

Trends in U & T Visas

Laura Flores, ABA Commission on Immigration
Stacie Jonas, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid
Megan Sheffield, Sheffield & Harriger, PLLC
Tracie Morgan, Hope Immigration

1

U Visa Trends and Updates

Tracie Morgan

2

U Visa Case Management: Timing

Why is it important?

- 80% of cases receive BFDs within 57 months (4 years and 9 months)
- Example
 - File date: 10/25/2016
 - BFD grant: 09/28/2021
 - Full U approval: 03/08/2024

3

U Visa Case Management: Stages

Stages of a U Case:

- Obtaining certification
- U application filing
- Waiting on BFD
- BFD litigation
- Waiting on the waitlist
- Full U grant
- Adjustment of Status or Consular Processing

4

U Visa Case Management: Setting Client Expectations

What's included in each stage?

- Change of address (how many)
- Case status updates - how often and by whom
- EAD submissions or EAD renewals
- Criminal issues - new waivers
- Divorce, new marriage

Best practices

- Include enough “wiggle room” in the contract to allow for unforeseen changes
- Set clear expectations with client and team
- Try to be proactive with updates - clients want to make sure they're not forgotten
- Just because the government doesn't charge doesn't mean it's free labor for your clients

5

Starting I918 Filing Date	Ending I918 Filing Date	Projected U visa Issuance Year
11/30/16	3/30/17	10/1/2024 - 9/30/2025
4/1/17	7/31/17	10/1/2025 - 9/30/2026
8/1/17	11/1/17	10/1/2026 - 9/30/2027
11/1/17	4/31/2018	10/1/2027 - 9/30/2028
5/1/18	8/30/18	10/1/2028 - 9/30/2029
9/1/18	4/30/19	10/1/2029 - 9/30/2030
5/1/19	8/31/19	10/1/2030 - 9/30/2031
9/1/19	3/30/20	10/1/2031 - 9/30/2032
4/1/20	9/30/20	10/1/2032 - 9/30/2033
10/1/20	2/28/21	10/1/2033 - 9/30/2034
3/1/21	10/31/21	10/1/2034 - 9/30/2035
11/1/21	3/31/22	10/1/2035 - 9/30/2036
4/1/22	9/30/22	10/1/2036 - 9/30/2037
10/1/22	1/31/23	10/1/2037 - 9/30/2038
2/1/23	7/31/23	10/1/2038 - 9/30/2039
8/1/23	11/30/23	10/1/2039 - 9/30/2040
12/1/23	2/28/24	10/1/2040 - 9/30/2041
3/1/24	6/30/24	10/1/2041 - 9/30/2042
7/1/24	9/30/24	10/1/2042 - 9/30/2043

6

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](http://utcle.org/elibrary)

Title search: Trends in U and T Visas

Also available as part of the eCourse

[Trends in U and T Visas](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the
48th Annual Conference on Immigration and Nationality Law session
"Trends in U and T Visas"