



Joseph Law Firm, P.C.

Immigration Law Specialists

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NEWSLETTER

July/August 2011

Exciting News!

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Newest Member of the Joseph Law Firm, P.C. Team: Rodrigo Lozano



Joseph Law Firm, P.C. would like to welcome the newest paralegal to its team, Rodrigo Lozano. Rodrigo is a native of Mexico. In 2003, he graduated from the Universidad Anahuac del Sur, International Relations School, where he obtained his B.A. in International Business. While in college, Rodrigo participated in a student exchange program in Bremen, Germany.

From 2006 to 2010, Rodrigo worked for the Consulate General of Mexico in Denver, Colorado as the head of the Legal Affairs Department where he was in charge of safeguarding the legal rights and interests of the Mexican Nationals living in Colorado and Wyoming. Rodrigo also had the opportunity to serve as a liaison between the Mexican and local, state, and U.S. government agencies, including United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Rodrigo has also worked for two major international companies where he developed the skills to work in an international environment. He is passionate about immigration law and helping people with their particular immigration needs.

Joseph Law Firm, P.C. Recognized for Its Pro Bono Contributions



In July, Amber Blasingame, Associate Attorney, attended the 2011 Colorado Supreme Court Pro Bono Recognition Celebration in Arapahoe County. She represented Joseph Law Firm, P.C. which received two awards for its outstanding pro bono contributions in 2010 and 2011. Justice Gregory J. Hobbs, Jr. of the Colorado Supreme Court and Chief Judge William Blair Sylvester of the 18th Judicial District attended the event.

Dea McCart Teaches at Arrupe Jesuit High School



Dea McCart, Office Administrator, taught a class on Business Ethics and Confidentiality to help prepare the Arrupe Jesuit Class of 2015 for their Corporate Work Study experience. Arrupe Jesuit serves economically disadvantaged students from Denver's inner-city neighborhoods. Arrupe Jesuit High School is the 47th college preparatory Jesuit High School in the United States and was designed to serve those who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college preparatory high school. The Corporate Work Study program is an integral part of an Arrupe education, providing many opportunities for the students throughout the City of Denver in finding entry-level office positions in banking, law, medicine, and finance.

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Immigration News and Firm Updates!



Aaron Hall Serving as Committee Chair for the Colorado Chapter of AILA

Aaron Hall, Associate Attorney, will be serving as the Chair of the New Members Division (NMD) for the second consecutive year for the Colorado Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyer's Association (AILA). The New Members Division is open to AILA members in their first three years of AILA membership or until they reach 36 years of age, whichever occurs later. The chair of the AILA Colorado New Members Division coordinates social and professional educational opportunities for members. The New Members Division seeks to integrate new AILA members into the immigration bar and provides resources to help members raise the professional level of the bar as a whole.

ACLU Wins \$200,000 Settlement from Maricopa County Sheriff for Illegal Detention of U.S. Citizen and Legal Permanent Resident

Contributed by Aaron Hall, Associate Attorney

Sixty-eight-year-old Julian Mora and his son were driving in their truck when they were pulled over by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department. They had not violated any traffic laws, but were nonetheless ordered out of the truck, zip-tied, and transported to a nearby work-site immigration raid that was being conducted. After being transported to the raid, they were detained for three hours by the police.

After three hours, they were given the chance to prove that they were lawfully in the U.S. Because Julian Mora is a lawful permanent resident who has lived in the U.S. for over 30 years and his son is a U.S. citizen, they were easily able to do so.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Arizona brought suit on behalf of Mora against the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department and on July 7, 2011, a settlement was reached for \$200,000.

New state laws seeking to further involve local police in immigration enforcement will make these scenarios more and more common. Law enforcement officers in states with new "papers please" laws will inevitably detain U.S. citizens and some of these detentions will end up being far more than three hours. Imagine the case where a U.S. citizen speaks with an accent and does not have ready access to his birth certificate or passport. Where the citizen is mentally disabled and is unable to explain his situation to the police. There are infinite complications that can and will cause people to be unable to prove their legal status at the drop of a hat.

Business Leaders Request More Work Visas From Congress

Contributed by Aaron Hall, Associate Attorney

On July 26th, U.S. business leaders pressed a Senate Panel to reform immigration laws to allow more work visas for highly skilled workers.

NASDAQ Chief Executive Robert Greifeld said that largely due to restrictive immigration policies, each year 17,000 American-trained masters and doctoral students leave the U.S. to find work elsewhere. Mr. Greifeld indicated that job creation would flow from a "default setting that you are welcome if you possess skills and knowledge that we need to solve problems and create solutions for the economy."

Brad Smith, the vice president of legal and corporate affairs for Microsoft, said that Microsoft faces increasing pressure to move jobs overseas because the company can't find enough qualified U.S. citizens and can't get enough visas to fill the positions.

Senators Charles Schumer (D., N.Y.), Charles Grassley (R., Iowa) and John Cornyn (R., Texas) all indicated that they might be inclined to make changes in the H-1B program to allow for more visas to be available to higher-level graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

OUR SERVICES

Joseph Law Firm, P.C. —

A full service Immigration law firm for over ten years. We use our knowledge, teamwork, professionalism and expertise to provide the highest quality legal services and results to individuals and businesses, one client at a time.

Our attorneys are all members of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, the national association of Immigration attorneys.

We have successfully represented clients before the Citizenship and Immigration Service, the Immigration Courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and the Federal Courts.

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