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## Experience with attorney Victoria Chen

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Posted by [rheumdoc \(10\)](#) 04 Nov 2012

I wish to share my experience working with the attorney Victoria Chen on EB1a petition. Briefly, my credentials (at time of my initiating EB1 quest) include 14 peer-reviewed publications, 3 submitted manuscripts, 177 total citations, 20 conference presentations, 11 article reviewed for 7 journals, and coverage in outlets such as Reuters News, MedScape New. Initially, I contacted an attorney affiliated with my institution about EB1 immigration options who advised not to even consider EB1a due to very stringent criteria, and for EB1b I had "plausible although challenging case". For personal reasons, I wanted to apply for EB1a even if it meant building my credentials further.

As I looked for alternative opinions on immigration forums, I came across the name of attorney Victoria Chen and was intrigued by the guaranteed approval or full refund back policy. I send her an e-mail with my CV, and after initial review she said she could guarantee EB2-NIW. When I informed the EB2-NIW will not be of much help given my Indian origin, she wrote that she sees a "viable EB1a case" provided I agree to work on some issues. She had a long teleconference and laid out the plan of action and things that needs to be done before EB1a petition is filed. She raised two concerns, one with my not being the first authors of the most cited paper and relatively fewer number of reviews.

I think she gives fair evaluation (from her experience) of one's chances and identifies deficiencies upfront. She persistently pushes you for remedial actions. She made me obtain letter of support from the senior author of most cited paper (published in 2000), write to several editors of journals in my field for review opportunities and inclusion in the editorial board. During these efforts, I got the opportunity to be reviewer of abstracts (total 78) of section of the most prestigious scientific meeting in my discipline

She asked me to prepare a detailed research summary and list of potential reference letter writers (how they might know me, their brief bio, and which areas of my interest should his/her letter talk about). Once I provided this information, she drafted 8 letters for me in a short period of time. Letters were very well written and I was impressed by her ability to grasp and describe research and technical terms accurately yet in easily understandable term. Few of the recommendation letter providers on my original list declined to provide the letter, and I had to found replacements for them. Ms. Chen wrote new letters without any hesitation.

After I got all the letters, she drafted about 35-page petition letter (PL), and send it to me for revision. I did not realize it earlier, but she strategically placed content in the letters from different recommendation letter providers that would strongly provide support to each claimed criteria in the PL from multiple sources. She got my approval before submitting the final version of PL. We initially filed EB1a petition as regular process but converted to premium processing after about 3 weeks. The petition got approved one week later.

In summary, I had a great experience working with attorney Victoria Chen. She provides a fair assessment of one's credentials and once she accepts a case she diligently works to put together a petition package that is very competitive. I found her to be very approachable. She typically

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responds to e-mails within few hours and one can set up a phone conference within 1-2 days. I fully recommend her without any reservations.

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Posted by [chopin1810sy \(20\)](#) 04 Nov 2012

Good to know. I now recommend her or Annie Yang in Chicago to friends who are looking to hire immigration attorneys, instead of my own attorney. My attorney, whose name I will disclose after I get both my I-140 and I-485 approvals, went through a 180-degree transformation as soon as payments were received. These days, she either ignores my emails and calls or asks for more money whenever I contact her. If only I'd heard of Victoria Chen back in January...

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Posted by [fadi1m \(1\)](#) 15 Nov 2012

Here is another experience with Chen. I'm from Jordan, did file the NIW very recently with her. I feel she did everything possible to get my case approved. I agree that she is not only responds very quick to any concern but also her responses are complete and clear as if she only handling your case only. Actually what make me wonder is how she is able do that while I knew she is handling many other cases. She was honest about the 1485 (AOS) that i can do it by my self and did provide me with all documents and samples needed to do by myself. even she responding to more than 20 questions, with the same speed response for the 140 concerns, without paying any extra penny. Again I never met/know her before but because of the good experience I ended up recommending some friends to do their NIW with here. the only small comment is that once you get the recommendation letter (even with this small concern still better than many lawyers who don't even bother them self to write these recommendation letter) you may need to review carefully before asking reviewer to sign.

