

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

HON. KIM REYNOLDS  
GOVERNOR

HON. PAUL D. PATE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

HON. ROB SAND  
AUDITOR OF STATE

HON. ROBY SMITH  
TREASURER OF STATE

HON. MICHAEL L. NAIG  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



## Executive Council of Iowa

CAPITOL BUILDING  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319  
PHONE: 515 281-5368  
FAX: 515 281-7562

October 6, 2025

Stacey Gunderson  
Iowa Department of Revenue  
Hoover Bldg.  
LOCAL

Dear Ms. Gunderson,

The Executive Council, in a meeting held on this date, approved payment of the following cost items:

Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts, P.C.....\$4,821.76

The Davis Brown Tower

215 10th Street, Suite 1300

Des Moines, IA 50309-3993

Legal Services to state agencies on issues related to the visa status of prospective state employees

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

*Kristi Onstot*

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary

cc: Darina Petkova, Iowa Department of Revenue

BRENNA BIRD  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

LEIF OLSON  
CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

1305 E. WALNUT ST.  
DES MOINES, IA 50319  
Main: 515-281-5164 • Direct: 515-954-9564.  
Email: leif.olson@ag.iowa.gov  
www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov

September 3, 2025

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary  
Executive Council  
State Capitol  
L O C A L

Re: Payment of Claims for Fees by Outside Counsel

Dear Kristi:

Our office requests Executive Council approval for payment of attorney fees in the amount of \$4,821.76 to Denton's Davis Brown PC, providing legal services to Department of Revenue related to the visa status of prospective state employees.

The amount of the claim appears to be reasonable and our office recommends payment.

Sincerely,

Leif Olson  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

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## Executive Council of Iowa

CAPITOL BUILDING  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319  
PHONE: 515 281-5368  
FAX: 515 281-7562

August 27, 2025

Mr. Leif Olson  
Chief Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney General Office-Hoover Bldg.  
L O C A L

Re: Approval of attorney fees

Dear Mr. Olson:

I received the enclosed statement from Dentons Davis Brown for the following fees:

Legal Services to state agencies on issues related to the visa status of prospective state employees –  
Iowa Department of Revenue

Current balance	\$4,821.76
Waiting for AG recommendation	\$0.00
Pending EC Approval	\$0.00
Claims in Process	\$0.00
Warrant sent	\$0.00
Outstanding Total	\$4,821.76

May I please have your recommendation of this payment request?

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

*Merary De  
Guerrero*

Merary De Guerrero  
Acting Executive Secretary

**In Account With****DENTONS DAVIS BROWN PC**

**Attorneys and Counselors at Law**  
**215 10th Street, Suite 1300**  
**Des Moines, IA 50309-3993**  
**(515) 288-2500**  
**Federal I.D. No. 42-1343884**

**Iowa Department of Revenue**  
**Victoria Newton**  
**ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov**

**Statement: 1611585**  
**Date: 8/19/2025**

**Re: 4247640-173385 - Immigration-Kalawadh, Ali**

**For Professional Services Rendered**

<b>Professional Fees</b>		<b>Hours</b>
07/01/2025 ECOX	H-1B: Obtaining certified labor condition application; drafting employer letter of support.	1.70
07/01/2025 SLEE	NIW: Continuing drafting National Interest Waiver Request for Evidence response brief.	0.90
07/07/2025 DRC	H-1B: Reviewing the employer letter.	0.40
07/07/2025 SLEE	NIW: Reviewing external advisory evaluation from Park Evaluations. Continuing drafting Request for Evidence response brief.	1.40
07/07/2025 LTC	Reviewing and revising RFE response.	1.00
07/08/2025 ECOX	H-1B: Drafting application forms; preparing and providing application forms and employer letter of support to Alex Vonghnay for review and signature; drafting dependent application forms; preparing and providing dependent forms for review and signature .	1.60
07/09/2025 SLEE	NIW: Continuing reviewing advisory opinion letter from Park Evaluations and corresponding with Park Evaluations to request updated letter with corrections. Receiving revised advisory opinion letter and confirming corrections.	0.20
07/09/2025 SLEE	NIW: Reviewing and responding to Alex Vongnhay's inquiry regarding progress update on Request for Evidence response.	0.10
07/09/2025 SLEE	NIW: Reviewing correspondence from Ali Kalawadh regarding Park Evaluation letter and conferring regarding language referring to "entering" the United States.	0.10
07/09/2025 SLEE	NIW: Reviewing prior information related to initial PERM discussions for National Interest Waiver Request for Evidence response evidence.	0.10
07/09/2025 SLEE	NIW: Revising and finalizing draft of Request for Evidence response letter. Corresponding with Ali Kalawadh and Alex Vongnhay to provide draft of Request for Evidence letter for review and providing update on filing timeline.	0.40
07/09/2025 ECOX	H-1B: Drafting application packet; obtaining and reviewing signatures received from Alex Vongnhay; updating application packet; preparing for attorney review.	1.50
07/09/2025 DRC	NIW: Researching email communication for supporting evidence of challenging DAS restrictions.	0.30
07/09/2025 LTC	Continue review and revising RFE response. Directing error correction for expert opinion and responding to questions about expert opinion. Requesting proof of infeasibility of PERM.	1.50
07/10/2025 SLEE	NIW: Finalizing Request for Evidence packet for filing.	0.30
07/10/2025 ECOX	H-1B: Notifying of filing and next steps.	0.10
07/10/2025 SLEE	NIW: Corresponding with Alex Vongnhay and Ali Kalawadh to provide update on filing of National Interest Waiver Request for Evidence response.	0.10

07/10/2025	LTC	H-1B: Reviewing RFE response and filing; reviewing H-1B for filing.	0.50
07/15/2025	ECOX	H-1B: Notifying of receipt notice received and next steps.	0.10
07/18/2025	ECOX	H-1B: Notifying of approval and next steps.	0.10

**Total Hours: 12.40**

**Rate Summary**

Lori T. Chesser	3.00 hours at \$325.00/hr	975.00
Steffi S. Lee Dwyer	3.60 hours at \$200.00/hr	720.00
Denise R. Claton	0.70 hours at \$290.00/hr	203.00
Emily L. Cox	5.10 hours at \$126.00/hr	642.60
Total hours:	<u>12.40</u>	

**Expenses**

		Units	Price	Amount
07/07/2025	Payment-Park Evaluations National Interest Waiver Expert Opinion Letter Request	1.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
07/10/2025	Third Party Delivery Payment USCIS	1.00	42.02	42.02
07/10/2025	Third Party Delivery Payment USCIS	1.00	39.14	39.14
	Sub-total Expenses:			<u>\$2,281.16</u>

**Total Current Billing: \$4,821.76**

Effective March 29, 2021, Davis Brown Law Firm formally combined with Dentons to become Dentons Davis Brown PC. Visit [www.dentons.com/BusinessTerms](http://www.dentons.com/BusinessTerms) to find our Terms of Business, which will apply to our relationship to the extent that it is not inconsistent with the material terms and conditions of any existing engagement agreement. Please contact your lawyer or other professional if you have questions about the Terms of Business or with any respect of your representation.

Current statement due within 30 days of statement date. Please disregard any previously paid amounts. Contact us at 515-246-7812 with any questions. Please include the statement number on your check.

When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.

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