N. Rules Governing the Client-Lawyer Relationship
- O. Defensive Due Diligence and Preventative Attorney and Client Self-Audits
- P. Essential Due Diligence for Immigration Practitioners
- Q. Why Perform Due Diligence?
- R. How Much Due Diligence is due?
- S. The Risk Grid Illustration
- T. Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs)



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- U. Required Elements of a Customer Identification Program (CIP)
- V. Specially Designated Nationals List (SDN)
- W. Sample Commercial Watch List Aggregation Services
- X. Government Data Mining of Immigration and Consular Applications
- Y. Federal Data Mining Processes Illustration
- Z. Background Checks of Non-Immigrants and Immigrant Visa Applicants - Who Gets Checked, How it Gets Checked, and What to Expect
- AA. USCIS/DOS Data Collection, Analysis and Dissemination Systems
- BB. Treasury Enforcement Communication System/ Interagency Border Inspection System (TECS/IBIS)("IBIS")
- CC. FBI Fingerprint Check
- DD. FBI Name Check
- EE. Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS)
- FF. Law Enforcement Analytic Data System (NETLEADS)
- GG. ICE Pattern Analysis and Information Collection System (ICEPIC)
- HH. National Immigration Information Sharing Office (NIISO)
- II. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) and BSA Direct
- JJ. Intelligence and Information Fusion (I2F)
- KK. Categories of Information Collected from Immigration Applications

## **Chapter 13: What to do if Your Client's Visa is Denied: Visa Office Advisory Opinions**

- A. Jurisdiction - Court of Last Appeal for Visa Denials
- B. Ripeness and Standing
- C. Visa Office Inquiry Procedures
- D. Inside The Visa Office - Who Decides?

## **Chapter 14: A Template for Attorney Risk-Assessment**

- A. Develop a Risk Management Profile to Identify Clients, Matters and Counter-parties with a High Risk
- B. How a Law Firm Can Reduce Risks Associated With Client Fraud
- C. Potential Benefits Fraud and Money Laundering
- D. Client Indicators of High-Risk - Corporate Ownership and Control Issues
- E. Red Flags & Triggers for Investigation of Client Money Laundering and Terrorist Finance
- F. The Red Flags of Client Criminal Activity or Terrorism
- G. Data-mining Inputs and Outputs Illustration
- H. Know Your Client - Red Flags of Criminal Activities
- I. A Note on Client Fees: Indicators That Something May be Wrong
- J. DHS Cornerstone Program: Red Flags of Money-Laundering Activities
- K. IRS "John Doe" Summons for Offshore Credit Card Records
- L. Profiling
- M. Who gets Profiled
- N. DHS Cornerstone Program - Red Flags for Enforcement Action
- O. Recent ICE/BCE Interagency Task Force Enforcement Activity

## **PART III. THE CONSULAR POSTS RESOURCES ON CD-ROM**



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Hundreds of relevant Statues/Regulations, Forms, FAM Provisions, Executive Orders, documents from DoC, DHS, DoJ, DoL, DoT, DoS, useful weblinks.

## EDITOR

**Rami D. Fakhoury** is a member of the firm. His practice focuses on business-based employment immigration, particularly in the Information Technology, Engineering industry, health care workers, investors, academics and individuals of exceptional ability. Mr. Fakhoury has extensive experience in the areas of Corporate Immigration, and has worked in private firms, as well as serving as In-House Counsel for Syntel Corporation, a Fortune 1000 company in the Information Technology industry. In particular, his practice focuses on H, L, E, and O visas, Labor Certifications, Advance Degree Professionals, Multinational Executives and Outstanding Researchers and Professors. Mr. Fakhoury has represented clients at U.S. Consulates abroad and is an international lecturer and fellow for the Center for International Legal Studies (CILS) and a Member of the Immigration section of the International Bar Association. Mr. Fakhoury has served as Panel Speaker at the American Bar – International Law Section. He has also presented and written articles on immigration issues. Mr. Fakhoury is a Member of the State Bar of Michigan, International Law Section; Information Technology Association of America (ITAA), Immigration Law Committee; American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA); International Business Association, Immigration Law Committee; and Fellow, Center of International Legal Studies, Salzburg Austria.

