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HOUSTON LEADERS IN LAW

Champions of Immigration

Since 2012, immigration law firm Gonzalez Olivieri LLC has fought for the rights of noncitizens, including multiple victories before the U.S. Supreme Court.

e're in the business of keeping families together," says immigration attorney Raed Gonzalez, chairman and founder of Gonzalez Olivieri LLC. "Our firm's focus is family immigration and immigration litigation, and we excel at both. We've recently begun an aggressive expansion into business immigration to assist businesses with their worker visas, helping to keep the workforce of the greater Houston area skilled and dynamic to meet the changing needs and challenges of the 21st century."

Born in Puerto Rico, Gonzalez moved to Texas in the late 1990s to study health law at the University of Houston. As a native Spanish speaker and persuasive litigator, Gonzalez found his colleagues often suggested he consider taking immigration cases. He was initially resistant to the idea, but that changed when a former boss dumped a case file on his desk.

"One of the attorneys I worked for was leaving for a trip, so he asked me to take care of this case for him," Gonzalez says. "The trial was the next day, he expected to lose, and he only wanted me there to reserve the right to appeal. When I looked over the case that night, I realized that the client had a legitimate claim for asylum. I presented the case the next day, and we won. The client was overwhelmed with emotion, thanking me for saving his life. We all cried, even the judge. Since that day, I have only accepted immigration cases."

Fighting for Families, Changing the Law

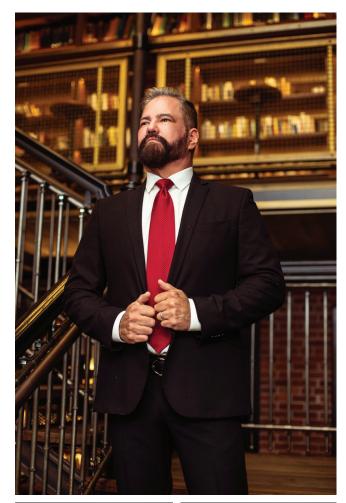
Having assisted thousands of noncitizens since 2012, the team at Gonzalez Olivieri LLC has helped shape modern immigration law through their cases, including multiple high-profile victories before the Supreme Court of the United States. Currently, the firm has a case pending before the High Court—Campos-Chaves v. Garland—which could positively change immigration law for numerous immigrants and their families.

Gonzalez jokes that the firm began with "just myself, a computer, and a part-time secretary," and has since expanded to include 17 attorneys and more than 110 employees. While much of their day-to-day work involves helping families and businesses with routine visa applications, the team is heavily involved in immigration litigation.

"We're fighters, and we know the law," says Gonzalez. "To secure a positive outcome for our clients, sometimes we have to use the courts to change those laws. We believe that the law should protect everyone's rights, especially noncitizens."

With clients in the technology, construction, health care, retail, and entertainment sectors, Gonzalez Olivieri LLC has expanded into helping business leaders, investors, and entrepreneurs with immigration support. The team's professionalism and skill has earned them recognition from entities like Super Lawyers*, Avvo, and the Better Business Bureau*. However, for Gonzalez, the most important recognition comes from his clients.

"We're working to bring people into the country the legal way, even though the immigration system in the United States is broken," he says. "We're helping people. It's the best job in the world."







Clockwise from top: Raed Gonzalez, Chairman; Ross Miller, Shareholder, Head of Appeals Department; Alexandre I. Afanassiev, Shareholder, Senior Attorney.



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