

# Four Maryland Immigration Lawyers Join Forces, The National Law Journal, Legal Times, Dec. 7, 2015

Katelyn Polantz, Legal Times  
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Two corporate immigration attorneys and two family immigration lawyers have paired their Maryland partnerships in a client-referral arrangement.

The strategic partnership, which the partners of Hammond Young Immigration Law of Silver Spring and Grossman Law of Bethesda announced Monday, brings together six lawyers for an all-female coalition.

“We wanted to build a very strong and exclusive relationship so our clients would feel comfortable that no matter what their needs were we could offer them high quality,” Becki Young of Hammond Young said Monday.

“I always compare [the two immigration practices] to a heart surgeon and a brain surgeon. They’re both doctors but it’s completely different,” Sandra Grossman of Grossman Law added. The arrangement is unusual for immigration practices, which typically exist as either groups that serve corporate clients from within a few large general service law firms, or as single-practitioner or very small shops that can handle defenses for immigrants who face deportation. Immigration law even when practiced at large firms like Baker & McKenzie and Mayer Brown can be a low-profit margin, high-volume practice. Family immigration law-side lawyers like Grossman already get referrals from the large firms in town, including Holland & Knight and Arent Fox, she said. And Young said her firm supervises one large D.C. law office’s associates when they work on pro bono immigration issues.

Grossman and Hammond Law’s arrangement is not a merger, but that could be down the road, Grossman, on the family immigration side, said. “We are not only lawyers, but we’re also entrepreneurs,” she said. “It’s certainly my hope that would be an option in the future.” Technically, the two firms’ lawyers are now “of counsel” to one another and are listed on each other’s websites as practitioners. Hammond Young consists of Young, a former Baker & McKenzie of counsel, and long-time immigration attorney Denise Hammond. Eight-year-old Grossman Law has humanitarian lawyers Grossman and Christina Wilkes as partners plus two associates.

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