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Posted by [chulbul \(4\)](#) 24 Nov 2012

to rheumdoc:

by any chance you can share the recommendation letter after removing identifying information? my lawyer provided a template and i have to write the letter.. i have to write 8-10 letters and i am stuck...

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Posted by [prefori485 \(15\)](#) 27 Nov 2012

Did you really file an I-140 before? Did you hire a lawyer or you did yourself? All attorneys need to submit G-28 with I-140 to file cases for their clients. On G-28, the lawyer needs to put their license information: bar state, bar number, law firm name, address etc. Without G-28 and all the license information, the USCIS will not communicate with the lawyer or issue a receipt notice or approval notice with the law firm or lawyer name on them. If you did read Chen's website carefully like you said, you should see they uploaded about 120 approval notices from this year with Victoria Chen and Chen Immigration Law Associates on them.

Victoria Chen did not make empty promises. She takes your case and works very hard to have it approved. She drafted many reference letters and testimonial letters for me. She kept her promise and gave me all the letters in 2 weeks. And then she kept her promise and had my case approved. When I talked to her on the phone, she said, "You have a safe case. If your case is denied, it means we do not do a good job so we should refund the fee. " You call that "sloppy, unethical"?!! I think that makes perfect sense. If an attorney tells you you have a good chance of approval, then they should be responsible to have the case approved. If your case is denied and your life is miserable, why do they get to keep the fee and make big money?

I read the ethical codes you quoted. I think they are against attorneys who make empty promises just trying to get clients' money and then if the case is denied, they lose nothing. But on Chen's retainer agreement, it actually says the fee will be refunded if the case is denied. If the guarantee is not something to trick you to retain her and file a weak case, why is it unethical? What is unethical is those lawyers who tell you the case is very good but do not work hard and then the case is denied. And they say, "Oops, bad luck !" They still make lots of money.

Like I explained, Victoria Chen emailed me with the approval message from the USCIS and asked me if I was willing to leave a message on their website, endorse her on LinkedIn or share my experience in public forum. I am sure her other approval clients got the same email. It is not strange that with more than 100 approvals, some of the clients registered an ID and shared their experience

because they were really happy about her service.

If I have to say, I still don't trust many of these anonymous posts. Like what I said, anyone can register an ID, create a fake profile and post tons of posts. People recommending Victoria can be her best friends and people attacking Victoria can be other law firms or lawyers who are jealous of all the positive review. We are scientists. We should trust something that is verifiable, like USCIS official approval notices, like articles that show the attorney's expertise, like LinkedIn comments from REAL people with REAL profiles.

Here are some advice for people who want to hire a lawyer:

1. Ask them to show you their recent approval notices from the USCIS, at least from the last three months. Any attorney can claim they have hundreds of case approved but without approval notices, who knows.
2. Ask them to give you at least 3 -5 referrals of their previous clients so that you can talk to them.
3. Talk to them on the phone before retaining them. See if they are professional and ask them what strategies they have to make your case approved.
4. Read the contract carefully and see if it makes sense, especially see if they have included timeline they deal with the case: how long they will give you the documents etc.

I did all four things with all the law firms I contacted when I did free evaluation and only Chen was able to show me all these.

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Posted by [NIWseeker\(1\)](#) 04 Dec 2012

Sorry to interfere

Is there any person that have the experience working with Victoria Chen? Is there any physician among you guys? Could you please leave your email address that I can contact. Thanks for your help in advance.

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Posted by [trider\(3\)](#) 20 Jan 2013

I would recommend Chen Immigration. Great refund policy, approachable, open communication lines, solid preparation of the case, gets the job done.

The help on the letters was great but they have to be reviewed by the petitioner: they were not polished enough with rough grammar in places and other corrections necessary. The same with the petition letter. But the content was strong enough for the case to be approved, although she didn't guarantee the outcome. I am not in research (industry, few publications and citations) so my case was non standard, and this may be the reason the letters were a bit awkward in places. But with my inputs they were strong in the end.

She has a profile on LinkedIn, recommendations from people <http://www.linkedin.com/profile/view?id=1783194...>

I got my GC last week. And this forum (and others) helped me make the decision to hire Ms Chen. I have no comparison with other lawyers but I am definitely happy with the outcome - she didn't guarantee my case but it got approved.

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