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SEC ADDS MILLIONS TO DEVELOPER’S ALLEGED FRAUD IN SEATTLE [Page 05](#)

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SEC adds millions to developer’s alleged fraud in Seattle

Originally published October 6, 2015 at 6:15 pm | Updated October 6, 2015 at 7:35 pm

Developer Lobsang Dargey misappropriated as much as \$46 million invested by would-be immigrants in his downtown Seattle Potlatch Tower, an attorney for a federal regulator claimed Tuesday during a hearing on a court-imposed asset freeze.

“MINOR SECURITIES LAW VIOLATIONS IN EB-5 DEALS DON’T MATTER!” NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH! [Page 05](#)

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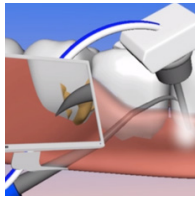
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Stopgap bill keeps green card program alive, but changes loom

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The EB-5 visa program, a vehicle for foreign investment in major New York City real estate developments, received a last-minute reprieve on Wednesday, after the U.S. Senate passed a temporary spending bill that will keep the government — and the program —

Stopgap bill keeps green card program alive, but changes loom

The EB-5 visa program, a vehicle for foreign investment in major New York City real estate developments, received a last-minute reprieve on Wednesday, after the U.S. Senate passed a temporary spending bill that will keep the government — and the program — operating through Dec. 11.

EB-5 was set to expire Sept. 30 but a stopgap bill introduced last week will keep it afloat for the next few months. The White House and House of Representatives are expected to approve the legislation.

Outright renewal of EB-5 — a program that has been utilized for projects ranging from [Hudson Yards](#) to the [New York Wheel](#) — will be delayed until the end of the year or early 2016.

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SEC adds millions to developer's alleged fraud in Seattle

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Originally published October 6, 2015 at 6:15 pm | Updated October 6, 2015 at 7:35 pm

Developer Lobsang Dargey misappropriated as much as \$46 million invested by would-be immigrants in his downtown Seattle Potala Tower, an attorney for a federal regulator claimed Tuesday during a hearing on a court-imposed asset freeze.

Developer [Lobsang Dargey](#) misappropriated as much as \$46 million invested by would-be immigrants in his downtown [Seattle Potala Tower](#), an attorney for a federal regulator claimed Tuesday during a hearing on a court-imposed asset freeze.

That would be more than twice the amount the [Securities and Exchange Commission](#) (SEC) alleged when it sued Dargey and his company, [Path America](#), on Aug. 24 for securities fraud.

SEC attorney Susan LaMarca said during a hearing before [Read more](#)

U.S. District Judge James Robart that after reviewing a nearly 1,000-page accounting ordered by the court, the agency concluded that only \$17 million of the \$63 million in immigrant-investor funds received for the tower was spent on "legitimate" purposes.

The rest was used to pay other companies Dargey controls, sales commissions to investor-recruitment agents and expenses unrelated to the 40-story Seattle project, she said.

"Minor securities law violations in EB-5 deals don't matter!" Nothing could be further from the truth!

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erris Glo
Issuers of EB-5 securities are often new to running a deal where they structure and then market an investment product. There is often the perception that because EB-5 deals have potential immigration benefits flowing to investors, federal and state securities laws are not central, and minor violations don't matter. Nothing could be further from the truth. Securities compliance

matters in an EB-5 deal. Issuers who don't play by the rules can land in hot water with the [Securities and Exchange Commission](#) (SEC), as well as with state securities law regulators.

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Related Stories:

- [SEC Files a Complaint and TRO against Seattle Developer Alleging Misuse of EB-5 Funds](#)
- [SEC Freezes Assets of Path America after Filing Civil Suit](#)

Seldon Technologies Lays off All Windsor Employees

U.S. Sen. [Patrick Leahy](#), D-Vt., and Bebederos Ecologicos CEO Alessandro Covarrubias speak after the announcement of a new partnership between Seldon Technologies of Windsor, Vt., and the Mexico-based Corporation in July 2015. On Sept. 28, 2015, Seldon Technologies employees were told they no longer had jobs and that the company in Windsor would be closing.

Water purification device maker Seldon Technologies unexpectedly shut down operations Monday, laying off all 32 workers at its Windsor facility, according to former employees.

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EB-5 IS WORKING

Vogel: EB-5 Reauthorization

Creating a just and rational Immigration system poses difficult, complex and critical questions.

In spite of the need to address urgent issues such as the Syrian refugee crisis and fix our broken immigration system, Congress has chosen instead to focus on the reauthorization of the EB-5 program, which enables immigrants and their families to obtain work permits and permanent residency if they make a \$500,000 investment in a commercial enterprise in the United States.

Initially, Congress claimed that EB-5 is a jobs program and required that this \$500,000 investment create ten permanent jobs for qualified U.S. workers. But two years later, Congress modified this requirement so foreign investors could count indirect jobs, saved jobs and induced jobs if they channelled their investment through Regional Centers.

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- [The Quiet Little Struggle over Extending the EB-5 Program](#)
- [Roundtable Calls On Congress to Renew EB5 before Sept. 30 Sunset](#)
- [On Capitol Hill, It's Business as Usual for Investor Visas](#)

The Quick and Dirty Changes Looming for EB-5

What's in store for the popular visa program?

The wildly popular EB-5 visa program – the vehicle that offers foreign investors a U.S. green card in exchange for an investment in the U.S. economy – is set to sunset Wednesday.

While stakeholders believe the program will be renewed, lawmakers have proposed a series of reforms designed to increase oversight and enforcement and maximize the amount of dollars invested here.

New York developers remain bullish on the program: Most recently, Macklowe Properties disclosed plans to raise \$100 million in EB-5 funds for 1 Wall Street, a \$1.5 billion condominium conversion in Lower Manhattan.

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- [Millionaire Investors Flock to the US on Visas](#)

Fate of Controversial US Immigrant Investor Program Up In Air

A program that lets wealthy individuals live in the U.S. in exchange for investment is about to end, unless Congress decides to extend it or make it permanent. Though proponents say the arrangement helps to revive local economies, critics have called for tougher controls due to concerns the system could be exploited.

China is keeping close tabs on the debate, since Chinese "immigrant investors" form the largest group.

In 1990, Congress introduced the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program as a temporary measure to stimulate the economy through capital investment and job creation.

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How to Organize a Meeting to Promote an EB-5 Project

"Toto, we're Not in Kansas Anymore"

Indeed, when you visit China on business, it is not like a trip to Topeka, so you will need to do your homework, especially when organizing a meeting. Where you meet is not nearly as significant as how you conduct yourself and how you understand the conduct of the potential Chinese clients. Keep in mind, however, that conduct will be significantly different in a hotel conference room

than at a dinner. For the purpose of this book, we will limit our discussion to business meetings in the traditional sense, not a business dinner.

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Real Estate Developers Want Foreign Investor Green-Card Program Reformed



When Edgewater Resources LLC in St. Joseph sought to turn a former Whirlpool Corp. factory in Benton Harbor into a waterfront resort and championship golf course, it turned to an unusual source of funding, at least for a Michigan developer.

Edgewater principal Ron Schults and his partners raised \$18 million from 38 foreign investors in China and India for the \$30 million project. In return for their investment, the foreign nationals used a federal program to seek a permanent U.S. green card.

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Foreign Students Love President Xi Jinping According to Video

They detail Xi's experience in the crucible of the Cultural Revolution, where the young man was bullied and taunted over his father's political status.

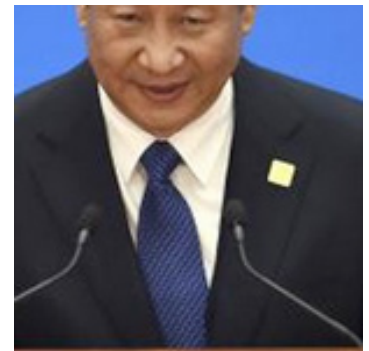
A video that features foreign students praising Chinese President Xi Jinping has been released by the ruling Communist Party's official newspaper, People's Daily. "So everyone just looks at him and they just like him".

"Handsome, yah, he is super charismatic", gushes a woman from California, who adds that Xi came to her school and she "read him a poem". It first appeared on YouTube, which

is blocked in China, but was subsequently posted on the paper's website.

[Read more](#)

Related Story: [The Chinese Communist Party Released a Video of English Speakers Praising Xi](#)



Warner Robins Considers Foreign Investments for Hotel, Conference Center

As City Council plans for the development of a hotel and conference center beside City Hall, one part of a financing package it is considering has come under public scrutiny.

Two people voiced concerns to the council this week about a foreign investment program it is considering to attract developers to build, own and manage the hotel and conference center.

The city has wanted a hotel and conference center for years,

and several months ago the council began considering a new option to drive the project forward after city leaders were approached by NYSA Capital, an advisory and finance management consultant group that deals with employment-based immigration visas.

