EB1-1 "Individuals with Extraordinary Ability" Checklist 2011

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Re: EB1-1: Employment-Based Immigrant Petition for Individuals with Extraordinary Ability

In order to obtain a green card based on extraordinary ability, an applicant or any person on behalf of the applicant must demonstrate by extensive documentation that the applicant is one of that small percentage who has risen to the very top of his/her field of endeavor. This standard means that the applicant has sustained national or international acclaim and that his or her achievements have been recognized in their field of expertise. The applicant has the burden of establishing his/her extraordinary ability or achievement.

- No offer of employment is required the applicant may self-petition, but the petition must be accompanied by clear evidence that the alien is coming to the United States to continue work in the area of expertise. (employment letter, contracts, etc.)
- The evidence the applicant must show is:
 - o Evidence of a major, one-time, international recognized achievement/award, such as an "Academy Award, an Emmy, a Grammy, or a Director's Guild Award", or at least three of the following:
 - Documentation of receipt of lesser nationally or internationally recognized prizes or awards for excellence in the field of endeavor;
 - Documentation of membership in associations in the field for which classification is sought, which require outstanding achievements of their members, as judged by recognized national or international experts in their disciplines or fields;
 - Published material about the applicant in professional or major trade publications or other major media, relating to the applicant's work in the field for which classification is sought. Such evidence must include the title, date, and author of the material, and any necessary translation;
 - Evidence of the applicant's participation, either individually or on a panel, as a judge of the work of others in the same or an allied field of specification for which classification is sought;
 - Evidence of the applicant's original scientific, scholarly, artistic, athletic, or business-related contributions of major significance in the field;
 - Evidence of the applicant's authorship of scholarly articles in the field, in professional or major trade publications or other major media;
 - Evidence of the display of the applicant's work in the field at artistic exhibitions or showcases;
 - Evidence that the applicant has performed in a leading or critical role for organizations or establishments that have a distinguished reputation;
 - Evidence that the applicant has commanded a high salary or other significantly high remuneration for services, in relation to others in the field; or
 - Evidence of commercial successes in the performing arts, as shown by box office receipts or record, cassette, compact disk, or video sales.
- If the criteria above do not apply to the beneficiary's occupation, the petitioner may submit comparable evidence to establish eligibility.