

9 FAM 42.62 NOTES

(CT:VISA-1701; 09-21-2011)
(Office of Origin: CA/VO/L/R)

9 FAM 42.62 N1 PERSONAL INTERVIEW OF VISA APPLICANTS BY CONSULAR OFFICER

(CT:VISA-1701; 09-21-2011)

- a. Consular officers *must* make every effort to conduct visa interviews fairly and *professionally*. Any semblance of *aggressive* cross-examination, assumption of bad faith, or entrapment must be avoided. *Applicants should be given sufficient time to answer questions without interruption.* In cases where the consular officer's determinations are difficult to make or which are or may become the subject of controversy, the officer *must* make a *thorough and carefully written* record of the interview so that the basis for the final action can be fully documented. (See 9 FAM 42.81 Notes.)
- b. Interviewing visa applicants is one of the consular officer's most demanding jobs, *requiring the officer's composure, judgment, and diplomatic skills.* Techniques for good interviewing, including the critical skill of how to ask the right questions, deserve careful attention. Training materials on effective interviewing and fraud interviews are available through the Fraud Prevention Program's Consular Affairs Web page.

9 FAM 42.62 N2 INTERVIEW WHEN APPLICANT IS SOLE BENEFICIARY OF THE PETITION

(CT:VISA-1093; 10-31-2008)

Although the regulation permits the waiver of the personal appearance for a child under the age of 14, the principal beneficiary, regardless of age, of any immigrant visa (IV) petition must appear in person.