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Related Story: [Warner Robins Council Considers New Hotel, Convention Center](#)

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Powerful Developer Accused of Improper Lobbying In \$6 Billion East Bay Redevelopment Bid



Lennar Urban, one of the largest Bay Area developers with thousands of units in the region, has been accused by rival Catellus Development Corp. of improperly lobbying the city of Concord over rights to develop a giant \$6 billion mixed-use project at the city's former naval base. In response, Concord has cancelled a planned Tuesday vote to pick one of the developers and may investigate the claims.

The Concord City Council was set to pick either Lennar or Catellus after naming the two developers as finalists as part of a nine-year redevelopment process.

[Read more](#)

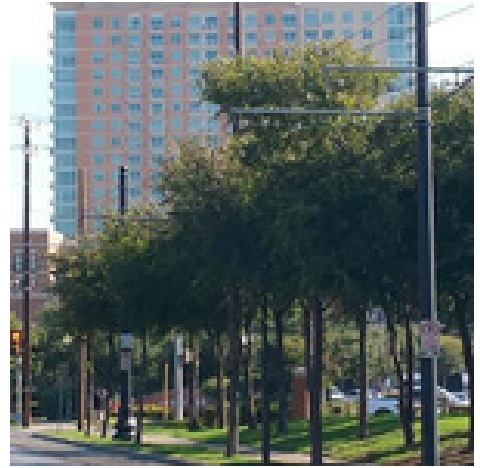
Upscale Dallas Project Cashes in on EB-5 Visa Program

A luxury apartment tower in affluent uptown Dallas obtained millions of dollars through an immigration program designed to aid depressed areas of Texas.

DISTRESSED?: An upscale residential and retail project in a leafy section of uptown Dallas received immigrant-investor funds targeted for high-unemployment areas.

The joint venture by the [city of Dallas](#) and [Civitas Capital Group](#) secured funding from more than 100 overseas investors at \$500,000 apiece. In exchange, the foreign nationals became eligible for U.S. visas and residency via the federal EB-5 program.

[Read more](#)



Should Foreign Investors Looking for U.S. Citizenship be tapped for DMC?



Looking for ways to help make Rochester's \$6 billion makeover a reality, Destination Medical Center leaders are considering whether to tap into a federal economic development program that raises money from wealthy foreign investors seeking a path to U.S. citizenship.

The DMC Economic Development Agency plans to study whether it would make sense

to use the EB-5 program to help fund local construction projects. The EDA's Executive Director Lisa Clarke said EB-5 is one of many financing tools being considered.

"The DMC Development Plan identified the federal EB-5 program as one of many potential investment sources to support DMC projects.

[Read more](#)

FBI Investigating Everett Developer Accused of Defrauding Investors

The FBI is working with federal civil authorities to investigate an Everett developer accused of defrauding foreign investors by diverting millions of dollars for his own use, court papers show.

FBI agents on Aug. 24 served a search warrant at Lobsang Dargey's business offices, according to documents filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Seattle.

The FBI's visit came the same day the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filed a federal civil lawsuit, alleging Dargey misused \$17.6 million of investor money to buy

a new house in Bellevue and bankroll two apartment buildings.

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- [Judge Asked to Appoint Receiver in Path America EB-5 Case](#)
- [Developer Accused Of Bilking Overseas Investors | SEC Claims Lobsang Dargey Promised Chinese Investors U.S. Residency](#)
- [Dargey Denies Allegations from SEC about EB-5 Funds](#)

China to the U.S.: Return our Fugitives

China has a message for its fugitives: You can run, but you can't hide.

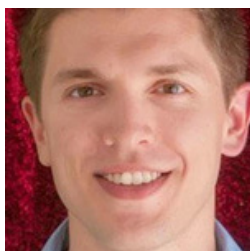
Over the past year, China has launched campaigns dubbed "Operation Foxhunt" and "Operation Skynet," aimed at returning suspected criminals from abroad to stand trial at home.

It's all part of a massive anti-corruption crackdown orchestrated by President Xi Jinping that has netted government officials and company executives. But now, the campaign has stretched to the United States.

[Read more](#)



Chinese Investors are betting on Tacoma's Future



William McGuire, assistant professor of economics, University of Washington Tacoma

When you first heard Chinese President Xi Jinping was coming to Tacoma, you might have wondered "why?"

This visit was no accident; it reflects decades of work by political, academic and business leaders to bring China and Tacoma closer together. It also helped Xi reaffirm his credentials as a friend of the common folk, as he did when he visited a small town in Iowa earlier this year.

[Read more](#)

New US Citizenship and Services Office Opens Next Week

[U.S. Citizenship and Services](#) is preparing to celebrate the grand opening of a new field office in West Ashley.

The USCIS is an agency within the Department of Homeland Security that oversees legal immigration, and is responsible for immigration benefits.

The grand opening will be held Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 10:00 a.m. at 1821 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. The celebration will be followed by a naturalization ceremony for 10 residents.

[Read more](#)

Related Story: [USCIS to Welcome More Than 36,000 Citizens during Annual Constitution Day and Citizenship Day Celebrations](#)



Partner Movement Balances Out at Ballard Spahr

Ballard Spahr's Atlanta office has gained one lateral partner and lost another. [Steve Park](#), who handles corporate securities and financing matters, joined the firm from Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough while Ethan Cohen, a business litigator, has decamped for Holland & Knight.

Park spent more than nine years at Nelson Mullins before moving to Ballard Spahr. "Ballard Spahr is an exceptionally good fit for me. The firm has a national platform, an exceptionally strong banking practice, a group dedicated to EB-5 work, and a growing presence in the Southeast," said Park in an announcement.



[Read more](#)

96 Indians Have Got Green Card through EB-5 Visa, Compared To 9,128 Chinese Nationals



Certain portions of the EB-5 visa program for foreigners, to expedite Green Cards in exchange for investment in projects in the US, are slated to expire on September 30, and critics are arguing one of the most ire-inducing provisions should just be let go.

Congress implemented the EB-5 program as part of an overarching overhaul of immigration policy in 1990. Initially, the visa was only for direct investors who spent \$1 million and created 10 jobs, and a separate provision allowed people investing in rural or high-unemployment areas to spend just \$500,000.

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- [How the Super-Rich Skirt Quotas and Closed Borders](#)
- [Visa Program for Wealthy Foreigners at Risk of Fraud, Report Says](#)
- [The Baffling EB-5 Immigration Controversy](#)

Seattle-Area Developers Tap Chinese Investors, But Key Program Faces Possible Expiration



Stadium Place in Seattle is one development that's courted EB-5 investors

The strong economic ties between China and Washington State are in the spotlight this week with the upcoming visit by China's president. Real estate

development has gotten a boost from Chinese investors in recent years, but one key program that facilitates that investment is set to expire this month.

That program is called EB-5 and under it, foreigners invest a minimum of \$1 million in a project, or \$500,000 if it is in an area targeted for economic growth. If they can prove it created 10 jobs here in the U.S., they get a green card. EB-5 has been popular in Washington State and a majority of investors in the program come from China.

[Read more](#)

Related Story: [Seattle is Epicenter for this Green Card Program's Problems](#)

Should Congress Let Wealthy Foreigners Buy Green Cards?

The massive \$20 billion [Hudson Yards project](#) is one of the nation's biggest development efforts. When it's completed on New York's west side, it will have 5,000 apartments, six skyscrapers, and pneumatic tubes for trash disposal. And one more feature of the project: It has paved the way for the green cards of about 1,200 Chinese millionaires.

How's that? Via what's known as the EB-5 "Immigrant Investor" program, which allows foreigners to get a green card if they invest a certain amount of money to create jobs in the United States.

[Read more](#)

Related Stories:

- [The EB-5 Visa Program Allows Thousands of Wealthy Foreigners to Buy Citizenship Each Year](#)
- [Is Hudson Yards In the 'National Interest'?](#)
- [How a U.S. Visa-for-Cash Plan Funds Luxury Apartment Buildings](#)



Hot Topics for Restaurants: EB-5 and Crowdfunding Investment, Licensing, and Gift Card Programs



The Global Hospitality Group® is best known for its expertise in connection with hotels and resorts. We also have an active restaurant practice, and like a hotel, a restaurant is an operating business integrally intertwined with special purpose real estate. We frequently advise restaurant owners and operators on labor and employment, ADA, management, and finance and licensing issues, and we have a particular expertise relating to celebrity chef deals.

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Denison Bacon Plant Receives \$1M in State Incentives

Quality Food Processors will receive \$1 million in state incentives as the company expands its bacon production plant in Denison.

On Friday, the Iowa Economic Development Authority board approved a \$1 million forgivable loan for the project, which is required to create at least 195 jobs paying \$12.70 per hour.

The new jobs are welcome news in Crawford County: In mid-August, Tyson Foods announced it would lay off 400 workers as it closed a beef production facility in Denison due to tight cattle supplies.

[Read more](#)



Tax Breaks for Sullivan Wellness Center



Montreign enhancement also approved

The Sullivan County Industrial Development Agency approved more than \$100,000 in sales-tax exemptions associated with the purchase of construction equipment for the Veria wellness center project on Friday.