## CONTRIBUTORS

**Poorvi Chothani** is active in the Indian Merchant's Chamber and is involved in organizing and speaking at several law related events in Mumbai, Bangalore and New Delhi. The media often seek Poorvi's opinions on issues of immigration (U.S. and Indian) and intellectual property. She is often quoted in the Economic Times, India's leading business daily and on radio and CNBC- TV 18 and Zee Business News. Poorvi speaks at events organized by India's premier, national organizations including the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and the Confederation of Indian Industries, the Federation of Indian Exporters to name a few. She was recently one of the nominees for a national award. Poorvi has taught general law and intellectual property law at various educational institutes in Mumbai including at Temple University's, undergraduate, partnership program in India, the Government Law College, the H.R. College of Commerce and the Jai Hind College of Commerce and Economics, leading institutes in Mumbai.

**Steven A. Culbreath** is member of the Florida Bar and has been practicing U.S. immigration law since 2003 and is a member of AILA. Having spent about 20 years in Germany, he is a native-speaker of German. He is a 1998 graduate from the University of South Florida cum laude with a B.A. in Political Science and Int'l Affairs and a 2000 graduate from Stetson University College of Law. Mr. Culbreath's immigration practice is located in St. Petersburg, Florida, in the greater Tampa Bay metropolitan area. As an experienced immigration attorney, his cases revolve primarily around business- and employment-based immigration, assisting clients with living, working and conducting business in the United States. Mr. Culbreath has authored many articles (online and in print) on various aspects of U.S. immigration law, including visa strategies, legislative and regulatory updates, de-mystifying government agencies, and providing insight into DHS and DOS practices. He also maintains a blog on immigration law and related topics. He also frequently writes and publishes his works in German.

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Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana. His firm focuses on business immigration, with emphasis on E, H, L, O and P visas. It engages in consular practice in Trinidad and Guyana. Mr. Depoo graduated from Rutgers University Law School in 1983 and commenced his legal career at the Public Defender's Office in New Jersey. He joined the U.S. State Department in 1986 as consular office and had postings in Manila, Caracas, Toronto, Washington, D.C., and Port of Spain. He obtained a Legal Education Certificate from the Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad in 1987, and is a member of the New Jersey, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana bars. He is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and writes extensively on immigration law.

**Vic Goel** is the founder and Managing Attorney of Goel & Anderson, LLC. In this capacity, he oversees the operations of G&A's business immigration practice, while also representing domestic and foreign clients in a wide range of immigration matters. His practice includes strategic immigration planning concerning the recruitment and hiring of international professionals, skilled technicians, managers, executives, and students. His clientele includes multinational information technology companies, telecommunications providers, biotech and engineering firms, financial institutions, manufacturing entities, and luxury hotel chains that rely on international personnel to meet their staffing needs worldwide. He is an active speaker and writer on immigration law. His articles and quotes have appeared in such prestigious publications as the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, CNN.com, ComputerWorld, SiliconIndia, the Times of India, India Abroad and others. He is a longtime member of the American Immigration Lawyer's Association, the Information Technology Association of America's Immigration Policy Committee, the Compete America coalition, and the Society for Human Resource Management. He is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and Pennsylvania.

**Edward S. Gudeon** is a partner in the London-based firm of Gudeon & McFadden. He graduated from Bucknell University (BA political science, 1962) and Fordham Law School (LLB, 1965) and was admitted to the State Bar of New York in 1965. Mr. Gudeon has practiced exclusively US immigration and nationality law in London since 1978. His principal experience is in the areas of consular processing of nonimmigrant and immigrant visas, waivers of ineligibility, family-based immigration, visas for business personnel and members of the entertainment industry, maintenance of permanent resident status, and acquisition and loss of US citizenship. Mr. Gudeon has been an AILA member since 1979 and is listed in the International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers.

