

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
CHAPTER 1	7
OVERVIEW OF PROVISIONAL WAIVER ELIGIBILITY.....	7
Scope of This Book	7
Purpose of the Provisional Waiver	8
Eligibility for Provisional Waiver	8
Immigrant Visa Applicants	9
Family-Based Applicants–Immediate Relatives	9
Family-Based Applicants–Preference Categories	11
Other Immigrant Visa Applicants	12
Inadmissible Based Only on Unlawful Presence Followed by Leaving United States.....	13
Hardship to U.S. Citizen or LPR Spouse or Parent.....	14
Present in the United States.....	14
Approved I-130, I-140, or I-360 and Receipt of Immigrant Visa Processing Fee	15
Provisional Waiver Disqualifications	15
Applicant Under Age 17	15
Removal Proceedings and Reinstatement of Removal	15
Pending Application for Adjustment of Status	17
Filing the Provisional Waiver.....	17
Notifying the NVC or Consulate.....	17
Filing Fees	18
Circumstances in Which USCIS Rejects Provisional Waiver Applications.....	18
Adjudication of Provisional Waiver	18
By USCIS in the United States	18
Burden and Standard of Proof.....	19
Request for Evidence	19
Decisions.....	19
Revocation.....	19
Interim Benefits	20
CHAPTER 2	21
UNLAWFUL PRESENCE	21
What Is Unlawful Presence?.....	21
Definition of Unlawful Presence.....	21
Statutory Exceptions to Unlawful Presence	22
Further Agency Exceptions to Unlawful Presence	25
Triggering Unlawful Presence.....	26
Basic Principles: Three– and Ten-year Bars	26
Effect of Leaving on Advance Parole	27

How to Advise Clients Who May Have Unlawful Presence	27
CHAPTER 3	29
OTHER GROUNDS OF INADMISSIBILITY	29
Review of Selected Grounds of Inadmissibility	30
Health-Related Grounds.....	30
Communicable Diseases	30
Lack of Vaccination	30
Physical or Mental Disorders	30
Drug Abusers or Addicts.....	31
Criminal Grounds.....	32
Introduction	32
Crimes of Moral Turpitude	35
What Is a Crime of Moral Turpitude?	35
Exceptions.....	36
Multiple Criminal Convictions	36
Controlled Substance Violations.....	37
Traffickers in Controlled Substances	37
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	37
Significant Traffickers in Persons	38
Crimes and Provisional Waiver Eligibility	38
Illegal Entrants and Previous Immigration Violations	39
Aliens Present Without Permission or Parole	39
Failure to Attend Removal Proceedings.....	39
Fraud or Willful Misrepresentation.....	40
False Claim of U.S. Citizenship.....	41
Stowaways	43
Smugglers and Encouragers of Unlawful Entry.....	43
Aliens Previously Removed.....	44
Prior Removals.....	44
Reentering the United States Without Authorization.....	44
Reinstatement of Removal.....	45
Public Charge	45
Posting of Public Charge Bonds	48
Conclusion.....	48
CHAPTER 4	49
EXTREME HARDSHIP	49
Extreme Hardship in Unlawful Presence Waivers	49
Qualifying Relatives in General.....	49

