Benefits of Adoption Attorney Membership

NCFA Members-only Listserv
All Attorney Members are eligible to utilize the members-only listserv. A powerful tool, our listserv allows attorneys to communicate with NCFA’s Member Agencies as well as NCFA staff. In addition to the general listserv, we offer the following topic-specific listservs to our members: Domestic Infant Adoption, Foster Care Adoption, Intercountry Adoption, China, Ethiopia, and Russia.

Referrals
Because of our leadership and visibility in the field of adoption, we receive many phone calls and e-mails from birthparents and prospective adoptive parents who want to work with a credible adoption attorney. We refer these inquiries to those attorneys we know best, our members. NCFA’s online listing is visited by thousands of potential clients each year.

Information and Assistance
NCFA is a comprehensive clearinghouse of adoption information. As a member, you can receive assistance from NCFA staff regarding adoption cases and best-practice solutions. We strive to provide our members prompt expert advice to meet their adoption information needs from public policy and regulations to statistics and best practices. We monitor changing situations in the field of adoption by maintaining contacts with key domestic and international adoption officials, professionals, and websites, and provide authoritative, insider, members-only information as soon as it is available.

Representation
We represent the concerns and interests of our members before policymakers and foreign and domestic governments to ensure adoption-friendly practices. Our members speak with one powerful voice on matters of common interest, and, whenever possible, we assist them individually with policy issues in their states and specific case problems they encounter with government agencies.

Conferences
NCFA’s annual National Adoption Conference assembles government officials, agency directors, social workers, attorneys, and leaders in the adoption community from around the country to discuss crucial issues facing adoption. We also advocate for pro-adoption policies and positive public attitudes towards adoption with briefings and conferences for policy and opinion leaders.

Credentials
Because of our credibility and leadership in the field of adoption, our members are highly regarded as ethical professionals who are respected among their peers. All members receive a certificate of membership annually.

Other Members-only Resources & Benefits
We reserve our most valuable information, meetings, and contacts for our members. For example, we send members inside information about breaking adoption news by email, arrange meetings with high-ranking domestic and international government officials, and host members-only meetings to help our members learn from each other and discuss strategy.

In addition to the above benefits, Attorney Members receive the opportunity to submit proposals to write an article for publishing, priority selection for conference presentations, one complimentary copy of the current Adoption Factbook, and news and updates from NCFA.
Requirements for Application and Continued Membership for Adoption Attorneys

The undersigned member affirms:

1. I am a licensed attorney in good standing with my state bar.

2. I will provide upon application to NCFA and thereafter within 60 days of the subsequent occurrence of any of the events, in writing, a description and fact summary of: (1) any criminal charges brought against me; (2) any contested litigation matters (excluding contested termination of parental rights) and (3) any pending lawsuits to which I have been a party within the last two years. I will also provide details of any judgments or settlements paid or levied within the last two years that resulted from litigation or the threat of litigation.

3. I have a reputation within my community for transparent, ethical, and professional services.

4. I acknowledge that in order to be considered for NCFA membership, I must provide the following:
   a. Evidence of current membership in good standing with the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys;
   OR
   b. A letter of recommendation from an authorized representative of an NCFA Member Agency or an NCFA Attorney Member in good standing, and display extensive experience and competence in completing adoptions.

5. I agree that withholding or falsifying information is grounds for suspension of membership.

6. I agree to attend NCFA’s National Adoption Conference at least once every three years.

7. I acknowledge and understand that my application for membership will be approved or rejected at the sole discretion of the NCFA membership committee.

Print Name

Signature

Date
Adoption Attorney Membership Application

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Main Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _______ Zip: ______________________

Additional office locations (states only):

________________________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________________ Fax: __________________________ Website: ________________________________

E-mail Address: __________________________ Twitter: @ __________________________

College or University: __________________________________ Year Graduated: __________

Law School: __________________________ Year Graduated: __________

1. Are you Hague approved? ____________ If “yes,” please provide expiration dates for approved status:

________________________________________________________________________

2. List the states in which you are licensed to practice: __________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3. List your practice areas: __________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

4. Total number of years completing adoptions: __________________________

5. Total number of adoptions you assisted with last year:
   a. Total number of “healthy” U.S. infants (under 2): __________________________
   b. Total number of special needs, older, or other U.S. children: __________________________
   c. Total number of ICPC adoptions: __________________________
   d. Total number of intercountry adoptions:
      Country: __________________________ Country: __________________________
      Country: __________________________ Country: __________________________
      Country: __________________________ Country: __________________________

6. Estimated number of clients served annually:
   a. Estimated number of children served annually: __________________________
   b. Estimated number of birthparents served annually: __________________________
   c. Estimated number of adoptive parents served annually: __________________________
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7. List any other professional/civic memberships: ____________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

8. List any volunteer/community activities: ________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

9. Briefly describe your personal connection to adoption (not a requirement of membership): __________

___________________________________________________________________________________

10. For inclusion in NCFA’s online Attorney Member listing, please provide contact information exactly as it should appear: ____________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

11. Please enclose the following documents (required to be considered for NCFA membership):

   1) Signed copy of “Requirements for NCFA Membership for Adoption Attorneys” document;
   2) If approved under Hague, please provide copy of Hague Certificate from the Council on Accreditation (COA);
   3) Evidence of current membership in good standing with the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys (AAAA);
      OR,
      A letter of recommendation from an authorized representative of an NCFA Member Agency or an NCFA Attorney Member in good standing, and display extensive experience and competence in completing adoptions.
   4) Current resume or Curriculum Vitae.

__________________________________________  ________________________________
Signature                                     Date

Payment Information
National Council For Adoption’s annual membership dues for attorney membership is $300.

☐ Enclosed is a check for $____________ for my NCFA membership dues.

OR

☐ Please charge my credit card $____________ for my NCFA membership dues.

Name as it appears on card: ____________________________

Card No. ______________________________________ Exp Date (MO/YR): __________

Signature: ______________________________________