



Transcending BordersSM December 2025

Grossman Young & Hammond



CONTENTS

Policy Updates

- Clarification on the New H-1B Proclamation
- DHS Ends Automatic EAD Extensions: What Employers Should Know
- Supreme Court Allows DHS to End TPS for Venezuelans
- DHS Proposes Major Changes to F and J Student and Exchange Visitor Rules
- E-Verify Resumes Operations Post-Shutdown
- Project Firewall – New DOL Initiative
- Trump Launches Gold Card Program
- Florida Immigration Checkpoints
- Understanding the New Public Charge Standard That Puts Weight on Trial

Original Content

- Our Immigrant Stories: Juliana Carvajal Yepes
- Opinion: Reasonable Immigration Law Reform Is Not Just Humane—It's Essential to Save Social Security and Medicare
- The New \$100K H-1B Fee Explained: Who's Affected
- Extradition and Immigration Systems
- Family Preparedness Plan
- The New Reality for International Students in America

Firm News

- Firm Webinars
- GYH About Town
- Accolades
- Case Spotlight

Policy Updates

Clarification on the New H-1B Proclamation

Since the September 19, 2025 presidential proclamation on H-1B visas was issued, new guidance has been released by USCIS, CBP, the Department of State, and the White House. This guidance aims to clarify who is

impacted and when the new \$100,000 fee applies.

[Read more.](#)



DHS Ends Automatic EAD Extensions: What Employers Should Know

On October 29, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued an [interim final rule \(IFR\)](#), effective October 30, 2025, that eliminates the automatic extension of employment authorization documents (EADs) for [most previously eligible renewal applicants](#).

In their recent article, Of Counsel [Mary Pivec](#) and Counsel [Jason Levy](#) explain what this change means for employees who rely on timely work-permit renewals and for employers trying to maintain compliance.

[Read more.](#)



Supreme Court Allows DHS to End TPS for Venezuelans

On October 3, The Supreme Court cleared the way for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to end the Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

designation for Venezuelan nationals — impacting approximately 350,000 people previously protected under TPS.

[Read more.](#)

DHS Proposes Major Changes to F and J Student and Exchange Visitor Rules

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has released a proposed rule that would significantly reshape the way international students and exchange visitors are admitted to and remain in the United States. If finalized, these changes could alter

decades of established practice and impose new compliance responsibilities on schools, universities, and sponsoring organizations.

[Read more.](#)

E-Verify Resumes Operations Post-Shutdown

With E-Verify service restored on October 9, 2025, DHS has issued instructions for handling any case delays caused by the shutdown. Managing Attorney Nikki Whetstone, Esq. explains the key steps employers should take.

[Read more.](#)

Project Firewall – New DOL Initiative

The Department of Labor has launched Project Firewall, a compliance initiative aimed at protecting U.S. workers and increasing scrutiny of employers in the H-1B program. Employers can expect more LCA investigations, broader use of third-party tips, and potential coordination with other agencies.



In this Q&A, Of Counsel [Mary Pivec](#) answers key questions about what Project Firewall means for employers, who may be at risk, the scope of possible penalties, and how to prepare.

[Read more.](#)

Trump Launches Gold Card Program

President Trump's new "Gold Card" program offers expedited immigration for foreign entrepreneurs and investors who make a qualifying \$1–2 million contribution to the U.S. Treasury.

With the 90-day implementation period now underway (set to expire December 18), GYH will be monitoring developments closely. To learn more and access a copy of the executive order.

[Read more.](#)



Florida Immigration Checkpoints

Attorney **Valerie Mahoney** explains how Florida's conversion of agricultural inspection stations into immigration checkpoints affects the state's equine and agricultural industries.

[Read more.](#)

Understanding the New Public Charge Standard That Puts Weight on Trial

An unofficially released Department of State cable provided new instructions directing consular officers how to apply the public charge ground of inadmissibility.



The guidance broadens the scope of “health” considerations beyond what the regulations explicitly specify, requiring consular officers to evaluate conditions, including obesity, that fall outside the traditional structure for assessing the likelihood of someone becoming a public charge.

[Read more.](#)

Original Content

Our Immigrant Stories: Juliana Carvajal Yepes

Originally from Medellín, Colombia, Attorney **Juliana Carvajal Jepes** came to the U.S. at 18 to pursue public service. Her journey—from an internship in D.C. to empowering immigrant entrepreneurs—shows how immigration can build community and opportunity.

[Read more.](#)

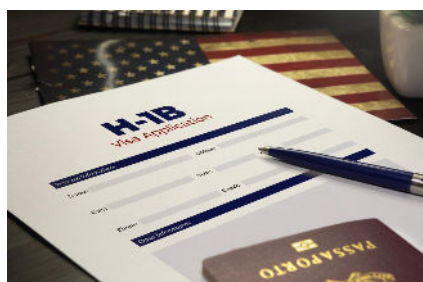


Opinion: Reasonable Immigration Law Reform Is Not Just Humane—It's Essential to Save Social Security and Medicare

In 2022 alone, undocumented immigrants contributed approximately \$25.7 billion to Social Security and \$6.4 billion to Medicare, even though they are completely barred from receiving these benefits themselves. With Social Security projected to become insolvent by 2033, these contributions are more important than ever.

Senior Counsel **Denise Hammond** explains why immigration reform is not just a moral issue, but a fiscal necessity. Expanding legal pathways for undocumented workers would strengthen tax compliance, stabilize our aging workforce, and help protect Social Security and Medicare for future generations.

[Read more.](#)



The New \$100K H-1B Fee Explained: Who's Affected

Since September 19, 2025, presidential proclamation established a new \$100,000 fee for certain H-1B visa petitions; uncertainty remains as to which petitions are subject to the fee. New USCIS guidance released October 20th provides further clarification regarding who is impacted and when the new \$100,000 fee applies.

