



The 10 Most Important  
Questions to Ask Before  
Hiring an Attorney.



**NOTE:**

**This White paper should not be construed as legal advice for your particular case.**

**This white paper should be considered for informational purposes only.**

**Downloading the white paper does not create an attorney-client's relationship between yourself and GODOY LAW OFFICE. The following information is current as of October 5, 2017. You should always consult with a licensed attorney as to your immigration options.**

**Prior to hiring an attorney, make sure to get the answers to these ten important questions.**

- 1) Ask the attorney to walk you step-by-step on the proposed solution and explain to you the anticipated cost that will be involved. Find out who will pay for the costs and whether that is included in the attorney's price quote.**
- 2) Ask the attorney regarding the anticipated time that will be required of you. Also asked the attorney based on their experience how long they anticipate your case will take. It is important to note that this is often out of the attorney's hands as the government will be processing your application.**
- 3) Ask the attorney whether there is an additional cost should an answer to a request for evidence be needed. A request for evidence is generally issued by the government and will generally have a deadline for an answer. It requires more work in some attorneys do charge additionally for this work. At our firm most request for evidence are included in our fee quote.**



- 4) Ask the attorney whether there is an additional cost for attending any USCIS interviews. A USCIS interview can be anywhere from 1 to 3 hours. Some attorneys will charge extra for this service or not attend the interview with you. At our law firm we include one USCIS interview in our fee quote. It's always advisable to have an attorney with you at the interview to help answer your questions and to help answer the government's questions.
- 5) Ask whether the attorney will prepare you for a USCIS interview. This would require meeting with the attorney or staff prior to the USCIS interview. Some attorneys do not include this service in the original fee quote. At our law firm we always include one preparation meeting. This is a very important meeting because it gives you an opportunity to practice prior to the interview.
- 6) Ask the attorney whether there is an additional cost for making any service requests or inquiries to USCIS once the application has been filed. At our law firm this is generally included in our fee quote. However other attorneys may ask for more compensation to handle the inquiry.
- 7) Ask the attorney whether the cost of mailing is included in their fee quote. Mailing and FedEx fees can add up quickly in the case and are often unexpected cost.



- 8) Ask the attorney whether the attorney fee needs to be paid in full prior to the filing of your application. At our law firm we do not hold up client applications when there is a written agreement. However, we have learned that other firms will not file the case with USCIS until they have been paid in full.
- 9) Ask the attorney whether there is a cost for attorney-client appointments. Find out how the attorney handles client questions. While you may not always need to speak to the attorney you should always have an option for getting information on your case.
- 10) Ask the attorney to give you a written engagement agreement prior to making any payment. Make sure that the written engagement agreement covers the previous nine questions. Take the time to read the engagement agreement and ask any questions that you may have.

**Call Our Office To Make An Appointment To Speak With An  
Immigration Attorney Today.**