



## Maria N. Benitez

### SENIOR PARALEGAL

KANSAS CITY, MO

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### OVERVIEW

Maria supports clients as they navigate the complex legal regulations involved in hiring and retaining immigrant employees.

Maria's interest in law is driven by her desire to help people, and she always knew that immigration law was a field that would allow her to do just that. As the daughter of immigrants from El Salvador, Maria has an inside perspective on the immigration process, and she knows firsthand how difficult and intimidating it can be to navigate without professional assistance. She also understands how crucial the outcomes are, both for immigrants and their families and for the companies that depend on their skills.

Maria helps businesses hire foreign citizens and routinely handles related petitions and applications, including:

- H-1B
- L-1
- Permanent Labor Certification Process (PERM)
- TN
- R-1
- DS-160
- I-140
- I-485

### Industries

Manufacturing  
Technology  
Transportation

### Services

Business Immigration and Global  
Mobility  
Labor & Employment

## HUSCH BLACKWELL

- I-751
- I-90
- N-400

In addition to her work with corporate clients, Maria also has experience working directly with immigrant employees. As a native Spanish speaker, she can communicate directly with employees whose first language is Spanish.

Maria is known for going above and beyond to meet deadlines and client needs, and for her gift for remembering minor case details that can help her repurpose previous solutions for future clients. Most of all, though, she's known for how deeply she cares about her work: Maria understands that both clients and their employees are depending on the accurate, timely immigration assistance she delivers.

## Education

- Paralegal Certificate, Johnson County Community College
  - President's Honors
- M.S., University of Central Missouri
  - Criminal Justice
- B.S., University of Central Missouri
  - *cum laude*
  - Criminal Justice and Political Science



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