



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

April 25, 2016

Robert Divine
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C.
633 Chestnut Street
1800 Republic Center
Chattanooga, TN 37450

Application: Form I-924, Application for Regional Center under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program

Applicant(s): Atlantic Coast Regional Center, LLC

Re: Initial Regional Center Designation
Atlantic Coast Regional Center, LLC
RCW1431851978 / ID1431851978

This notice is in reference to the Form I-924, Application for Regional Center Under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program that was filed by the applicant with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") on November 14, 2014. The Form I-924 application was filed to request approval of initial regional center designation under the Immigrant Investor Program. The Immigrant Investor Program was established under § 610 of the Department of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1874).

I. Executive Summary of Adjudication

Effective the date of this notice, USCIS approves the Form I-924 request to designate Atlantic Coast Regional Center, LLC ("ACRC") as a qualifying participant in the Immigrant Investor Program.

II. Regional Center Designation

USCIS approves the applicant's request to focus, promote economic growth, and offer capital investment opportunities in the following geographic area and industry categories:

A. Geographic Area

States	Counties/Cities				
Connecticut	Hartford	Fairfield	Litchfield	Middlesex	New Haven
Delaware	New London	Tolland	Windham		
Maryland	Anne Arundel	Baltimore	Calvert	Carroll	Cecil
	Charles	Frederick	Harford	Howard	Montgomery
	Prince George	St. Mary's	York		
Massachusetts	Berkshire	Bristol	Essex	Hampden	Hampshire
New Hampshire	Middlesex	Norfolk	Plymouth	Suffolk	Worcester
	Rockingham				
New Jersey	Bergen	Burlington	Camden	Essex	Gloucester
	Hudson	Hunterdon	Mercer	Middlesex	Monmouth
	Morris	Passaic	Somerset	Union	
	Albany	Bronx	Columbia	Duchess	Fulton
	Greene	Kings	Montgomery	Nassau	New York
New York	Orange	Putnam	Queens	Rensselaer	Richmond
	Rockland	Saratoga	Schenectady	Schoharie	Suffolk
	Washington	Westchester			
	Adams	Berks	Bucks	Chester	Cumberland
Pennsylvania	Dauphin	Delaware	Franklin	Juniata	Lancaster
	Lebanon	Montgomery	Northumberland		
Rhode Island	Bristol	Kent	Newport	Providence	Washington
	Alexandria	Amelia	Arlington	Caroline	Charles City
	Chesterfield	Cumberland	Colonial Heights	Dinwiddie	Essex
	Fairfax	Falls Church	Fredericksburg	Fauquier	Goochland
Virginia	Hanover	Henrico	Hopewell	James	King William
	Loudon	Louisa	Manassas Park	Manassas	New Kent
	Petersburg	Powhatan	Newport News	Richmond	Spotsylvania
Washington DC	Stafford	Williamsburg	Prince George		
	DC				

B. Industry Categories¹

Industry Category	NAICS code
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	237
Construction of Buildings	236
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	5413
Durable Goods Merchant Wholesalers	423
Lessors of Real Estate	5311
Food Services & Drinking Places	722
Traveler Accommodation	7211
Continuing Care & Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly	62331

III. Job Creation

USCIS approves the geographic area and industry categories noted above based on the economic impact analysis presented and reviewed in conjunction with the adjudication of this regional center proposal.

This hypothetical project does not have the factual details necessary to be in compliance with the requirements described in Matter of Ho, 22 I&N Dec. 206 (Assoc. Comm'r 1998), and therefore, USCIS's approval of the hypothetical job creation estimates presented in the Form I-924 will not be accorded deference and may not be relied upon by an individual investor when filing the Form I-526. The business plan and job creation estimates will receive a de novo review by USCIS when an individual investor files Form I-526. Once an actual project is adjudicated upon the filing of the initial Form I-526, USCIS will give deference to subsequent Forms I-526 when the critical assumptions remain materially unchanged from the initially-approved Form I-526.

When filing Form I-526, it will be the responsibility of the individual investor to submit a comprehensive, detailed and credible business plan, showing by a preponderance of the evidence that his or her investment in the new commercial enterprise will create not fewer than 10 full-time positions. If prior to filing a form I-829, the job creation estimated in the business plan submitted by the individual investor materially changes or will not be realized, then it will be the responsibility of the EB-5 investor to notify USCIS of an agreed upon methodology to allocate job creation among eligible investors.

