Marriage Green Card Interview Checklist

Tick each box as you prepare, and treat any empty box as something still to do before your interview day.

1 DOCUMENTS TO BRING TO THE INTERVIEW

- [ ] Your interview notice
- [ ] Passports and IDs
- [ ] The originals of every civil document you submitted
- [ ] A certified English translation of each foreign-language document
- [ ] Updated proof of your shared life since you filed
- [ ] Recent tax returns
- [ ] Your Affidavit of Support (I-864) records
- [ ] Anything else your interview notice lists

2 EVIDENCE THAT YOUR MARRIAGE IS REAL

- [ ] Gather records of joint finances
- [ ] A shared lease or mortgage
- [ ] Tax returns you filed jointly
- [ ] Insurance policies that name each other
- [ ] Photos of the two of you taken over time
- [ ] Affidavits from people who know you as a couple
- [ ] Addresses that line up across your forms and your evidence
- [ ] Gather evidence across several categories

3 HOW TO PREPARE BEFORE THE INTERVIEW

- [ ] Reread every form you filed and check each date against your leases, pay stubs, travel stamps, and photos
- [ ] Know your filed record: entry dates, previous addresses, prior marriages, and immigration history
- [ ] Expect questions about your relationship and daily life, from how you met to each other's family and work
- [ ] Answer from your own memory, and say so when you are unsure instead of guessing
- [ ] Never change an answer to match your spouse's, even if they remember it differently
- [ ] Be ready to be questioned separately (that alone does not mean USCIS doubts your marriage)
- [ ] Keep your I-693 medical exam envelope sealed, and confirm a USCIS-listed civil surgeon did the exam
- [ ] If you need an interpreter, pick an impartial adult fluent in English and Portuguese, not your spouse or a witness
- [ ] See an immigration attorney first if you have a prior removal, an arrest, or time out of status

4 BRAZILIAN DOCUMENTS AND TRANSLATION TRAPS TO AVOID

- [ ] Get a complete certified English translation of every Portuguese document, not a summary
- [ ] Check that the translation covers every stamp, seal, signature, handwritten note, and averbação
- [ ] Use an independent translator, not you or your spouse
- [ ] Translate the marriage certificate's divorce averbação and any required sentença or escritura
- [ ] Compare names on every document side by side, and keep each spelling exactly as written in the translation
- [ ] Match each translation to the exact certidão you filed, and translate any newer one you obtained since
- [ ] Ask the cartório about a full-text inteiro teor copy if your resumida does not clearly show an annotation
- [ ] If you need a police record, request the exact one your instructions name (Polícia Federal or state Polícia Civil)
- [ ] Check for the translator's signed certification of completeness, accuracy, and competence