Virginia State Bar 1111 East Main Street, Suite 700 Richmond, Virginia 23219 www.vsb.org



## Protect Yourself from Immigration Consultant Fraud!

- Hire only a licensed attorney or a representative authorized by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) to give you immigration advice and follow these basic precautions:
- Ask how much it will cost for a consultation.
- Verify an attorney's or accredited representative's eligibility to represent you.
- Ask what the process is, how long it will take, and what the risks are.
- Ask how you pay. A monthly maintenance fee is a sign of immigration fraud.
- Require a written contract of representation and review it carefully.
- Get a receipt when you make a payment.
- Receive copies of all documents prepared or submitted for you.
- Do not sign papers that are blank or that have not been filled out.
- Do not sign documents that you Do not understand.
- Do not sign documents that contain false statements or inaccurate information.
  - Report any unlawful activity that may be the unauthorized practice of law by contacting the Virginia State Bar's Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee:

Ethics Department Virginia State Bar 1111 East Main Street, Suite 700 Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 775-0557