# STACI REEVES THIBODEAUX

## ATTORNEY AT LAW

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## H<sub>2</sub>A Visa

### **Ouick Facts**

H2A workers must be employed full time (at least 35 hours per week);

The work must be agricultural in nature;

The need for the work must be seasonal or temporary, normally lasting 10 months or less.

### Government Fee Schedule (subject to change)

US DOL	\$ 100
DOL (per worker)	\$ 10
USCIS	\$ 460
USCIS (Asylum Fee)	\$ 300
Consulate Fee (per worker)	\$ 205

#### Other Fees (subject to change)

Administrative Fees to set appointment with consulate (per worker) \$50

Travel & Meals during trip to and from worksite (estimate



## H2A Visa Application Process

The H-2A Program is authorized under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and allows a U.S. employer to hire foreign workers on a temporary basis to perform agricultural work when there are not sufficient U.S. workers available.

This is a multi-stage process which requires the filing for authorization from the State Work Agency, filing the H2A application with the US Department of Labor, Recruiting US Workers, obtaining certification from the US Department of Labor, and the filing and approval of the visa petition by the USCIS.

Once the USCIS has approved the visa application (Form I-129), it is necessary to have the foreign laborers appear for an appointment with the US Consulate and arrange for transportation to the worksite within the United States.

If you find that your farming operation could benefit from this type of seasonal labor, I would love to help your operation grow and assist you with the H2A visa application process from the filing of the necessary documents to the arrival and departure of your foreign workers.



## Example of Costs for Initial H2A Application Process:

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2- H2A workers:

#### **Attorney Fees:**

Base Fee:	\$ 2,000.00

Scheduling Fee\*: \$ 100.00

#### \$ 2,100.00

#### <u>Government Fees</u> (subject to change):

US DOL Fee:	\$ 120.00
USCIS Fee:	\$ 460.00
USCIS Asylum Fee:	\$ 300.00
Consulate Fee:	\$ 410.00

#### \$ 1,290.00

#### Other Fees & Costs:

Transportation & Meals from place of residence to US worksite and return trip (estimate only) **\$300.00 per worker = \$600** 

Total Estimated Cost for H2A Visa Application for 2 Workers:

#### <u>\$ 3,990.00\*</u>

## Attorney Fee Schedule for Filing Application

#### H2A Application Services:

#### Base Fee: \$2,000.00 (Per application)\*

#### \*Services Included in Base Fee:

• The preparation & filing of the required applications and related materials with the local, state, and federal agencies;

• Necessary communications with the State Work Agency and the US Department of Labor, including responding to notices and coordinating inspections;

- US Worker Recruitment by preparing and filing Recruitment Report with the US DOL;
- Preparation & filing of I-129 with US Citizenship & Immigration Services
- Preparation & filing of necessary documents during term of H2A visa related to early departures.

## **Optional Services Fee Schedule**

Once the visas are approved, the H2A workers must be report for an appointment with the US Consulate and be issued a work visa. The employer can handle this step of the process, or I can handle it for you.

#### Fee to Coordinate & Schedule appointment with US Consulate:

#### \$50 Per Worker\*

\*Services Included in this fee:

•Coordinating & scheduling visa appointments with Consulate & Employer;

- Communication regarding worker departure to employer;
- Rescheduling appointment if necessary.