It also approved the \$150 million dollar enhancement to the Montreign Resort Casino at Adelaar project during the meeting.

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If you're Against EB-5 Funding, Read This

"In the case of the EB-5 investor, the non-monetary return is the visa."

Does EB-5 funding make more sense for some product types than others? Does it create opportunities we haven't considered on the affordable housing front? Do the incentives go beyond the promise of residency?

GlobeSt.com caught up with Steven Klein, partner with law firm Gerson Preston, to get answers to those questions in part

two of this exclusive interview. You can still read part one: [Are EB-5s the Answer to Affordable Housing?](#)

GlobeSt.com: Are there other developments that EB-5 funding makes more sense for, such as mixed-use projects, that creates substantial job opportunities as well as housing for workers?

[Read more](#)



U.S. Chamber of Commerce Pens Op-Ed in Support of the EB-5 Program

GT GreenbergTraurig

Thomas J. Donohue, President and Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has penned an op-ed for The Hill on the benefits of the EB-5 program that discusses how the program is simply smart government policy. The op-ed breaks down the process and the nuances of the program under current law. Mr. Donohue identifies several projects that have been crucial to the United States,

including hotels, schools, technology centers, and nursing homes. Infrastructure projects are also the latest type of developments that utilize the EB-5 program. He recognizes that the EB-5 program is an important and critical part of turning these projects into reality, and due to the economic benefit (both in terms of job growth and investment capital) it brings to each local economy, it should not be allowed to lapse.

[Read more](#)

Gov't Projects Nab EB-5 Funds As Investors Seek Security

EB-5 investors have historically tended to show a predilection for private brand-name projects akin to [Marriott hotels](#). But lawyers say that's changing as investors are increasingly looking for low-risk ventures and finding them in public projects.

The quarter-century-old program has gained considerable traction of late, and state and local governments are seeing EB-5 capital as a viable source of income to help fund infrastructure and other projects. They are also benefiting from several new [U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services](#) regional centers aimed at facilitating such investments.

[Read more](#)



Chinese Firms Partner to Promote EB5 Property Investment



Leading Chinese property website Juwai.com has formed a partnership with top Chinese immigration consultancy Wailian to promote the United States EB5 investment visa scheme.

The two companies will exclusively work together on the marketing of real estate development

projects that are approved for participation in the EB-5 program and vetted by Wailian Overseas Consulting Group Ltd.

As OPP.Today reported yesterday when discussing the future of the EB-5 investment visa, 90% of applicants are from China.

[Read more](#)

In-Depth: The AAO Decision Which Re-interpreted the Definition of “Capital” in EB-5

For the six (6) months prior to the April 22 EB-5 Stakeholder Engagement, USCIS began to follow a reinterpretation of the regulatory definition of “capital” found at 8 CFR 204.6(e). It is believed this line of thinking stemmed from an erroneous analysis first applied in Administrative Appeals Office (the “AAO”) decisions from May 2014, which claimed that Matter of Soffici permitted this analysis. That case focused on evaluating whether or not an EB-5 investor could claim investment of the requisite capital by



demonstrating the new commercial enterprise (the “NCE”) obtained a loan (in the name of the NCE) and use those loan proceeds to start-up its business.

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Berkeley Regional Center is the Newest EB-5 Property



[Berkeley Regional Center](#), owned by the Behring Companies, is California’s newest EB-5 immigration investment property.

The Berkeley Regional Center, a compendium of low-risk EB-5 investment properties located in California, is the latest project of the Behring Companies, a group that creates jobs and investments for those who wish to immigrate to the United States. The company has extensive experience in EB-5 investment property management, with a dedicated team bringing together the most experienced professionals who know how to design and deliver these particular investment strategies.

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Florida Seeks To Boost Ties Further With the UAE



Christopher Hinn, CEO and Managing Director, C-7 International addresses a large audience at the Dubai-Florida Link Expo.

More ties between the United States and the United Arab Emirates are imminent in the areas of real-estate, hospitality, medicine, entertainment and enhanced trade and immigration facilitation for businessmen.

These views were echoed by Christopher Hinn, CEO and Managing Director, C-7 International, a leading consulting practice and business development partner focused on connecting US businesses to the Middle East.

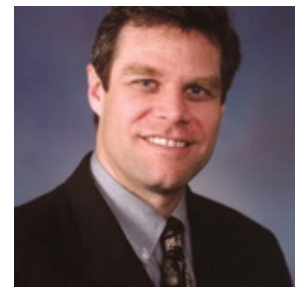
[Read more](#)

EB-5 Securities Expert Steve Anapoell to Speak at IMN Private Equity Forum on Senior Housing

EB-5 structure and securities expert [Steve Anapoell](#), co-founder and managing partner of [BridgeForth Capital](#), will be speaking at the IMN Real Estate Private Equity Forum on Senior Housing, September 17-18 in Santa Monica. BridgeForth Capital is a sponsor of the inaugural conference, which aims to connect senior housing executives and private equity financiers.

Anapoell will participate in the Development/Construction Financing panel Thursday, September 17, at 11:05 am, moderated by Manisha Bathija of Ventas.

[Read more](#)



NYC's Development Czars Light up TRD Shanghai Forum



New York City and China's biggest developers dished on joint ventures, EB-5 financing and the importance of good partners in a no-holds-barred chat at The Real Deal's inaugural U.S. Real Estate Showcase & Forum in Shanghai.

Speaking on Friday's headline development panel, Spitzer Enterprises' Eliot Spitzer, Steve Witkoff of Witkoff, Greenland USA's Ifei Chang, Xinyuan Real Estate's John Liang, Kuafu Properties' Shang Dai and Gale International's Stan Gale Jr. also touched upon overcoming the cultural differences between the U.S. and China.

[Read more](#)

Orlando gets a Chinese Chamber of Commerce

County commissioner says Chinese capital could redevelop older hotels in Kissimmee.

The new Chinese Chamber of Commerce for Central Florida recently held its inaugural event in Orlando, attracting a crowd of about 150, including elected officials, developers, real estate agents and business executives.

One of the guests was Miami developer Joshua Wallack, who is planning to build a rollercoaster-based project on International Drive in Orlando, called Skyplex, and needs to raise approximately \$300 million to fund it.

[Read more](#)



Cold Storage Planned For Tampa Port



Port Tampa Bay expects to be back in the refrigerated food storage business soon. The port, with a master plan that's called for a food distribution facility for several years, signed a deal with an Orlando business to operate a 130,000-square-foot cold storage food products facility the port plans to build next year.

The new \$19.1 million facility will receive, label, package and distribute perishable goods, fruits, vegetables, pharmaceuticals and other products that require refrigeration.

The future operator Port Logistics Tampa Bay I Inc. is the creation of George Livingston, a developer who also founded and is a principal in the commercial real estate brokerage NAI Realvest; Hong Kong investment banker Allen Huie; former Sumter County Economic Development Coordinator Matthew Walsh; and G. Richard Hostetter, an attorney and president of several companies.

[Read more](#)

Owners of Oakland's Tribune Tower, Other Buildings Embroiled In Lawsuit

Partners who created one of Oakland's biggest job centers and bought four downtown office buildings, including the Tribune Tower, have fallen out and are on opposite sides of a lawsuit.

Allan Young is alleging that [Tom Henderson](#) blocked Young from accessing financial information in their company, [Callsocket](#), which operates

a call center with hundreds of agents in the Tribune Tower, and other businesses.

Young also claims that Henderson used funds, which were primarily raised from Chinese investors under the EB-5 foreign investment program, for personal use and buying real estate.

[Read more](#)



Construction Panel Targets Labor Shortage, Public-Private Partnerships



Largest public-private contract 10 years ago was \$150M, now it's \$800M, panellist said

The shortage in quality labor, the challenges to public-private partnerships and the viability of EB-5-funded projects were among the topics discussed at a forum covering civic and vertical construction on Thursday morning. "Florida is such an active market. Maybe it's the weather, maybe it's South Beach, but it's attracted a lot of new players," panellist Ricardo Davila of American Global said at the American Global Inaugural Construction Forum at the Intercontinental Miami in downtown Miami.

[Read more](#)



EB5 Capital – Jobs Fund 9 Filing. Angelique Brunner Filed Sep 10 D Form

[EB5 Capital](#) – Jobs Fund 9 Form D

The Alabama-based EB5 Capital – Jobs Fund 9 LP had published

SEC form D regarding \$40.50 million offering. This is a new filing. Eb5 Capital – Jobs Fund 9 Lp is expected to fundraise \$40.50 million in this private offering amount.

The total private offering amount was \$40.50 million. The form was filed on 2015-09-10. Eb5 Capital – Jobs Fund 9 LP's clarification was: unspecified. The offering has \$40.50 million left to be raised and is still open.

[Read more](#)

Arcadia Councilman Distances Himself from Gemcoin Investment Controversy

The FBI is now investigating the claims of Gemcoin investors, according to documents reviewed by The Times.

