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Immigration Team

Looking back on 2023

The Team



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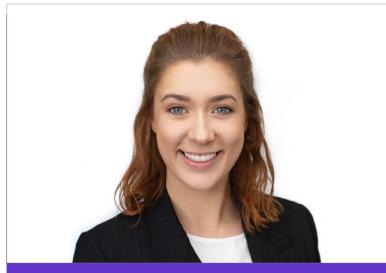
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Work highlights

A sponsor licence is a valuable asset for any organisation as it facilitates the sponsorship of an overseas national to work or study in the UK.



In 2023, the Immigration Team obtained over 20 sponsor licenses for clients across our Faith, Education, Business and Charity sectors with a 100% success rate.

This is a complex application and involves detailed representations to the UKVI as to why the client cannot recruit from inside of the UK and how they meet the strict requirements. Upon obtaining the licence we continue to provide full support to the client through our Level 1 User service. Client highlights include: Diocese and Archdiocese, Multi-Academy Trusts, International learning partner to governments, large Further Education College, global hospitality business and a large Lutheran Church.

Client highlights include:



Work highlights

We have supported over 25 individuals with a range of complex private client immigration matters including, successfully assisting families seeking to relocate to the UK on a permanent basis under the family route. We regularly work with individuals who have previous visa refusals or complex financial or medical circumstances requiring us to argue exceptional circumstances under Appendix FM. We also work with a number of high net worth individuals, such as successful actors with complex Global Talent Visas to allow them to permanently reside in the UK.

Julie continues to be a leading specialist in the sponsorship of religious workers within faith based organisations. The need for religious organisations to look at their succession and recruitment of members from outside of the UK for support has led to the rapid development of this niche area.

The team have supported almost 50 faith based organisations with their immigration matters last year which consist of both new and existing clients of the firm.



Work highlights

Last year we advised extensively on shortages in the workforce across the sectors, including care homes, healthcare providers, tech companies, faith organisations and MATs. A large part of our work is assessing whether a role is eligible for sponsorship, obtaining and assigning a Certificate of Sponsorship and thereafter preparing the visa application to ensure the immigration rules are satisfied.

In 2023 alone we successfully obtained over 30 Skilled Worker, T2 Minister of Religion and T5 Religious Worker visas for individuals seeking to work in the UK.



Client highlights include:





A host of well attended webinars on a range of immigration law topics including, Immigration for the Care and Health Sector, Immigration Risk Management for Independent Schools, Obtaining a Student Sponsor licence, Coming to the UK as a Religious Worker, Compliance for Sponsor Licence Holders and Immigration for the Hospitality and Retail Sector.



Julie hosting a roundtable at E3M, a pioneering social enterprise initiative, on sponsorship to fill shortages in the workforce.



Julie, Sarah and Emily preparing content on the recent changes to the Skilled Worker route and hosting a free Q&A for the clients on the impact of the changes.



Julianna appearing on Premier Christian Radio's lunchtime show to discuss the recent changes to Immigration Law and the impact on religious workers.



Developing a suite of paid immigration law packages and online tools for the website on sponsorship, visa options, compliance checklists and right to work.

The team volunteer once a month at both the Anglia Ruskin and Bath Spa Law Clinics.

Julie, Sarah and Julianna have dedicated over 100 hours of in-person and remote pro-bono advice and follow up written notes across the year.

We also continue to feed into CSR, Wellbeing and DE&I initiatives across the firm.

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We look forward to 2024 and wishing you all a happy New Year

Stone King Immigration Team

Contact us

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