¹ USCIS issued a Policy Memorandum (PM-602-0083) on the subject of "EB-5 Adjudication Policy," dated May 30, 2013, stating that formal amendments to the regional center designation are no longer required when a regional center changes its industries of focus or geographic boundaries. A regional center may still elect to pursue a formal amendment by filing Form I-924 if it seeks certainty in advance that changes in the industries or the geographic area will be permissible prior to filing Form I-526 petitions.

IV. Guidelines for Filing Form I-526 Petitions

Each individual petition, in order to demonstrate that it is affiliated with ACRC, in conjunction with addressing all the requirements for an individual immigrant investor petition, shall also contain the following:

1. A copy of this regional center approval notice and designation letter including all subsequent amendment approval letters (if applicable).
2. An economic impact analysis which reflects a job creation methodology required at 8 CFR § 204.6 (j)(4)(iii) and shows how the capital investment by an individual immigrant investor will create not fewer than ten indirect jobs for each immigrant investor.
3. A comprehensive, detailed and credible business plan for an actual project that contains the factual details necessary to be in compliance with the requirements described in Matter of Ho, 22 I&N Dec. 206 (Assoc. Comm'r 1998).
4. Legally executed organizational documents of the commercial enterprise.

Note: The project reviewed with this Form I-924 application is a hypothetical project. Organizational and transactional documents associated with the new commercial enterprise (NCE) submitted with this Form I-924 have not been reviewed to determine compliance with program requirements since these documents will receive de novo review in subsequent filings (e.g., an amended Form I-924 application with a Form I-526 exemplar or the first Form I-526 petition filed by an investor under the regional center project).

V. Designee's Responsibilities in the Operations of the Regional Center

As provided in 8 CFR § 204.6 (m)(6), to ensure that the regional center continues to meet the requirements of section 610(a) of the Appropriations Act, a regional center must provide USCIS with updated information to demonstrate the regional center is continuing to promote economic growth, improved regional productivity, job creation, and increased domestic capital investment in the approved geographic area. Such information must be submitted to USCIS on an annual basis or as otherwise requested by USCIS. The applicant must monitor all investment activities under the sponsorship of the regional center and to maintain records in order to provide the information required on the Form I-924A Supplement to Form I-924. Form I-924A, Supplement to Form I-924 Application is available in the "Forms" section on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.

Regional centers that remain designated for participation in the Immigrant Investor Program as of September 30th of a calendar year are required to file Form I-924A Supplement in that year. The Form I-924A Supplement with the required supporting documentation must be filed on or before December 29th of the same calendar year.

Page 5

The failure to timely file a Form I-924A Supplement for each fiscal year in which the regional center has been designated for participation in the Immigrant Investor Program will result in the issuance of an intent to terminate the participation of the regional center in the Immigrant Investor Program, which may ultimately result in the termination of the designation of the regional center.

The regional center designation is non-transferable.


VI. Legal Notice

This approval and designation of a Regional Center under the Immigrant Investor Program does not constitute or imply an endorsement or recommendation by USCIS, the United States Government or any instrumentality thereof, of the investment opportunities, projects or other business activities related to or undertaken by such Regional Center. Except as expressly set forth in this approval and designation, USCIS has not reviewed any information provided in connection with or otherwise related to the Regional Center for compliance with relevant securities laws or any other laws unrelated to eligibility for designation as a Regional Center. Accordingly USCIS makes no determination or representation whatsoever regarding the compliance of either the Regional Center or associated New Commercial Enterprises with such laws.

Each Regional Center designated by USCIS must monitor and oversee all investment offerings and activities associated with, through or under the sponsorship of the Regional Center. The failure of an associated New Commercial Enterprise to comply with all laws and regulations related to such investment offerings and activities may result in the issuance by USCIS of a notice of intent to terminate the Regional Center designation.

If the applicant has any questions concerning the regional center designation under the Immigrant Investor Program, please contact the USCIS by email at USCIS.ImmigrantInvestorProgram@uscis.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Colucci
Chief, Immigrant Investor Program

cc: Stephen Smith
9500 Roosevelt Way NE, Ste. 300
Seattle, WA 98115