Standing in front of a group of local Chinese TV and radio reporters earlier this year, Arcadia City Councilman John Wuo spoke about an investment opportunity called Gemcoin, a digital currency in the vein of bitcoin. He said it was a "breakthrough in finance."

[Read more](#)





Peak Resorts Narrows Q1 Loss

[Peak Resorts Inc.](#), the Wildwood-based owner and operator of ski resorts, posted a fiscal first-quarter loss of \$7.1 million, narrower than the \$8.2 million it lost in the prior year's quarter as it saw lower interest expenses.

The company's interest expense fell 37 percent in the recent quarter, to \$2.7 million.

Peak Resorts' Hidden Valley Ski Resort in Wildwood

For its fiscal 2016 first quarter ended July 31, Peak Resorts reported revenue of \$5.4 million, down 3 percent from the first quarter of fiscal 2015.

[Read more](#)

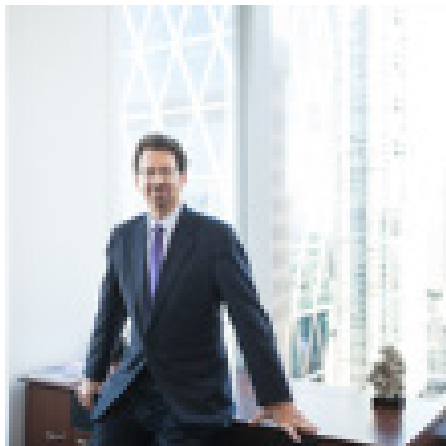
Stroock & Stroock's William Campbell Talks Construction Lending and Loan Syndication

William Campbell, partner and member of the real estate and real estate commercial lending practices at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, has been with the national law firm since 1990. The New Jersey native works out of the firm's New York office and represents commercial real estate clients in acquisitions, sales, equity investments and the origination and securitization of debt across the loan spectrum. Recently, Mr. Campbell represented Swiss financial services firm UBS in the origination and later sale of the \$60.9 million loan on the Hudson Rise hotel and condominium development to New York-based Chinese developer Kuafu Properties. Kuafu has been in litigation with its joint venture partner, Siras Development, since earlier this year. Mr. Campbell also represented Ladder Capital on a more than \$100 million bridge loan to United Construction and Development for the acquisition of a 38,000-square-foot development site in Long Island City's Court Square.

[Read more](#)



Morrison & Foerster's Mark Edelstein Talks Downturns, Mezzanine Debt and EB-5 Deals



Mark Edelstein, partner and chair of the real estate finance and distressed real estate practices at Morrison & Foerster, has been with the global law firm since 1999. Based out of the firm's New York office at 250 West 55th Street, Mr. Edelstein oversees a team of more than 80 attorneys and represents some of the world's biggest lenders and developers. The New York native, who was born in Manhattan and raised in the Bronx, has worked on several high-profile transactions within the past year. He represented Hines and Goldman Sachs in the \$860 million construction financing for their joint venture MoMa Tower at 53 West 53rd Street and Bank of New York Mellon and Wells Fargo in their \$411.5 million construction loan for the Durst Organization's rental tower at 625 West 57th Street. Since the last downturn, Mr. Edelstein has also played a key role in several major restructurings and bankruptcies, including Extended Stay Hotels' \$8 billion bankruptcy in 2009 and General Growth Properties' \$27 billion bankruptcy in 2010.

[Read more](#)

MONTHLY HIGHEST RATED, LOWEST RISK SUITABLE PROJECTS DISCUSSION

Q&A for investors, attorneys & advisors with analysts on which EB-5 projects contain the most and least risk and which are most suitable for investing. Free to USAAdvisors clients.



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Executive Insight: Greystone's Justin Gardinier on EB-5

The EB-5 immigrant investors program is more popular than ever, hitting its annual cap of 10,000 visas in April. This was only the second time the program has hit its cap—the first time was August of 2014. Real estate lending, investment and advisory firm Greystone is looking to get in on the action, and it launched a full-service EB-5 regional center this June. MHN caught up with Justin Gardinier, managing director of the EB-5 group, to learn more about the program.



[Read more](#)

How Immigrants' Cash Funds Luxury Towers in the -2



Increasingly, the money appears to be flowing to the flashiest projects, which the investors often see as safest, EB-5 professionals say. Among those getting EB-5 money are an office building set to host.

Facebook Inc. near Amazon.com Inc.'s Seattle headquarters, a boutique hotel in high-end Miami Beach, and a slim [Four Seasons condo-hotel](#) in lower Manhattan that sports a penthouse with an asking price above \$60 million. In all of them, geographic districts were crafted to include higher-unemployment areas.

Some left out...[Read more](#)

Douglas Development Secures \$94 Million of Financing for Uline Redevelopment



Douglas Development Corporation (DDC) has lined up nearly \$94 million of financing for its highly anticipated Uline mixed-use redevelopment near the NoMa-Gallaudet U Metro station in Washington, D.C. A \$75.5 million construction loan from Natixis Real Estate Capital and \$18 million in preferred equity provided by [EB5 Capital](#) represent approximately 75 percent of the project's total costs and put DDC on track to deliver the

development in the fall of 2016.

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[Read more](#)

Tom Watkins: Michigan's Building Bridges with China

Gov. Rick Snyder has travelled to China five times, just returning from another successful trip. His efforts have provided dividends by creating jobs and investment in "Pure Michigan."

Michigan and America must learn to ride the China wave or surely we will be swamped. We must seek ways to tap the China gold

mountain to fund large-scale infrastructure projects such as rebuilding cities, mass transit, road and bridge repair through lowering long-term building and borrowing costs through Chinese investment. It is happening today around and nation and world.

[Read more](#)



Orlando City Want Rivalry with David Beckham Franchise



Florida is big enough for two MLS teams, Leitao says while in Dubai courting investors

Orlando City Soccer Club chief executive officer Alex Leitao has welcomed David Beckham's plan to launch a second Florida-based Major League Soccer (MLS) franchise in Miami by 2017.

The former England and Manchester United midfielder was offered a discounted fee on an MLS franchise as part of his contract when he signed for LA Galaxy in 2007.

[Read more](#)

A Poster For A Hotel Under Construction On Valley Boulevard In El Monte, Financed Using EB-5 Foreign Investor Funds. The City Hopes To Attract More Investment.

A citation for illegal dumping in El Monte used to cost \$50. Not anymore. Earlier this week, city leaders voted to raise the fine to \$200. Second-time offenders will find themselves paying \$500.

City officials say there's more to it than just making money off tickets. This working-class city hopes to lure more of the foreign investment that's revitalizing other parts of the San Gabriel Valley, much of it from China.

"If your streets are not clean, why would I want to invest millions of dollars to bring in stores, industry, business into that community, or that city?" said Juventino "J" Gomez, a city council member who wants for the city to attract more development.

[Read more](#)



DHS Expected to Issue STEM OPT Rule in Early Fall



The Council for Global Immigration (CGI) has updated its members regarding the recent decision of a District Court judge which vacated the 17-month STEM OPT rule, but stayed the order until February 12, 2016. The CGI recognizes that this will put the Department of Homeland Security on a short timeline to issue a rule with a proper notice and comment period, but expects that a proposed rule will be issued in late September or early October, with a 30 or 60 day comment period to follow thereafter.

[Read more](#)

Wisconsin Company Buys Country Home Products



Publicly traded Wisconsin company, Generac Holdings, Inc., has purchased Country Home Products of Vergennes and its subsidiaries, including DR Power Equipment and Neuton electric lawn mowers.

The deal closed on Aug. 1.

Generac designs and manufactures a wide range of generators as well as other products such as light towers, pumps and power washers for both the residential and commercial markets. The company has a market value of \$2.1 billion.

Joe Perotto, president of Country Home Products, said in a statement the sale was a “very exciting transaction” for the Vergennes Company.

[Read more](#)

Targeted Employment Area Policy Can Maximize EB-5 Job Creation: An Analysis of Current Legislative Proposals

The Government Accountability Office wrote in its report of August 12, 2015 that 90 percent of EB-5 investments are made in Targeted Employment Areas (TEA). Under current EB-5 law, a Targeted Employment Area is an area that qualifies for a reduced investment amount of \$500,000. To be designated a TEA, a geographic area must either be rural, or be experiencing a level of unemployment that is 150 percent of the national average unemployment rate. Section 203(b) (5) (B) (ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) defines a high unemployment area

GT GreenbergTraurig

as “an area which has experienced high unemployment (of at least 150 percent of the national average rate).” Current regulations permit state officials to make TEA designations that encompass multiple census tracts and which take into account commuting patterns in a given region.

[Read more](#)

Help Build a Rail Line to Rochester, Get a Green Card



A private firm that wants to build a high-speed rail link from the Twin Cities to Rochester (and on to Chicago) is considering using the country's immigration laws to make it happen.

The Rochester Post Bulletin says the North American High Speed Rail Group is seeking wealthy foreign investors who want a green card.

Under current rules, immigrants who are willing to invest a minimum of \$500,000 are eligible to receive a two-year conditional green card, the PB says. The immigrant would get a full green card after two years if at least 10 jobs are created.

