



Eugene Goldstein & Associates is a full service immigration law firm. Our experienced attorneys and knowledgeable support team have concentrated on U.S. immigration and nationality law for more than 40 years. We represent clients ranging from individuals and family-owned businesses to major international corporations and academic institutions. We frequently handle employment matters for business, healthcare, and academic institutions. We are regularly consulted by international students and scholars, performing and fine artists and entertainers, as well as clients with family-based and employment concerns.

Please feel free to call for an appointment so that we may evaluate your portfolio.

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For Artists in Motion Picture & Television Industry

A little known feature of the Alien of Outstanding Ability (O-1) category is that USCIS regulations create separate sections for artists, and for artists in the motion picture and television industry. The stated criteria for the two are the same. So how are applications for motion picture and television artists treated differently from other types of artists?

One difference is with the consultation requirement. Regulations require an opinion letter from a peer group or person with knowledge of your field stating their opinion about your qualifications. For artists who are not in the motion picture and television industry only one consultation letter is required. But, for motion picture and television artists two letters are required. One letter must be from the appropriate labor union. The other must be from a management organization.

The other difference is that motion picture and television artists are held to a higher standard than other artists. For motion picture and television artists extraordinary ability is evidenced by recognition significantly above that ordinarily encountered, and being recognized as being *outstanding, notable, and leading in the field*. For other artists extraordinary ability is evidenced by recognition substantially above that ordinarily encountered, and being recognized as *prominent, renowned, and well known in the field*. Even though you would have to be paid a salary by USCIS to know the difference between the two, this is the reality we live in.



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