

In order for an attorney to get certified in immigration law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, there are a variety of requirements. One of them is:

“In addition, applicant must show substantial involvement in 4 of the following 6 categories within each of the 3 years immediately preceding application listed hereafter.

(a) Petitions and Applications. Representation of clients before the U. S. Department of Homeland Security and the U. S. Department of State in the filing of petitions and applications.

(b) Alien Labor Certifications. Representation of employers and/or aliens before the various state employment services, U. S. Department of Labor, and U. S. Department of Homeland Security in alien labor certification cases, including appeals.

(c) Naturalization. Representation of clients before the U. S. Department of Homeland Security and judicial courts in naturalization matters.

(d) Administrative Appeals. Representation of clients in appeals taken before the Board of Immigration Appeals, Administrative Appeals Unit, Board of Labor Certification Appeals, and the U. S. Department of State Board of Appellate Review.

(e) Administrative Proceedings and Review in Judicial Courts. Representation of clients in judicial matters such as applications for habeas corpus, mandamus and declaratory judgments, and criminal matters involving the immigration law, and petitions or review in judicial courts, and ancillary proceedings in judicial courts.

(f) Employer Sanctions, Bond and Custody, Rescission, Registry, and Fine Proceedings. Representation of clients in these matters.”

We have a regular, substantial involvement in (a) and (d), but our involvement in (c) is not substantial and we do not take any of the other types of cases at all. We have determined that increasing our work into these other areas so that we can get the specialization certificate is not a worthwhile venture.