

ON FENG SHUI



JENNY LIU

# The power of guardian animals - Dragon, Phoenix, and Elephant

IN OUR continuing exploration of animal guardians used in feng shui, we will take brief looks at the dragon, phoenix, and the elephant.

One of the most popular guardian animals is the dragon. The dragon, a ruler of the heavens, symbolizes the blessings of the gods. The Chinese recognize the dragon as a symbol of masculine energy, eternity, power, and authority. That is why we so often see the dragon symbol on the emperor's robes, crowns, and furniture, and as the royal emblem.

The complement to the dragon is the phoenix. The phoenix comes in different terrestrial forms - the peacock, the eagle, and the rooster. Representing the exact opposite of the dragon, the phoenix is the guardian of the earth energy. The phoenix mythology is rebirth from the ashes of the earth. It is the guardian of humanity and is associated to the energy of the female, representing birth and nourishment. For this reason, you will commonly see the dragon and the phoenix used together - especially in weddings - representing balance and harmony between men and women.

The dragon and phoenix can also be used separately if a person's birth chart shows compatibility with either of the animals. For instance, if a man is born in the year of the rat or the monkey in the zodiac, then the dragon supports him and is a very positive symbol for him to use in sculpture or painting form. Like-

wise, if a female's birth chart shows compatibility with the phoenix and her energy is weak, then she can use the energy of the phoenix to support her.

The peacock, rooster, and eagle all differ in meaning. The eagle is very fierce and sharp and is known for its powerful hunting abilities. The peacock (the male) is known for its beauty, grace, and reputation. The rooster is known for calling in a new day and conveying good news. So, it is important to use the type of phoenix that matches your specific need or goals.

The elephant is a wonderful symbol used all over the world. In India, the elephant god Ganesha is held in high esteem. The elephant is very maternal and in the wild it is the mother that takes care of the family because she is the strong one. Elephants represent female strength, wisdom, and female endurance. The element of strength on the elephant is the tusk. The tusk is used for protection and should be poised in an upward position. The trunk is used for retrieving food and nourishment that provides energy, so it should be facing upwards or curling in, not dangling or dropped. You need to be cautious of these subtleties as you select your guardian animal sculptures and art.

For the elephant to create harmony, strength, and family bonding between husband, wife, and children, you need a pair of elephants standing very stable with a baby elephant next to them. Oftentimes, we recommend you tie a red string around the foot of one elephant and then attach that string to the

foot of another elephant. This is a symbol depicting a spiritual, unbreakable bond - almost like a thread - that connects a husband and wife.

The poses of the animals in photos, paintings, or sculptures are also important. Whether they are soaring upward, diving downward, sleeping, feeding, attacking, sitting upright, running, rearing in fear or in mid-step, their position and pose will garner different energies and create different effects.

In the same vein, the wholeness of sculptures also impacts the strength of the guardian. Sometimes, sculptures are created with only a head, half of a body, or they are intentionally missing parts. These broken, partial images are considered not whole, and are weak or negative symbols that can have an adverse effect. Make sure your guardians are whole.

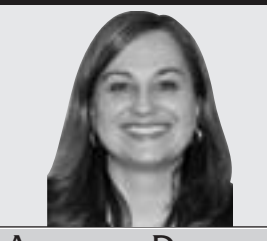
Please remember that you need to consider the size, detail, material, and compatibility when placing guardian animals for feng shui adjustment.

Jenny Liu is a fourth generation feng shui master and is available for residential and commercial consultations. To learn more, please see her website at Liu-FengShui.com, or call her at (626) 272-4901 for a free estimate. Mention this article in Asian Journal and receive a 10% discount.

Guide to a Harmonious 2009 -156 pages, full color, soft cover - on sale now for \$25 or two for \$45. To order or preview book, go to www.Liu-FengShui.com or call Julie at (626) 862-1788. Audio book format also available. Download a FREE Zodiac Scroll and see our FREE Library Seminar Calendar at Liu-FengShui.com. For more information call Julie at (626) 862-1788.

(Advertising Supplement)

PROBLEM SOLVED



AGNIESZKA DOLINSKA

# Deconstructing immigrant employment myths

clusively, lower-wage jobs that require relatively little formal education.

Most natives do not face significant job competition from immigrants; however, those who do tend to be less-educated and poorer than those who face relatively little competition from immigrants.

Some may believe that natives in high-immigrant occupations are older. But 33 percent of natives in these occupations are age 30 or younger. In occupations that are less than 20 percent immigrant, 28 percent of natives are 30 or younger.

Not all high-immigrant occupations are lower-skilled and lower-wage. For example, 44 percent of medical scientists are immigrants, as are 34 percent of software engineers, 27 percent of physicians, and 25 percent of chemists.

The last statistic is especially telling. A significant number of our educated professionals, especially doctors and scientists, are not native US citizens. Just like many others, they come to America in pursuit of their dreams. In return, they offer their talents, hard work, and high academic achievements. Yet, they encounter many hurdles in their quest to remain in the United States permanently. Current backlogs and delays in the employment-based immigration in addition to complicated and burdensome requirements are the primary culprits. They prevent educated professionals from switching jobs and advancing to better positions where their skills and expertise can be best used. Most workers, especially those holding H-1B visas, cannot sponsor themselves, which precludes them from starting their own businesses and shops. Instead, they continue working for the same employers for years, often without advancement and promotions.

Not surprisingly, green card quotas, never ending backlogs, difficult procedures, and harsh rules associated with termination of H-1B employees result in an increased number of talented foreign students opting to return to their native lands or going to countries where their employment opportunities are much better. The universities and col-

leges are impacted as well. For the first time in five years, US graduate schools report a significant decrease in the number of international applications to their programs and the number of accepted applicants who decide to study at their schools. This obviously translates not only into loss of the tuition money, but also into loss of bright and talented future employees, who often are the backbone of US companies.

