KATHRYN VIEGAS

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EXTREMELY GOOD AT

- Listening to and understanding what my clients want.
- Speaking in plain English.
- Helping small and medium-sized businesses manage their employer sponsorship obligations and secure work visas for their foreign employees.
- Managing and mentoring a team.
- Handling the challenging stuff – appeals, health, character, visa cancellation, overstayers, international adoption, refugee and humanitarian visa applications.
- Working with not-for-profit organisations.
- Strategic planning in line with changing immigration laws and policies.
- Liaising between a range of stakeholders.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Working on a range of complex matters that most legal practitioners don't see.
- Training young lawyers and fostering the development of their skills.
- Maintaining my commitment to pro bono work and social justice causes.
- Whenever a client thanks me for helping them.

WORK / BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

- Senior Associate – Brett Slater Solicitors, Sydney
- Solicitor Director – Advocate Immigration Lawyers & Agents, Sydney
- Acting Principal Solicitor – HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Sydney
- Junior Legal Officer – HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Sydney

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Legal Practitioner of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (admitted to practice in July 2003)
- Accredited Specialist – Immigration Law (2016 to date)
- Best Lawyers (Australia) – Immigration Law (2018 to date)
- Doyle's Guide, Leading Immigration Lawyers – New South Wales (2025)
- Lecturer, Graduate Diploma in Migration Law – Victoria University (2019 to date)
- Member, Specialist Accreditation Immigration Law Advisory Committee – Law Society of New South Wales (2019 to date)
- Member – UNSW Law Advisory Council
- Member – Law Society of New South Wales, Women Lawyers Association of NSW, Women on Boards, Institute of Community Directors, International Bar Association
- Registered Migration Agent (December 2003 – 21 March 2021)

PRO BONO / COMMUNITY SERVICE

- President – Management Committee of the Immigration Advice and Rights Centre
- Founding Director and Vice Chair – The TLR Foundation
- Board Member – Centre for Women's Economic Safety
- Mentor – Law Society of NSW Women's Mentoring Program
- Former Board Director – International House Ltd, University of New South Wales and Diverse Women in Law
- Former Volunteer Solicitor – Refugee Advice and Casework Service, Immigration Advice and Rights Centre, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre

QUALIFICATIONS

- Certified Community Director (Advanced), Institute of Community Directors, 2025
- Certified Community Director, Institute of Community Directors, 2024
- Certificate in Advanced Leadership for Community Chairs, Institute of Community Directors, 2023
- Dr John Yu Cultural Diversity and Leadership Fellowship, University of Sydney, 2019
- Master of Laws, University of Sydney, 2006
- Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, Australian National University, 2003
- Bachelor of Laws, University of New South Wales, 2002
- Bachelor of Science (Psychology), University of New South Wales, 2002