

Khandikile M. Sokoni



Khandikile M. Sokoni
Counsel
Grossman, Young & Hammond
ksokoni@grossmanyouth.com
301-917-6900

Khandikile “Khandi” Mvunga Sokoni, is a member of the CFTC Board and serves on its Philanthropic Services Committee. She focuses her practice on a wide range of business immigration law matters for a variety of clients. Prior to joining Grossman Young & Hammond, Khandi was a Partner with the firm True, Walsh & Sokoni, LLP where she focused on both general corporate law and immigration law, finding her true passion at the intersection of both practice areas. In her ten years there, she handled a wide range of immigration matters representing individuals in family-based immigration matters as well as corporate clients including those in the software development, architectural and engineering industries.

An immigrant herself, Cornell Law School is what brought Khandi to Ithaca. Prior to her career in private practice she worked in the Ithaca City Attorney’s Office where she spent 13 years as an attorney for the City of Ithaca, including six years as Assistant City Attorney. Khandi has also previously served as attorney for the Towns of Richford, NY; Dryden, NY and Ulysses, NY.

Disclaimer

The information in this presentation is provided for informational purposes only and should **not** be construed as **legal advice** on any specific case or subject matter. You should **not** act or refrain from acting on the basis of any content included in this presentation without seeking **legal** or other professional **advice**.

Immigration in Tompkins County

- Immigration clients in Tompkins County have included the following nationalities: Kenya; Uganda; South Africa; India; Iran; Ukraine; Ireland; United Kingdom; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Canada; Ghana; Nigeria, Russia, Thailand, Mexico, Zambia, USA.
- Examples include:
 - Applying for permanent residence for foreign national immediate relatives (i.e. spouses and parents) of U.S. citizens, including in recent years same sex couples;
 - Assisting a U.S. family who had done an international adoption of an infant. In high school realized they did not have required documentation of U.S. citizenship to apply for financial aid.
 - Assisting immigrants get untangled from abusive marriages without losing immigration benefits.
 - Family Re-unification.



Continued...

Immigration in Tompkins County

- Assisting U.S. employers sponsor H-1B visas and green cards for graduates from Cornell, Syracuse University and SUNY Binghamton.
- Successor in Interest due diligence in connection with corporate acquisition.
- Self-sponsored green cards for accomplished individuals whose field of endeavor is in the national interest.
- Cap-Exempt. Universities and tax-exempt research institutions. No limit on H-1B visas.

Organizations in TC Providing Immigration Services

<p>Catholic Charities of Tompkins and Tioga https://www.catholiccharitiestt.org/ Tel: (607) 272-5062</p>	<p>Immigrant Services Program: provide legal advocacy, direct services, and referrals for refugees and other immigrants who reside in our community.</p>
<p>Ithaca City of Asylum. https://ithacacityofasylum.org/</p>	<p>Providing sanctuary to writers whose works are suppressed, whose lives are threatened, whose cultures are vanishing, or whose languages are endangered. An all-volunteer project of the Center for Transformative Action, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization affiliated with Cornell University, ICOA works in partnership with Cornell, Ithaca College, and Wells College. ICOA is a member of the International Cities of Refuge Network, joining people around the world advocating for freedom of expression.</p>
<p>Ithaca Welcomes Refugees (IWR) http://ithacawelcomesrefugees.org/</p>	<p>Volunteer-led initiative, founded in December 2015. IWR works to foster a welcoming and fair environment for refugees and at-risk immigrants in our region.</p>

Questions?





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Thank you!