[Read more](#)

EB-5 Investments Reach Record Level in Third Quarter of 2015

[IIUSA](#) analysis points to an increase in qualified funds raise and projected job creation.

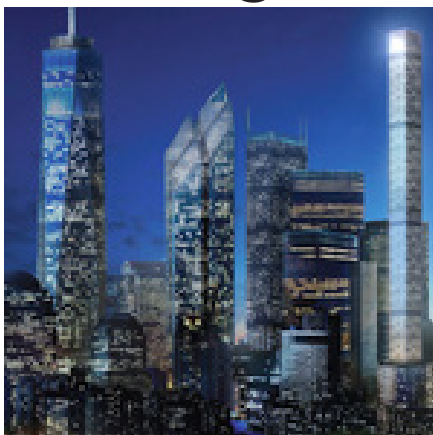
According to an IIUSA analysis of data released by the [United States Citizenship and Immigration Services](#), foreign direct investment (FDI) through the EB-5 program totalled over \$1.4 billion dollars in the third quarter of FY2015. This represents a 45 percent increase over the second quarter of FY2015 and a 153 percent increase over the third quarter of FY2014

Since the beginning of FY2015, EB-5 investments have contributed \$3.2 billion in FDI-- a 61.8 percent increase over the first three quarters of FY2014. And, for the first time, the number of pending EB-5 petitions has decreased compared to the previous quarter. There are currently 13,117 petitions pending, representing over \$ 6.5 billion in potential FDI.

[Read more](#)



Rosenberg & Estis Closes \$1B in EB5 Lending in One Year



[Rosenberg & Estis, P.C.](#), a boutique real estate law firm based in New York, has closed nearly \$1 billion in EB-5 construction mezzanine loans during the past 12 months in New York and beyond.

The law firm served as lead counsel representing one of the New York City regional centers.

Michael Shvo's 125 Greenwich raised \$175 million through the EB-5 program.

Eric S. Orenstein, member; Steven Goldberg, of counsel; Stefanie Graham, associate; and Brie Dorfman, associate, all of Rosenberg & Estis, served as lead counsel in seven loans ranging from \$50 million to \$250 million.

[Read more](#)

More Alleged Fraud Victims of OC Attorney Stephen Young Kang Emerge: Update

Ottogi America Inc. is not so happy with attorney [Stephen Kang](#). [Read more](#)

Since the announcement Tuesday of a federal indictment against attorney Stephen Young Kang of Newport Beach for allegedly defrauding Ottogi America Inc. of Gardena, more alleged victims have emerged, according to the government.

An FBI statement reveals:

According to the indictment, Kang agreed to provide legal and investment services to a married couple who wanted to invest money that would help them obtain EB-5 visas, which requires the applicant to invest at least \$500,000 in a commercial enterprise that creates or preserves at least 10 permanent, full-time jobs.

Related Stories:

- [Ponzi-like Scheme Allegedly Took in Millions from California to Houston](#)
- [Indicted Lawyer Accused of Stealing \\$6M from Clients](#)
- [Attorney Charged With Fraud & Money Laundering in Real Estate Scheme](#)
- [Orange County Attorney Charged with Fraud and Money Laundering in Scheme Related to Real Estate Purchases and Other Investments](#)



The 2015 China Overseas Investment and Entrepreneurship Summit (COIES) Announced



The two day international conference will be hosted Oct 9-11, 2015 in Beijing China. The full-weekend networking conference will feature leading EB-5 industry professionals and Chinese private equity partners looking for international opportunities.

The 2015 China Overseas Investment and Entrepreneurship Summit (COIES) is officially announced today. The two day international investment and business conference will be hosted at five star Beijing Kunlun Hotel and Diaoyutai State Guest House Oct 9-11, 2015 in Beijing China. The full-weekend networking conference will feature leading EB-5 industry professionals and Chinese private equity partners looking for international opportunities.

[Read more](#)

Expansion of Issuer Liability for Crowdfunding: What Might this Mean for the EB-5 Industry

Section 4A(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("The 1933 Act"), 15 USC § 77d-1(c), is part of the new crowdfunding regime. The JOBS Act of 2012, Pub. L. No. 112-106, 126 Stat. 306 (2012), created a liability scheme for issuers and intermediaries in an exempt crowdfunding offering. Because we could see similar statutory schemes created

with the next wave of EB-5 change in Congress, EB-5 stakeholders should take note of Section 4(A) (c).

[Read more](#)

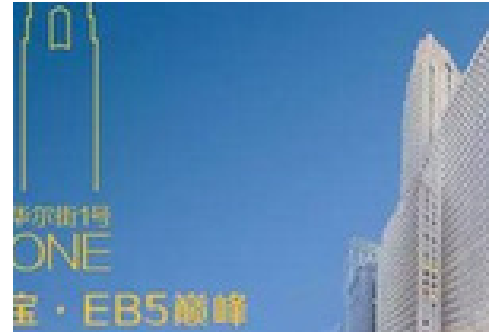
Related Story: [FinLaw - Do Funding Platforms under Title II of the JOBS Act have to be Broker-Dealers?](#)

Visas Consulting Exclusive Agent Mike Lowe Wall Street 1 EB-5 Project

Visas Consulting Group has been granted exclusive agent Wall Street 1 EB-5 Project Eligibility Mike Lowe Real Estate Group. Mike Lowe Real Estate Group is 哈利迈克罗 K (Harry Macklowe) was founded in the mid-1960s. After 50 years of development, Mike Lowe Group to become one of the most well-known real estate developer in New York, in Manhattan development projects with a total area of up to 10 million ordinary foot, remarkable achievements.

Mike Lowe casting Classic - Wall Street on the 1st gorgeous reproduction.

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Sorensen joins Arcis Capital



[Arcis Capital Partners](#) said Tuesday that [Steven Sorensen](#) has joined the boutique advisory firm as a partner. Previously, Sorensen was International Operations Vice President of Manhattan Regional Center.

border private equity, real estate, EB-5 and M&A transactions between China and the US. ArcisCap has offices in New York and Hong Kong and plans to have an office in mainland China soon.

Arcis Capital Partners LLC ("ArcisCap") is a boutique advisory firm specializing in cross-

[Read more](#)

CanAm Enterprises Reaches another Milestone with More Than 1,500 I-829 Petition Approvals

To date, more than 1,500 investor-families have received permanent green cards (I-829 petition approval) from the USCIS through an investment in one of CanAm's 46 EB-5 projects.

With CanAm's help, we have successfully become permanent residents of U.S.A.

[CanAm Enterprises LLC](#), ("CanAm") is pleased to announce that, to date, more than 1,500 investor-families have received permanent green cards (I-829 petition approval) from the USCIS through an investment in one of CanAm's 46 EB-5 projects.

[Read more](#)



Summer Update: USCIS Processing Time for I-526, I-829, and I-924 petitions



USCIS released updated processing times for EB-5 related petitions. The following chart provides the average processing times for cases being adjudicated by the Immigrant Investor Program Office (IPO) as of June 30, 2015.

Based on previously released processing time data, this represents an increase in processing time for I-526, I-829, and I-924 petitions. USCIS reminds I-526 applicants that tools are available for checking the status of a filing online at www.uscis.gov or through an email to USCIS. ImmigrantInvestorProgram@uscis.dhs.gov for cases pending beyond the above referenced processing times.

[Read more](#)

The screenshot shows the EB-5 Investments website with a navigation menu including PROJECTS, REGIONAL CENTERS, FIRMS, PROFESSIONALS, REPORTS, LITIGATION, MAPS, QUESTIONS, UPDATES, EVENTS, DUE DILIGENCE, and CONTACT. The main content area is titled 'Project Updates' and features several articles:

- University Hospitals Project: Why EB-5** (July 30, 2015): University Hospital's (UH) 'Vision 2010' expansion campaign saw the construction of several new hospital facilities and upgrades to existing facilities, that significantly increased UH's ability to serve patients. Thanks to imaginative leaders...
- Help Wanted As Burke Expands Ski Resort in Northeast Kingdom** (July 24, 2015): There's a hiring spree going on in the ski resort town of Burke in the Northeast Kingdom. A new hotel and conference center due to open in December will need as many as 200 workers. The rush is on to find them as construction moves ahead. A...
- Northeast Kingdom's Q Burke Resort Gets Conditional Approval To Pitch Foreign Investors**
- EB-5 Articles, Firms, Regional Center & Project Updates** (August 01, 2015): Orlando-based entrepreneur Todd Wilcox says that it was around April of last year that he first thought about the possibilities of running for U.S. Senate, a considerable feat to undertake for a lifelong nonpolitician in the nation's third-lar...
- Should you file an I-924 "Exemplar" Petition before September 30th?** (August 01, 2015): Since the introduction on June 3, 2015 of the bipartisan American Job Creation and Investment Promotion Reform Act by Senators Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) the Grassley / Leahy Bill, there is increased discussion on whethe...
- Coventry Airport To Grow As Developers Look To Attract Visitors, Residents To**

On the right side, there is a 'Subscribe for News' form with a 'Subscribe' button and a 'Categories' list including Professional Updates (1), Firm Updates (3), Event Updates (9), Industry Updates (124), Direct Project Updates (18), Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (18), Construction (1), Educational Services (1), and Finance and Insurance (2).

