

Brian Graham

Partner

Austin
+1.512.482.6828

brian.graham@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Brian Graham is a partner in the firm's Austin office where he leads the firm's corporate and investment-based immigration law practice. He is internationally recognized for his experience in obtaining visas, permanent residency, and citizenship for athletes, entertainers, executives, healthcare professionals, investors, religious workers, information technology workers, professors, and researchers. Brian regularly advises corporations on immigration compliance issues and developing long-term immigration strategies. He works alongside tax and estate planning attorneys to counsel high net worth individuals on comprehensive immigration planning.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Brian Graham is ranked as a leading corporate immigration lawyer by *Chambers USA* (2006-present), recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* (2010-present), received *Finance Monthly's* 2018 USA Corporate Immigration *Lawyer of the Year*, was recognized by *Best Lawyers* as the Austin Immigration Lawyer of the Year in multiple years, and was named to the Texas Super Lawyers list from 2013 to 2015. He has been Board Certified in Immigration and Nationality Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 2000. He formally served as Assistant District Counsel for the Immigration and Naturalization Service and worked at the INS Office of the General Counsel in Washington, D.C.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Immigration in Texas, 2006-2026
- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Immigration Law in Austin, TX, 2010-2027
- Named a Thomson Reuters Stand-out Lawyer, 2024-2026
- Named “Lawyer of the Year” by *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Immigration Law in Austin, 2024
- Named to the Texas Super Lawyers list, 2013-2015

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- American Immigration Lawyers Association
- Invest in USA

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Immigration Strategies for Entrepreneurs," *Berkeley SkyDeck*, January 2024
- "Smart Immigration Strategies for Today's Entrepreneurs," *Berkeley SkyDeck*, December 2018
- 2017 Business Immigration Law Guide: What To Expect," *K&L Gates Immigration Webinar*, February 2017
- "Labor, Employment and Workplace Safety: 2016 Year in Review and 2017 Outlook," *K&L Gates Labor, Employment and Workplace Safety Webinar*, January 2017
- "Immigration Issues in the Hospitality Industry," *K&L Gates Labor, Employment and Workplace Safety Webinar*, October 2016
- "Global Employer Solutions in a Digitalized World." *K&L Gates Global Employer Solutions Webinar*, July 2016
- "Tax and Immigration Planning for High Net Worth Individuals", *Private Wealth Mexico Forum*, June 2015
- Moderator, "EB-5 Financing & P3: Leveraging International Migration to Create Capital," *P3Conference*, February 2014
- "Legal Series for 2011: US Export Controls 2011 for Attorneys," *LIVE Webcast*, February 2011
- "I-9 Compliance and E-Verify: What HR Needs to Know," *HRSouthwest Conference*, October 2010
- "I-9 Compliance and E-Verify," *HRSouthwest Conference*, October 2009
- "Immigration Law Update," *Lone Star Alliance*, December 2008
- "Hot Topics in Immigration Law," *Austin Chamber of Commerce,* November 2008
- "Immigration Strategies for International Employers," *HRSouthwest Conference*, October 2008
- "US Immigration Options for Mexican Investors," *Frost Bank*, October 2008

EDUCATION

- J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, 1995
- B.A., The University of Texas, 1992 *(honors)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Texas

LANGUAGES

- Spanish

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- March 2026, February and March 2026 Accolades
- 21 October 2025, Proposed H–1B and L–1 Visa Reform Act of 2025
- September 2025, Business Visitors or Unauthorized Workers? Understanding ESTA and B-1 Boundaries
- 24 September 2025, The Department of Homeland Security Proposes Significant Changes to Allocation of H-1B Visas—Public Comment Opportunity
- 23 September 2025, President Trump Issues Proclamation Restricting Entry of Certain H-1B Workers and an Executive Order Creating the Gold Card Program
- 12 September 2025, E-Verify Update: New Guidance for Employers on EAD Revocations
- 21 February 2024, USCIS Increases Fees for Employer-Based Petitions
- 29 September 2022, An Investment Worth Making: How Structural Changes to the EB-5 Program Can Ensure Real Estate Developers Build a Good Foundation for Their Capital Projects
- 15 October 2021, COVID-19: United States Lifts Certain Travel Restrictions Effective 8 November 2021
- 13 April 2021, Emerging National Security Considerations for AMCs and Research Universities: Immigration/Employment Law Considerations
- 10 December 2020, Looking to 2021: Top Labor & Employment Considerations for Washington Employers
- 31 August 2020, COVID-19: Employment Issues in Health Care Mergers and Acquisitions in the Era of COVID-19
- 24 April 2020, COVID-19: Executive Order on Immigration Temporarily Suspends Certain Green Cards
- 24 March 2020, COVID-19: Premium Processing for Employment Petitions Suspended and Relaxed I-9 Verification Requirements
- 20 February 2020, Prior Version of Form I-9 to Become Obsolete April 30, 2020
- 20 December 2019, H-1B Electronic Registration Process
- 1 February 2017, Urgent: Travel Restrictions Following Recent Executive Order
- 18 January 2017, USCIS Issues Major New Immigration Regulations for Highly Skilled Workers
- 6 January 2017, Employers Must Begin Using New Form I-9 by January 22, 2017
- 28 November 2016, USCIS to Increase Fees for Key Immigration Filings

- 28 November 2016, 2016 Election Guide: A Guide to Trump-era Changes in Business Immigration
- 18 July 2016, Getting It Right: Maximizing Yield While Minimizing the Risk in Hiring Farm Labor

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "An Investment Worth Making: How Structural Changes to the EB-5 Program Can Ensure Real Estate Developers Build a Good Foundation for Their Capital Projects," *Real Estate Finance Journal,* Winter 2022
- "Recent Visa Suspension Could Deter Foreign Students and Workers," *Pittsburgh Business Times*, 26 June 2020

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 2 February 2026, Nearly 50 K&L Gates Lawyers Recognized on *Thomson Reuters* Stand-out Lawyers List
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 11 March 2025, Nearly 50 K&L Gates Lawyers Receive Global Recognition in *Thomson Reuters*' Stand-out Lawyers List
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 17 August 2023, Nearly 400 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2024 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 13 July 2021, K&L Gates Launches Expanded Guidebook on Doing Business in the United States
- 21 May 2021, Chambers USA 2021 Guide Recognizes K&L Gates Labor, Employment, and Workplace Safety Practice, Lawyers Among Leaders
- 16 March and 23 March 2021, What You Need to Know About 2021's Trends and Developments in Labor and Employment Law
- 23 April 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA Guide
- 26 April 2019, Chambers USA 2019 Guide Ranks K&L Gates, Lawyers Among Leaders

- 23 June 2016, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized as Leaders in Chambers USA 2016 Guide
- 12 November 2015, K&L Gates Enhances Global Employer Solutions Capabilities with Addition of Paris Labor and Employment Partner
- 16 July 2015, K&L Gates Bolsters Labor & Employment Practice with Immigration Partner Addition in Texas

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Slowdown in Immigrant Workers Also Translates to Fewer Opportunities for Americans," *Austin Business Journal,* June 2014
- "Expanding Immigrant Investor Program Could Boost Central Texas Business," *Austin Business Journal,* February 2014
- "EB-5 Program Changes Recommended," *San Antonio Express-News,* February 2014
- "H-1B Demand Spike May Signal Improving Outlook For Skilled Pros," *Computerworld.com,* December 2009

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Labor, Employment, and Workplace Safety
- Public Policy and Law
- Contract Workers
- Immigration
- White Collar Defense and Investigations

INDUSTRIES

- Healthcare
- Life Sciences