



LETTER FROM THE CHIEF APPELLATE IMMIGRATION JUDGE

Board of Immigration Appeals Practice Manual

The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) Practice Manual outlines the processes and suggestions for practice before the BIA, the highest administrative body for interpreting and applying immigration laws.

The requirements contained in the Practice Manual are binding on all parties who appear before the BIA. The BIA hears appeals from certain decisions rendered by Immigration Judges and by District Directors of the Department of Homeland Security in a wide variety of proceedings in which the United States is one party and the other party is an alien, a citizen, or a business firm. Nothing in this manual limits the BIA's discretion to exercise its independent judgment in hearing appeals on behalf of the Attorney General.

This Practice Manual is intended to serve as a resource in understanding the BIA's integral role in hearing appeals, the majority of which involve orders of removal and applications for relief from removal. Thank you to the BIA's Appellate Immigration Judges and all those who serve to interpret and administer our country's immigration laws.

Sincerely,

David H. Wetmore
Chief Appellate

Immigration Judge

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