**Magdale Labbe Henke** is the Principal of MLH Consular Consulting, a U.S. and global immigration law consulting firm based in Munich, Germany. Mrs. Henke, whose family emigrated from Haiti, is a native of Brooklyn, New York. Before moving to Germany in 2006 and starting her own practice, she practiced labor, employment and immigration law at Proskauer Rose LLP in New Jersey. A summa cum laude graduate of Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center in New York, she was admitted to the New York and New Jersey Bars in 2001. She is also admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales. Mrs. Henke received a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University, and received a B.A. with High Honors in German and Linguistics at Dartmouth College. Mrs. Henke is a member of the AILA Rome Chapter, serving on its Consular Liaison and CLE Committees. She also participates in the AILA Military Assistance Program (MAP), where she provides pro bono immigration law assistance to U.S. military personnel and their families in Germany. Prior to practicing law, Mrs. Henke worked in the sports media industry, including for CBS Sports and the National Hockey League in New York. She is also a published poet.

**Frederick W. Hong** practice on international transactions and economic matters. He has represented multinational companies headquartered in Hong Kong, Taiwan and the PRC in their business transactions in the U.S. as well as U.S. companies transacting business in the Asia Pacific Region. He a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University School of Law, Los Angeles in 1975 and a B.A. degree in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley in 1972. Mr. Hong





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**Christi Hufford** is an associate attorney in the Memphis office of Siskind Susser PC. Prior to joining the firm in 2007, she headed the US immigration practice at CMS Cameron McKenna LLP in London, UK. Christi practices exclusively in the area of corporate immigration, focusing on intracompany transfers, investors and business visitors, with particular emphasis on NIV consular processing. She also manages a large volume of petitions for professional sports teams. Christi has significant experience with US Embassies and Consulates worldwide, and is a regular speaker on the topic of NIV consular processing. Christi is currently serving as the Mid-South Chapter Liaison to the New Member Division Steering Committee. Christi may be reached via email at [chufford@visalaw.com](mailto:chufford@visalaw.com).

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**Priscilla J. Jones** is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the Detroit College of Law/Michigan State University (JD), where she was a member of the Detroit College of Law Review and recipient of the Jurisprudence Book Award in Property I. She has devoted her legal career exclusively to Immigration & Nationality law with particular focus on Business Immigration. She has extensive experience in advising and representing researchers, professors and scholars in their quest for permanent residence; handling family/marriage cases; providing guidance to companies regarding intracompany transfers, NAFTA, specialty occupation and business visas. Ms. Jones worked as corporate immigration counsel for an IT company and advised corporate executives on issues regarding foreign professional workers; I-9 compliance matters; labor certification requirements and procedures and made appearances at the USCIS offices and ports of entry to assist foreign nationals with their immigration matters. She has also handled removal matters and made appearances before Immigration Judges. Her articles and book chapter have been published and she has been invited to speak at legal and business seminars on Immigration issues. She is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the Colorado and Michigan Chapters of AILA, and is authorized to practice in the US Federal District Courts (Eastern District of Michigan and Western District of Michigan), as well as in the US Circuit Court of Appeals (6th Cir.). She is a past Vice Chair, Michigan Chapter of AILA and past member of the INS Liaison Committee for the Michigan Chapter of AILA.

**Noah Klug** is an attorney with the law firm Fragomen, based in the firm's Sydney office. Noah is a member of the Fragomen Consular Practice, a group which specializes in consular issues, strategically stationed at various overseas Fragomen offices. He is a graduate of New York University (Bachelors) and Fordham University School of Law (Juris Doctor), and is admitted to practice law by the State of New York. Prior to joining Fragomen, Noah was employed as an Attorney-Advisor with the U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review, having entered that position via the U.S. Attorney General's Honors Program. He may be reached at [nklug@fragomen.com](mailto:nklug@fragomen.com). The author wishes to thank Joshua Morris, NIV Chief, and Thurmond Borden, Country Consular Coordinator, for their extremely kind



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assistance and input in preparing this article.

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