Qualifying Relatives for Provisional Waiver 50

What Is Extreme Hardship?..... 50

 Possible Extreme Hardship Factors—A Review of Case Law 50

 Extreme Hardship and Regulations..... 53

 USCIS Final Guidance on Extreme Hardship..... 54

 Should I Stay or Should I Go? 54

 In the Aggregate 55

 “Ordinary” Hardship Insufficient..... 56

 Hardship to a Non-Qualifying Relative 56

 The Five Factors..... 56

 No Presumption but “Likely to Support” Finding of Extreme Hardship 57

 Employing the Five Factors 58

 Family Ties and Impact..... 58

 Social and Cultural Impact..... 59

 Economic Impact 59

 Health Conditions and Care 60

 Country Conditions 61

 Discretionary Factors 62

Conclusion..... 63

CHAPTER 565

WORKING WITH THE CLIENT65

 Developing the Facts of the Case 65

 Interviewing the Client 65

 Building Trust with Your Client 65

 Explain Confidentiality 65

 Explain the Process 66

 Describe What You Are Looking for..... 66

 Listen Carefully to Your Client’s Story and Ask Questions 66

 Retain the Information 67

 Team Review of Case 67

 Interviews—How Much Is Enough?..... 67

 Inadmissibility Issues 68

 Accessing Records Regarding Criminal History 68

 FBI Record Check..... 68

 State Record Check..... 68

 Accessing Information Through FOIA 68

 Form to Use for a FOIA Request 69

 Filing the FOIA Request 69

 Building a Strong Theory of the Case 71

How and When to Create a Theory of the Case.....	71
Preparing Effective Declarations.....	71
What Is a Declaration?.....	71
Whose Declaration?.....	72
What Makes Declarations Effective.....	72
How to Prepare Declarations.....	73
Incorporating Non-Qualifying Relatives.....	73
Qualifying Relative Can't Leave and Can't Live Without Applicant.....	74
Establish a Nexus Between Hardship and Absence or Residence Abroad.....	74
Be Consistent.....	74
CHAPTER 6.....	75
DOCUMENTING THE CASE.....	75
The Importance of Personal Documents.....	75
Declarations from the Applicant and the Qualifying Relative.....	75
Objective Evidence Regarding Hardship Conditions.....	77
Personal Documents.....	77
Personalized Expert Evidence.....	78
Working Directly with an Expert.....	78
Expert Evidence on Living Conditions.....	78
Documenting Hardship Claims.....	79
Family Ties and Impact.....	79
Social and Cultural Impact.....	79
Financial and Economic Hardship.....	80
Health Conditions and Care.....	80
Country Conditions.....	81
Documenting Discretionary Factors.....	81
Documentation in Action.....	82
Health-Related Hardship.....	82
Financial-Related Hardship.....	82
Education-Related Hardship.....	83
Family Ties and Impact.....	83
Country Conditions.....	83
CHAPTER 7.....	85
PUTTING THE CASE TOGETHER.....	85
Exhibits Basics.....	85
Reviewing Exhibits.....	85
An Organized Approach.....	85
Using Placement of Documents to Reflect Importance of Evidence.....	86
Readability and Legibility Matters.....	87
Cover Letter.....	87
Format of Cover Letter.....	87

Length of Cover Letter..... 88

Legal Arguments..... 88

Index of Exhibits 88

 Contents of Index of Exhibits 89

 Preparing the Index of Exhibits..... 89

CHAPTER 891

FILING PROCEDURES.....91

 Completing the Form I-601A 91

 Part 1—Information About the Applicant..... 92

 Part 2—Information About the Applicant..... 98

 Part 3—Information About the Immigrant Visa Case 99

 Part 4—Information About the Qualifying Relative..... 99

 Part 5—Statement from the Applicant 99

 Part 6—Applicant’s Statement, Contact Information, Certification, and Signature 100

 Part 7—Interpreter’s Contact Information, Certification, and Signature 100

 Part 8—Preparer’s Contact Information, Certification, and Signature 100

 Part 9—Additional Information 100

 Filing Requirements 100

 The Application and Biometrics Fee..... 100

 USCIS Address for Filing Waiver Packet..... 100

 Copy of the Immigrant Visa Application Fee Bill Receipt 101

 Name of Applicant and USCIS Receipt Number on Supporting Documents 101

 Copy of the I-797 Approval Notice..... 101

 Copy of Administrative Closure Order 101

 Biometrics Appointment 101

 Applicant and Qualifying Relative Declarations 101

 Documents Proving Extreme Hardship and Supporting Favorable Exercise of Discretion..... 102

CHAPTER 9103

REQUESTS FOR EVIDENCE AND DENIALS.....103

 RFEs 103

 RFE: Reason to Issue and Form of Request..... 103

 Time Frame to Respond to RFE..... 104

 Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID) 104

 Application Rejected and Returned..... 105

 Failure to Attend Biometrics Appointment 105

 Denials 105

 Appeals..... 105

 Motion to Reopen or Reconsider 106

 Removal Proceedings Following Denial..... 106

CHAPTER 10	109
APPROVALS AND WHAT COMES NEXT.....	109
Approval Notices.....	109
Significance of an Approved I-601A.....	109
Advising the Client.....	110
Preparing the Client for Consular Processing.....	111
Immigrant Visa Application and Document Submission.....	111
Appointment Letter for Immigrant Visa Applicants	112
The Medical Examination	113
Consular Interview	113
USCIS Immigrant Fee.....	114
Termination of Registration	114