To make things worse, we now start to encounter more and more employer audits, even where professional workers and intra company transfer employees work. The random on-site inspections conducted by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services are a part of the government's stance against fraud and visa abuse. Unfortunately, these USCIS "visits" frequently go beyond what's required and necessary. In most cases, no warrants and document subpoenas are secured. Needless to say, this has a very chilling effect on employers' willingness to hire and sponsor foreign workers.

Clearly, the picture of immigrant employment painted in the media is different from reality. Immigrant workers, contrary to most reports, do not steal jobs from US workers and are a vital and necessary part of the American economy. Despite the above problems, opportunities for both employers and foreign workers are still available. More than ever the need for an experienced immigration professional is required when it comes to dealing with employment-based immigration. Our office will be glad to help. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Agnieszka (Aggie) Dolinska is admitted to both the State Bar of California and the State Bar of Utah. She is also admitted to the United States District Court for the Central District of California and to the US Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. Ms. Dolinska's immigration practice involves all areas of Immigration and Nationality Law, including family and employment-based immigration, non-immigrant visas, deportation defense, litigation, and asylum law. She is also a member of the Orange County Bar Association and J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Orange County Chapter. You may contact Ms. Dolinska at (562) 207-6789. Wilner & O'Reilly, APC, is located at 17777 Center Court Drive, Suite 200 Cerritos, CA 90703. Visit the firm's website at www.wilneroreilly.com. (Advertising Supplement)

## Immigration court appeals: Make your last chance...

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seek review of the BIA's decision at the US Circuit Court of Appeal. In California, such appeals are filed with the 9th Circuit. Rules governing the 9th Circuit's jurisdiction over, or authority to review, certain matters are very complicated. Generally, the Ninth Circuit may review asylum denials and legal issues, but not matters that are to be decided solely within the discretion of the Immigration Judge or BIA. Issues involving "due process," or basic fairness of the pro-

ceedings, however, are always subject to review and a Respondent may contest the Immigration Judge's conduct of the proceedings on this basis, no matter what relief was sought in the immigration court.

Unfortunately, the Circuit Court is usually the "court of last resort" for Immigration Cases. Since the US Supreme Court only reviews cases by "certification," only the most Nationally significant immigration cases ever make it there. Making cogent and persuasive arguments at the BIA is

extremely important, because the Circuit Court will only review arguments raised at the BIA and the Circuit Court is most likely the "final round" in any immigration fight!

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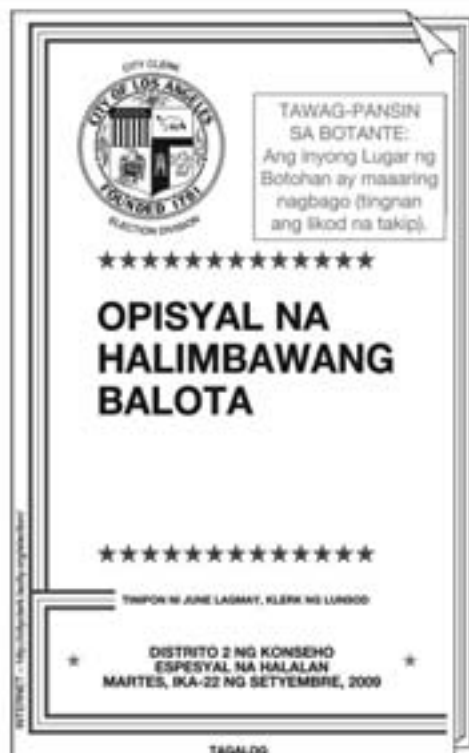
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# BUMOTO

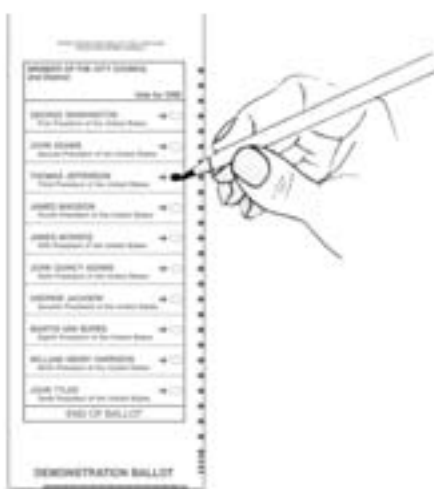
## Bumoto sa Martes, ika-22 ng Setyembre, 2009 sa Espesyal na Halalan ng Distrito 2 ng Konseho ng Lunsod ng Los Angeles

Hanapin ito sa inyong Buson!



Ang Opisina ng Klerk ng Lunsod - Sangay ng Halalan ay nag-iimbata sa inyo, sa inyong pamilya at sa inyong mga kaibigan na makilahok sa elektoral na proseso sa pamamagitan ng pagboto sa papalapit na Espesyal na Halalan. Upang makaboto, kailangan ninyong maging isang rehistradong botante sa Distrito 2 ng Konseho. Ang mga Lugar ng Botohan ay magbubukas mula ika-7 ng umaga hanggang ika-8 ng gabi.

Para sa halalang ito, ang mga botante ay hihilingin na markahan ang kanilang balota sa pamamagitan ng pagpunong kumpleto sa obalong katabi ng napiling kandidato.



Magtala. Alamin Kung Saan ang Botohan! Hanapin ang inyong lugar ng botohan sa likod na takip ng inyong Opisyal na Halimbawang Balota.



Para sa mga karagdagang impormasyon, tumawag lamang sa 1-888-873-1000 o pumunta sa aming lugar ng web: <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election>