The Barclays Center Shakeup: Jay Z's Out, China's In And Atlantic Yards Lives On



On Sept. 28, 2012, Jay-Z unofficially opened Downtown Brooklyn's Barclays Center with the first in an eight-night run of concerts. The borough's native son started the show with "Where I'm from" and interspersed it with effusive declarations about the night's importance, saying the spanking new stage overwhelmed him to a point that even the Grammys, Glastonbury and the historic Apollo hadn't.

The rapper and mogul had recently wrapped up his Watch the Throne tour with Kanye West. But, despite some bombast endemic to the genre, the night did feel like a Kings County coronation: of Jay-Z as hometown hero; of the Barclays Center as anchor of Forest City Ratner's \$5B, 22-acre, 15-tower [Atlantic Yards](#) mixed-use development; and of the "new Brooklyn" as a cultural and real estate entity well out of Manhattan's long, dark shadow.

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In Arizona, a Chinese-Style Bazaar

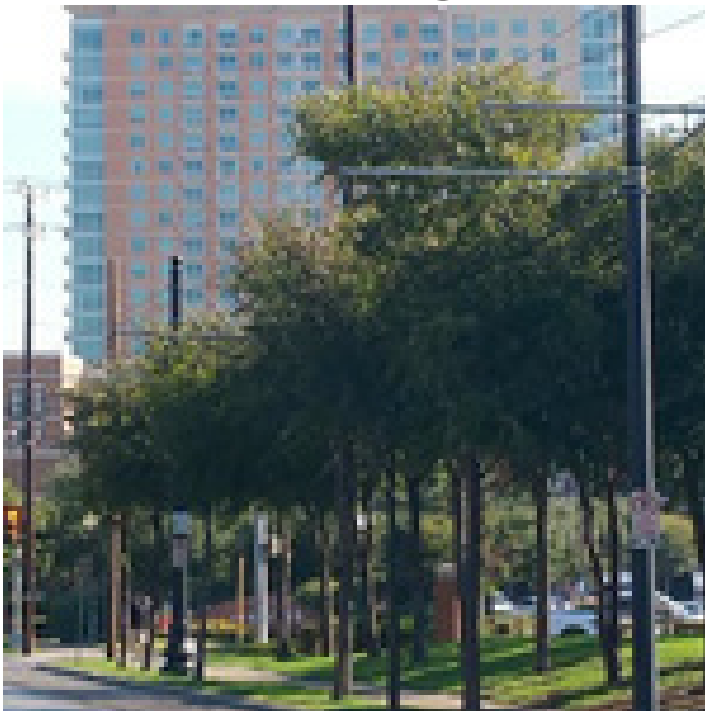
Every year, thousands of Americans travel to the sprawling Yiwu wholesale market, about 160 miles from Shanghai, to buy supplies for their businesses, whether it's furniture for a hotel or raw materials to build the furniture. They'll soon be able to find similar one-stop-shopping convenience closer to home.

In Casa Grande, Ariz., a 1.58 million-square-foot facility called PhoenixMart will house manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers under one roof. Slated to be finished in mid-2016, the marketplace is designed to fill every conceivable customer need. "Many of the people who have been sourcing in China really just want the convenience China offers and can find that at PhoenixMart instead," says the center's chief executive officer, Steve Gardner, whose previous work as an executive coach and branding specialist has taken him to Asia.

[Read more](#)



Upscale Dallas Project Cashes in on EB-5 Visa Program



A luxury apartment tower in affluent uptown Dallas obtained millions of dollars through an immigration program designed to aid depressed areas of Texas. **DISTRESSED?** An upscale residential and retail project in a leafy section of uptown Dallas received immigrant-investor funds targeted for high-unemployment areas.

The joint venture by the [city of Dallas](#) and [Civitas Capital Group](#) secured funding from more than 100 overseas investors at \$500,000 apiece. In exchange, the foreign nationals became eligible for U.S. visas and residency via the federal EB-5 program.

[Read more](#)

New York Wheel Developer Crowdfunding for Extra \$40M



New York Wheel developer Rich Marin doesn't like to complete a project with just the "bare-bone" necessities.

Instead, he says he likes to plan ahead for all the "bells and whistles" he might want to add onto a project.

That's why he has launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise an additional \$40 million -- over the \$480 million already secured -- for the "extras" that could be associated with building the 630-foot observation wheel on the St. George waterfront.

[Read more](#)

Still in
the dark
about which
investments
are in the
market?

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I-526 Approval!

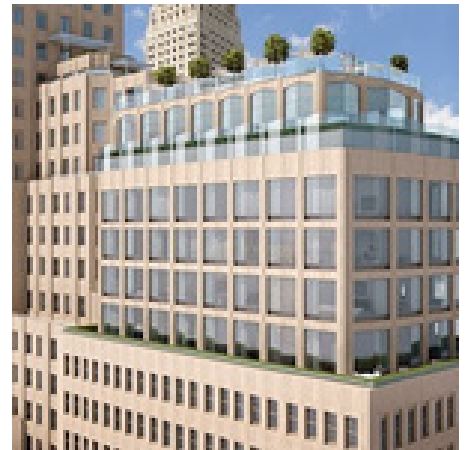
We just received our first I-526 approval for the Luhrs Downtown Marriott! Construction has been underway for the past few months, and we expect our remaining slots to sell out quickly. Please contact Ryan Bodine at ryan@greencardfund.com if you're interested in this project or our upcoming medical project.

[Read more](#)

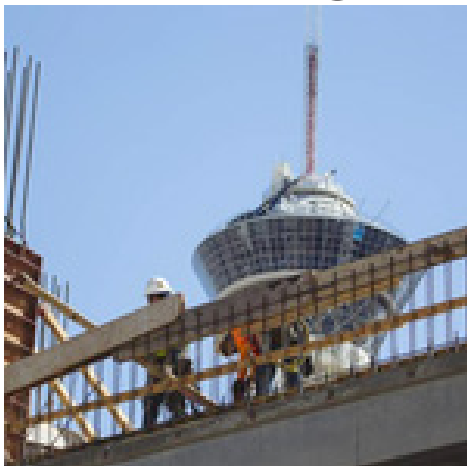
Robert A.M. Stern Design for One Wall Street Surfaces

So it looks like CetraRuddy's design for the conversion of coveted [One Wall Street](#) into condos and rentals may not be the end all, after all. It looks like heavyweight Harry Macklowe, who picked the landmarked Art Deco office building up for an eye-popping \$585 million in May 2014, may have changed course and enlisted classicist Robert A.M. Stern to design the conversion. New York YIMBY found a rendering by the firm that shows an addition atop One Wall Street's annex building which was built 32 years after Ralph Walker's lovely 1929 tower. Despite the new rendering, it's entirely possible that Robert A.M. Stern's design for the building is outdated; plans for the conversion have yet to be filed with the Department of Buildings.

[Read more](#)



Construction of Lucky Dragon Resort Advancing On 'Aggressive Schedule'



Construction continues at the [Lucky Dragon Hotel & Casino Site](#) in Las Vegas, Nev. on September 11, 2015.

Not far from where the massive, Chinese-themed Resorts World Las Vegas is under construction on the north Strip, a boutique hotel-casino with a similar theme is rapidly taking shape.

Over the past few months, workers have been busy building the Lucky Dragon at a 2.5-acre site on Sahara Avenue just west of Las Vegas Boulevard. The project, which is situated between the Golden Steer restaurant and the Allure condominiums, includes a nine-story hotel tower and a separate casino building.

[Read more](#)

Zenith, Seniority Plan Assisted-Living Project Near Covington's Town Center

There will be 64 [assisted-living units](#) and 34 memory care units, as well as a dining room, recreation center and green space.

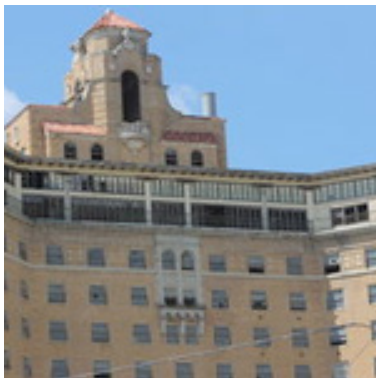
Zenith Capital and Seniority are teaming up to build what they said will be the first assisted-living and memory care community for seniors in Covington.

Construction is slated to start in mid-2016 on the 98-unit facility at 17006 S.E. Wax Road.

[Read more](#)



Baker Hotel Team Hitting Significant Financial Milestones



Multiple milestones have been reached this summer in financing the Baker Hotel's renovation.

This past week some in the Mineral Wells City Council chamber, during a recent budget meeting, arched sceptical eyebrows at mention of the progress on the [Baker Hotel](#)'s restoration.