[Read more.](#)

Extradition and Immigration Systems

When noncitizens are extradited to the United States, their legal challenges often extend beyond the criminal process. In our latest blog, Attorney [Jaclyn Dennis](#) explains how extradition intersects with U.S. immigration law, what happens after arrival, and key steps for navigating the process.



[Read more.](#)

Family Preparedness Plan

GYH understands that uncertainty surrounding immigration enforcement can create deep anxiety for families. But with knowledge, planning, and trusted legal guidance, you can take concrete steps to protect your loved ones and your future. The GYH team has created a Family Preparedness Plan that can help you stay prepared for any situation.

- [English](#) Version
 - [Spanish](#) Version
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The New Reality for International Students in America

Legal Intern Nila Ibrahimi explores federal action shaping the experiences of international students in the US and possible implications for universities and academic exchange.



[Read more.](#)

Firm News



GROSSMAN YOUNG & HAMMOND

7 Celebrating Years



GYH Celebrated its 7th Year

The firm announced its inception through the merger of Grossman Law and Hammond Young Immigration Law on November 13, 2018.

Since its founding, GYH has grown from a team of 8 attorneys to 26, including new leadership and attorneys with specialized expertise.

Over the past seven years, GYH has been continuously recognized as a top immigration law firm by Best Lawyers®, Washingtonian, Chambers & Partners, Who's Who Legal, and more.

We've continued to evolve by growing our bench strength, developing the International Protection Practice, expanding our Global Mobility Practice, and handling high-profile, complex immigration cases that shape the field.

Beyond our work in the courtroom and the boardroom, we remain deeply committed to pro bono service and advocacy.

Firm Webinars

Past Webinars



Advanced Strategies for Business Immigration

Counsels **Anne Rowley** and **Lauren Twist** discuss EB-1A, NIW, E-2, and L-1 petitions—and strategies for success.

[View Recording](#)



DHS' Termination of Automatic Extensions for Employment Authorization Documents

On Nov 17th Of Counsel **Mary Pivec** and Counsel **Anne Rowley** hosted a discussion of the upcoming policy change ending the automatic 540-day extension of certain Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) for renewal applications filed on or after October 30, 2025.

[View Recording](#)

Join our mailing list to be notified of upcoming webinars!

GYH About Town

International Bar Association Annual Conference

GYH was pleased to attend the annual conference of the International Bar Association (IBA) in Toronto. Managing Partner **Sandra**

Grossman and Of Counsel **Charlie Magri** spoke on INTERPOL Red Notices and transnational repression.

Managing Partner **Becki Young** and Attorney **Ariel Rawls** engaged with international peers, sharing insights and building cross-border connections.



GYH Spoke at AILA DC Chapter Fall Conference

Becki Young, Patrick Taurel, and Dree Collopy shared their insights at the AILA DC Chapter Fall Conference on November 14th.



From Green to Gold to Platinum Cards

Counsel **Jason Levy** joined Mishkin Santa this week on **The Essential Tax Podcast** by **The Wolf Group, PC**. In this discussion, the attorneys address what it means to be a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) or Green Card holder as well as how LPR status

can be lost and steps immigrants can take to retain it. They also covered the new \$100K H-1B fee, and Trump's Gold and Platinum Cards.

[Listen Now](#)



Toyota Symposium

Senior Attorney Hallie Cohen and Of Counsel Mary Pivec presented on compliance and workforce issues at the Toyota Symposium.



Humane Rescue Alliance's Bark Ball

GYH proudly sponsored HRA's annual gala supporting animal welfare across the region.

[Donate to HRA](#)



Annual Noche de Periodistas

GYH sponsored NAHJ's annual celebration honoring Latino journalists at the Peruvian Ambassador's Residence.

[Learn More](#)

Firm Accolades



Sandra Grossman & Becki Young Named Top Attorneys

Bethesda Magazine recognized our Managing Partners in its November/December issue.



GYH Ranked Tier 1 from Best Law Firm®

GYH has once again been ranked Tier 1 both nationally and regionally in the **Best Law Firms®** 2026 guide. This

honor recognizes firms that demonstrate professional excellence and earn outstanding feedback from clients and peers alike.



Book Review: AILA's Asylum Primer



Book Review

AILA's Asylum Primer: A Practical Guide to U.S. Asylum Law and Procedure

by Dree K. Collopy

"The value in this primer largely rests in its tremendous practicality and ease of use for referencing even some of the most nuanced aspects of asylum law and litigation for application in practice... At more than 1,500 pages not including the appendices, AILA's Primer is as exhaustive as it is comprehensive."

• Philip Collins, Immigration Attorney and PhD Candidate, University of Galway, Ireland


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The International Journal of Refugee Law praised Of Counsel Dree K. Collopy's AILA's Asylum Primer as "a monumental feat" of clarity and depth.

[Read More.](#)

Case Spotlight

GYH Files Complaint Before U.N. Committee Against Torture

GYH's International Protection Practice is taking innovative action on behalf of several West African nationals affected by third-country removal. The individuals were unlawfully deported to Ghana despite court-ordered protection.

Attorneys Sandra Grossman, Patrick Taurel, Gianna Borroto, Jaclyn Dennis, and Ariel Rawls are leading and supporting efforts before the U.N. Committee Against Torture (UNCAT), which has issued protective measures urging Ghana to halt deportations to countries where the individuals fear serious harm while their case is under review.

This ongoing advocacy underscores GYH's commitment to protecting human rights and safeguarding vulnerable individuals worldwide.



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