

# Inna Simakovsky

Immigration Attorney



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Ms. Simakovsky emigrated from the former Soviet Union in 1976. She graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1993 with a degree in International Studies and proceeded to work at a major corporate law firm in Washington D.C. in the international trade and aviation department. She spent time in Russia as part of the firm's representation and marketing activities.

During her tenure at The Ohio State College of Law, Ms. Simakovsky was President of the International Law Society and was a member of the Journal on Alternative Dispute Resolution. Ms. Simakovsky was a recipient of the prestigious Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship and spent two summers in Russia studying international law. Ms. Simakovsky graduated with a Juris Doctor in 1998 and was admitted to the Washington State Bar.

Ms. Simakovsky has practiced Immigration law since 1998 in Washington State, California, and Wisconsin. From 1999 to 2001, Ms. Simakovsky worked at Jewish Family and Children's Services in San Francisco, California as an immigration staff attorney with primarily Russian speaking clients. From 2001 to 2003, Ms. Simakovsky served as the Chief Operations Officer and General Counsel at a health care organization in Madison, Wisconsin where she managed a panel of psychiatrists, advised the Board of Directors on legal matters, and managed the operations of the company. Ms. Simakovsky practiced business immigration law in Madison, Wisconsin at a small boutique immigration law firm from 2003 to 2004.

From 2004 through 2007, Ms. Simakovsky supervised the immigration department of the largest non-profit immigration service provider in Central Ohio. Under her direction, the department doubled its revenue through efficient systems and additional funding through local, national, and private grants and funders. Ms. Simakovsky collaborated with three law schools and started an internship program that peaked at 10 law students in the summer of 2006.

Ms. Simakovsky believes in bringing affordable immigration services to immigrant communities. Ms. Simakovsky launched a new immigration program at Economic and Community Development Institute and opened community based immigration offices at Banadir Mall, a Somali Mall, and in the Hilltop area, a primarily Hispanic area. She supervised a new immigration program at Asian Services in Action in Cleveland and Akron, Ohio and is currently working with the Shalom Zone to educate immigrants on changes in immigration law. Ms. Simakovsky has also sponsored World Refugee Day in Columbus, Ohio in 2007 and 2008 and provided free immigration legal services to hundreds of Central Ohio refugees.

Ms. Simakovsky has been in private practice specializing in immigration since 2007. In 2012, Ms. Simakovsky launched Simakovsky Law, which specializes in immigration law.

Ms. Simakovsky is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and the Washington State

Bar Association. Ms. Simakovsky is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), the oldest international migration and refugee resettlement agency in the U.S. located in New York. She also served from 2005 through 2007 on the advisory board of Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC), a national immigrant advocacy organization in Washington D.C. Locally, Ms. Simakovsky served on the Board of Directors of the Ohio Literacy Network and is often a speaker on immigration topics across Central Ohio.

Ms. Simakovsky resides in Bexley, Ohio with her husband and her three sons.