Such scepticism isn't necessarily unfounded. Even the Baker Hotel Development Team was reeling when, last year around this time, they met with a major setback – a split from the original investment group slated to find foreign investors through the U.S. State Department's EB-5 program.

[Read more](#)

USCIS Okay Petitions for \$17M in Immigrant Funding for Riverfront Redevelopment

[EB5 Capital](#) announced that the [United States Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\)](#) has begun to issue I-526 Petition approvals for investors in EB5 Capital's Dock 79 (formerly known as [Riverfront at the Navy Yard](#)) mixed-use project in the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood of Washington, D.C.

The I-526 Petition is the first step in the process for immigrant investors seeking to become permanent residents of the United States by investing through Regional Centers in new, job-creating enterprises.

The initial I-526 Petition approval confirms that the Dock 79 project meets the federal government's economic development and job-creation requirements.

[Read more](#)



Developer Defends Vermont EB-5 Projects

Foreign investors are pouring \$50 million into a new hotel halfway up [Q Burke Mountain Resort](#). Scheduled to be ready in mid-December, the 118,000-square-foot facility should sleep more than 400 guests. Developer [Bill Stenger](#) says the slope-side project represents the first step in giving the resort a summer season.

"If you can't create a year-round facility with good accommodations, you can't be successful in the winter season," Stenger said. "And you certainly aren't going to survive to the next winter if you don't have full, year-round operations."



[Read more](#)

Frozen Import Prices (Forward Concerning Price Comparison of Alpine Shrimp)



Alpine Shrimp LLC included this article to help make a couple of important points. The first regarding price points in imported shrimp. We often hear the argument that we would not be able to compete with the price of imported shrimp. And this is a correct statement... If we were trying to compete with the import market. We would like for you to remember that we are a PREMIUM product. We are selling fresh, not frozen. We do not use any antibiotic or other chemicals in our products. We have posted a few other articles showing the amounts of shrimp being turned away from the U.S. because of pharmaceuticals being found in imported shrimp. Our second reason for posting this article is size. Size really does matter. This article mentions the imported market is seeing 31-50 count shrimp being sold at \$5-\$7 per pound wholesale.

[Read more](#)

Related Story: [Nursery Project](#)

U.S. Rejects India Shrimp



US rejects Indian shrimp lots on antibiotics Amrita Nair-Ghaswalla Over the last five months, the USFDA has refused 203 entry lines for banned antibiotics Mumbai, June 16: The US Food and Drug Administration has refused the entry of certain consignments of shrimp exported from India, Malaysia and Vietnam, since the shrimp was found contaminated with banned antibiotics. The main reason cited by the US regulator was related to nitrofurans or other veterinary drug residues found in the shrimp. A report from the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) showed that shrimp entry lines from three different countries – Malaysia, India, and Vietnam, were refused in May. The refusals involved six different companies from the three countries. Two Indian companies feature in the list – Sharat Industries and Sandhya Aqua Exports from Andhra Pradesh. Both had one consignment each that was refused entry.

[Read more](#)

Related Story: [FDA Refusal of Imported Shrimp Hits 6 Month High](#)

Sweet EB-5 Visa Deal Turns Sour for Investors, Missouri State Officials

Failure to do proper due diligence in an [EB-5 visa Regional Center](#) investment has resulted in deal failure which has already impacted U.S. job creation and investor confidence in the EB5 Visa Immigrant Investor program in the Mid-West. [Mamtek International](#), a company which produces “Sweet-O” sucralose, a zero-calorie sweetener, [is in default to make their bond payments and will be unlikely to continue operations](#). The \$65 Million deal which was championed by State officials and foreign promoters and proposed to create over 600 jobs has fired its four employees, left the job site, shut down its website, and now refuses to meet with lenders or return phone calls.

[Read more](#)



The screenshot shows the EB-5 Investments website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for ABOUT, EB-5 VISA, PROJECTS, REGIONAL CENTERS, FIRMS, PROFESSIONALS, REPORTS, LITIGATION, MAPS, QUESTIONS, UPDATES, EVENTS, DUE DILIGENCE, CONTACT, SIGN IN, and SIGN UP. Below the navigation is a search bar with filters for Status (Any), Verified (Any), and State (Any), along with a Name field and a Search button. There are also social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, Print, RSS, and a +8+1 icon. The main content area displays 'EB-5 Projects and Investments' with a total of 566 projects and a 'Projects on Map' link. Two project images are visible: an aerial view of a development site and a rendering of a modern high-rise building.

NORTHERN BEEF PACKERS III



DAKOTA PROVISIONS II



BASIN ELECTRIC –DEER CREEK STATION



DEADWOOD MOUNTAIN GRAND HOTEL, CASINO & EVENT CENTER



DAKOTA PROVISIONS



FPL DAY COUNTY WIND FARM

Overview

- Located in Day County, South Dakota
- Built, owned, and operated by a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources
- 66 megawatt wind generation plant
- 66 1.5 megawatt GE turbines that will be capable of generating enough electricity to power nearly 25,000 homes
- Each turbine will be approximately 282 feet tall from the ground to the hub in the center of the blades
- Commercial operation in 2016

Benefits

- Provides employment opportunities
- Adds to base to the county
- Provides economic stimulus of end-user investments
- Creates local or water pollution
- Uses no water in the generation of electricity
- Allows land to remain in agricultural use



About NextEra Energy Resources

- A leading clean energy provider operating wind, natural gas, solar, hydroelectric and nuclear power plants across the nation
- Approximately 16,000 megawatts of generating capacity in 28 states and Canada
- The largest wind generator in North America with facilities in 17 states
- A subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc. with headquarters in Juno Beach, Florida



How It Works

Wind turbines work on the same principle as a windmill - renewable energy.

The turbine has a weather station on the top that tells it the wind speed and wind direction. That information is sent to the

BASIN ELECTRIC – DEER CREEK STATION II



IBERDROLA RENEWABLES – BUFFALO RIDGE II



CENTER - TRAX INTERNATIONAL LLC - PRODUCTION-READY AND FULLY-FUNCTIONAL PROTOTYPE VEHICLES



GOOD TIME BEVERAGES



DAKOTA NATURAL MEATS



在答谢酒会上合影留念。左起依次为陈苗苗、Brian F. Fredericks、Eldon E. Mygaard、吴佩儿、Henry H. Harby、彭

NORTHERN BEEF PACKERS II



MCCOY SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT



3700M - WEST VILLAGE PROJECT



AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY FRANCHISE FUND, I, LP



225 NORTH CALVERT



FORZA HILTON MCCORMICK PLACE, LLC



BAKER HOTEL



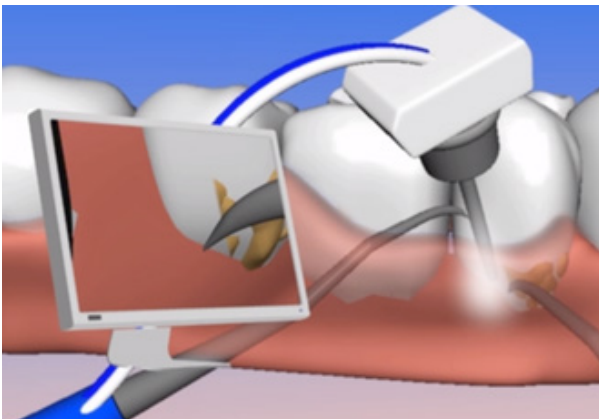
CITYGATE



NALTEC- NORTH AMERICAN LOGISTICS, TRADE & E-COMMERCE CITY



PERIOENDOSCOPY, LLC



ALERT GPS



WALL STREET 1



LAKE POINT ECOVENTURES PROJECT



MAMTEK SUCROSE PLANT





ABOUT EB-5 VISA PROJECTS REGIONAL CENTERS FIRMS PROFESSIONALS REPORTS LITIGATION MAPS QUESTIONS UPDATES EVENTS DUE DILIGENCE CONTACT SIGN IN SIGN UP



EB-5 Regional Centers

Regional Centers on Map TOP Rating

Filter by Name: I-924A? Filter Reset

Select State: [Dropdown] With Projects? [Dropdown] Select Project Category: [Dropdown] Certified? [Dropdown] Designated? [Dropdown] Terminated? [Dropdown]

Displaying regional centers 1 - 30 of 659 in total

| Regional Center | Firm & Managers | Certified | Projects | Mentions & Participations | I-924a | I-526 | I-829 | Media | Profile Rating | Activity |
|--|--|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------|-------|--|---|--|
| <p>Delaware Valley Regional Center</p> <p>Rating: 4/5 (48%)</p> <p>ID: 1313451137 Designation Date: May 27, 2014 States: Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania NAICS: ?</p> | <p>Managers:</p> <p> Young Min Ban</p> | No | <p>Open Projects:</p> | <p>Mentions:</p> | 2014 | - | - | <p>Reports: 0 Video: 1 Audio: 0 Photos: 0 Updates: 0</p> | <p>Rating: 4/5</p> <p>Profile Completion: Low</p> <p>Projects Completion: Good</p> <p>Site Activity: Excellent</p> <p>Knowledge: Not Rated</p> <p>Experience: Low</p> <p>I-924A Rating: Transparent</p> | <p>Followers: 3 Fans: 0</p> <p>Last Update: [Link] Last Login: [Link]</p> <p>Leave a message</p> |

