

**§ 3.63 Applications.**

(a) *Generally.* In order to qualify to appear on the list of free legal services providers maintained by the Chief Immigration Judge under this subpart, an organization or attorney must file an application requesting to be placed on the list. This application must be filed with the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, along with proof of service on the Court Administrator of the Immigration Court having jurisdiction over each locality where the organization or attorney provides free legal services. Each submission must be identified by the notation "Application for Free Legal Services Providers List" on the envelope, and must also indicate if the organization or attorney is willing to represent indigent aliens in asylum proceedings.

(b) *Organizations recognized under § 292.2.* An organization that is recognized under § 292.2 of this chapter must submit a declaration signed by an authorized officer of the organization which states that the organization complies with all of the qualifications set forth in § 3.62(a).

(c) *Organizations not recognized under § 292.2.* An organization that is not recognized under § 292.2 of this chapter must submit a declaration signed by an authorized officer of the organization which states that the organization complies with all of the qualifications set forth in § 3.62(b).

(d) *Attorneys.* An attorney must:

(1) Submit a declaration that states that:

(i) He or she provides free legal services to indigent aliens;

(ii) He or she is willing to represent indigent aliens in immigration proceedings *pro bono*; and

(iii) He or she is not under any order of any court suspending, enjoining, restraining, disbarring, or otherwise restricting him or her in the practice of law; and

(2) Include the attorney's bar number, if any, from each bar of the highest court of the state, possession, territory, or commonwealth in which he or she is admitted to practice law.

(e) *Changes in addresses or status.* Organizations and attorneys referred to in this subpart are under a continuing obligation to notify the Chief Immigra-

tion Judge, in writing, within ten business days, of any change of address, telephone number, or qualifying or professional status. Failure to notify the Chief Immigration Judge of any such change may result in the name of the organization or attorney being removed from the list.

**§ 3.64 Approval and denial of applications.**

The Court Administrator of the Immigration Court having jurisdiction over each locality where an organization or attorney provides free legal services shall forward a recommendation for approval or denial of each application submitted by the organization or attorney, and the reasons therefor, to the Chief Immigration Judge. The Chief Immigration Judge shall have the authority to approve or deny an application submitted by an organization or an attorney pursuant to § 3.63. If an application is denied, the organization or attorney shall be notified of the decision in writing, at the organization's or attorney's last known address, and shall be given a written explanation of the grounds for such denial. A denial must be based on the failure of the organization or attorney to meet the qualifications and/or to comply with the procedures set forth in this subpart. The organization or attorney shall be advised of its, his or her right to appeal this decision to the Board of Immigration Appeals in accordance with § 3.1(b) and § 103.3(a)(1)(ii) of this chapter.

**§ 3.65 Removal of an organization or attorney from list.**

(a) *Involuntary removal.* If the Chief Immigration Judge believes that an organization or attorney included on the list of free legal services providers no longer meets the qualifications set forth in this subpart, he or she shall promptly notify the organization or attorney in writing, at the organization's or attorney's last known address, of his or her intention to remove the name of the organization or attorney from the list. The organization or attorney may submit an answer within 30 days from the date the notice is served. The organization or attorney must establish by

clear, unequivocal, and convincing evidence that the organization's or attorney's name should not be removed from the list. If, after consideration of any answer submitted by the organization or attorney, the Chief Immigration Judge determines that the organization or attorney no longer meets the qualifications set forth in this subpart, the Chief Immigration Judge shall promptly remove the name of the organization or attorney from the list of free legal service providers, the removal of which will be reflected in the next quarterly update, and shall notify the organization or attorney of such removal in writing, at the organization's or attorney's last known address. Organizations and attorneys shall be advised of their right to appeal this decision to the Board of Immigration Appeals in accordance with § 3.1(b) and § 103.3(a)(1)(ii) of this chapter.

(b) *Voluntary removal.* Any organization or attorney qualified under this subpart may, at any time, submit a written request to have its, his or her name removed from the list of free legal service providers. Such a request shall be honored, and the name of the organization or attorney shall promptly be removed from the list, the removal of which will be reflected in the next quarterly update.

#### Subpart F [Reserved]

#### Subpart G—Professional Conduct for Practitioners—Rules and Procedures

SOURCE: 65 FR 39526, June 27, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

##### § 3.101 General provisions.

(a) *Authority to sanction.* An adjudicating official or the Board of Immigration Appeals (the Board) may impose disciplinary sanctions against any practitioner if it finds it to be in the public interest to do so. It will be in the public interest to impose disciplinary sanctions against a practitioner who is authorized to practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts when such person has engaged in criminal, unethical, or unprofessional conduct, or in frivolous behavior, as set

forth in § 3.102. In accordance with the disciplinary proceedings set forth in this subpart and outlined below, an adjudicating official or the Board may impose any of the following disciplinary sanctions:

(1) Expulsion, which is permanent, from practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts or the Immigration and Naturalization Service (the Service), or before all three authorities;

(2) Suspension, including immediate suspension, from practice before the Board and the Immigration Courts or the Service, or before all three authorities;

(3) Public or private censure; or

(4) Such other disciplinary sanctions as the adjudicating official or the Board deems appropriate.

(b) *Persons subject to sanctions.* Persons subject to sanctions include any practitioner. A practitioner is any attorney as defined in § 1.1(f) of this chapter who does not represent the federal government, or any representative as defined in § 1.1(j) of this chapter. Attorneys employed by the Department of Justice shall be subject to discipline pursuant to § 3.109. Nothing in this regulation shall be construed as authorizing persons who do not meet the definition of practitioner to represent individuals before the Board and the Immigration Courts or the Service.

##### § 3.102 Grounds.

It is deemed to be in the public interest for an adjudicating official or the Board to impose disciplinary sanctions against any practitioner who falls within one or more of the categories enumerated in this section, but these categories do not constitute the exclusive grounds for which disciplinary sanctions may be imposed in the public interest. Nothing in this regulation should be read to denigrate the practitioner's duty to represent zealously his or her client within the bounds of the law. A practitioner who falls within one of the following categories shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions in the public interest if he or she:

(a) Charges or receives, either directly or indirectly:

(1) In the case of an attorney, any fee or compensation for specific services