[EB-5 FMC Regional Center](#)



EB-5 FMC REGIONAL CENTER

[EB-5 Bonds Consulting](#)



[Harmonia Regional Center, LLC](#)



仁和智本
Harmonia Capital

[State of North Carolina Regional Center, LLC](#)



[Civitas Illinois Regional Center](#)



[Central Florida Regional Center](#)



[International Creative Capital, LLC](#)



[White Lotus Group Regional Center](#)



[EB5 United West Regional Center, LLC](#)



[American VIP EB-5](#)



The screenshot shows the EB-5 Investments website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for ABOUT, EB-5 VISA, PROJECTS, REGIONAL CENTERS, FIRMS, PROFESSIONALS, REPORTS, LITIGATION, MAPS, QUESTIONS, UPDATES, EVENTS, DUE DILIGENCE, CONTACT, SIGN IN, and SIGN UP. Below the navigation is a social media sharing bar and a search bar. The main content area is titled "Firms, EB-5 Firms" and includes a "Quick Filter" section with dropdown menus for "Filter by Name", "Select State (Any)", "Select Language (Any)", and "Select Practice Area (Any)". There is also a "With Projects" checkbox and "Filter" and "reset" buttons. A "Featured Firms" section displays logos for USAdvisors, Wolfsdorf Rosenthal, Wides & Weinberg P.C., and Crowdcheck. A detailed profile for USAdvisors is shown, including a rating of 4.9%, a description as a "Registered Investment Advisory firm specializing in performing due diligence and risk analysis on EB-5 visa projects", and a list of practice areas: Registered Investment Advisor, English, and Spanish. A "TOP Firms" list is also visible, ranking USAdvisors first, followed by Law Office of Fred Voigtmann, P.C., CanAm Enterprises, LLC, Atlantic American Partners, LLC, American Corporate Services, Inc., Meyer Law Group, NES Financial, Homeier & Law, P.C., CrowdCheck, and Joe Whalen. The bottom of the screenshot shows a profile for the Law Office of Fred Voigtmann, P.C., with a rating of 4.7% and a description of Fredrick W. Voigtmann as an attorney with experience in individual cases.

Green Card Fund, LLC



NES Financial



Homeier & Law, P.C.



Lanick



Greenberg Traurig, LLP



Gorman & Co. Inc



[GreenAccess](#)



[Forza Partners, LLC](#)



[American VIP LLC](#)



[Cansine](#)



[CANREACH Immigration Consulting](#)





EB-5 Professionals

Quick Filter

Filter by Name

Select State (Any)

Select Language (Any)

Select Practice Area (Any)

Select Profession (Any)

Filter reset

TOP Professionals

1. Fredrick Voigtmann
2. Michael Gibson
3. Brandon Meyer
4. Gregory Finkelson
5. Angelo Paparelli
6. Joe Whalen
7. Reza Rahbaran
8. Atoosa Vakili
9. Bassel Zoueiter
10. Clem Turner



Fredrick Voigtmann
 (87%)
 The Law Office of Fred Voigtmann, P.C. practices U.S....

Follow: 0
 Like: 0
 Send Message

TOP Rating by Name by Practice Areas

Rating: (5/5)

Profile Completion: **Good**

Site Activity: **Good**

Knowledge: **Fair**

PRACTICE AREAS
 EB-5 Regional Center
 Application Submission
 Provider
 Law: Immigration
LANGUAGES
 Cantonese
 Chinese (Mandarin)
 English
 Spanish
 Taiwanese



Brandon Meyer
 (48%)
 Brandon Meyer is Principal of Meyer Law Group, a full...

Follow: 0
 Like: 0
 Send Message

Rating: (4/5)

Profile Completion: **Good**

Site Activity: **Excellent**

Knowledge: **Low**



Gregory Finkelson
 (45%)
 Our company, American Corporate Services, Inc. (ACS,...

Follow: 1

Rating: (5/5)

Profile Completion: **Good**

Site Activity: **Excellent**

Knowledge: **Not Rated**

Leave a message

Joop Bollen



Cheryl Lane



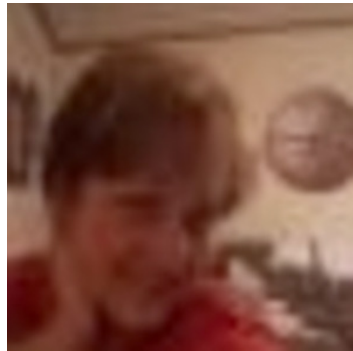
Cynthia Daniels



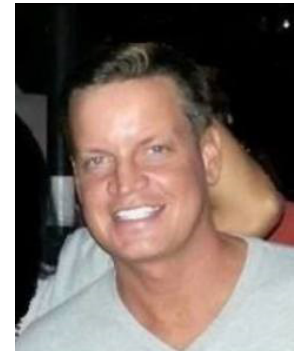
Chun Yang



Jackie Russell



Andrew McLaughlin



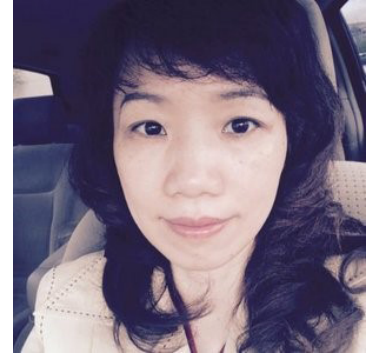
[Ginny Fang](#)



[Alejandro Crawford](#)



[Shannon Lin](#)



[Michael Bratton](#)



[Elizabeth Mann](#)



[Michael Austin](#)



[Cathy Ye](#)



The screenshot shows the 'EB-5 Questions & Answers' section of the EB5Projects.com website. The page is titled 'EB-5 Questions & Answers' and features a list of questions and answers. The questions are as follows:

- Can all of the invested funds be a gift? (EB5Projects.com, February 07, 2015 05:40 AM)
- How are EB-5 funds usually returned after I-829 approval? (EB5Projects.com, January 09, 2015 05:05 AM)
- How can I split my \$1 million investment between land purchase and working costs? (EB5Projects.com, April 21, 2015 03:53 AM)
- How can I stay in the United States for EB-5 if my J-1 visa will expire? (EB5Projects.com, March 30, 2015 04:40 AM)
- How can someone without an employment history apply for EB-5? (EB5Projects.com, January 09, 2015 05:10 AM)
- How much time it takes to process I-526 Petition? (EB5Projects.com, December 01, 2014 11:47 PM)
- Is an investment in a regional center guaranteed? (EB5Projects.com, February 07, 2015 05:38 AM)
- Question on Job creation asked during USCIS conference

On the right side of the page, there is a 'Top Contributors' list and a 'Subscribe for News' form. The 'Top Contributors' list includes names like Fredrick Voigtmann, Reza Rahbaran, Brandon Meyer, Clem Turner, Edward Beshara, Joe Whalen, Mark Ivener, Alex Silensky, Sai Picataggio, and Taher Kameli. The 'Subscribe for News' form has a text input field and a 'Subscribe' button.

1. [Can all of the invested funds be a gift?](#)
2. [How EB-5 funds are usually returned after I-829 approval?](#)
3. [How can I split my \\$1 million investment between land purchase and working costs?](#)
4. [How can I stay in the United States for EB-5 if my J-1 visa will expire?](#)
5. [How can someone without an employment history apply for EB-5?](#)
6. [How much time it takes to process I-526 Petition?](#)
7. [Is an investment in a regional center guaranteed?](#)
8. [Question on Job creation asked during USCIS conference](#)
9. [Should I have the same attorney for all EB-5 applications?](#)
10. [What happens if a conditional permanent resident leaves the U.S. for six months?](#)
11. [What happens if the necessary jobs are not created?](#)
12. [What is the I-829 approval rate for the EB-5 program?](#)
13. [What must be proven in order to obtain removal of conditions on permanent residence?](#)
14. [When is it possible to apply for U.S. citizenship?](#)
15. [Can I appeal an I-829 denial to USCIS?](#)

EB-5 INVESTMENTS
THE EB-5 VISA INVESTMENT MARKETPLACE

ABOUT EB-5 VISA PROJECTS REGIONAL CENTERS FIRMS PROFESSIONALS REPORTS LITIGATION MAPS QUESTIONS UPDATES EVENTS DUE DILIGENCE CONTACT SIGN IN SIGN UP

August 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------|-----|----------|---------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| | | Webinars | City Of | Banking | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 4th Annual Calif | | | The Re | | | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | | | | EB-5 in | | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | USCIS | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | | | | EB-5 Investors S | EB-5 Investors S | |
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Quick Filter

City:

Country:

Search

EB-5 Visa Events

- AUG 02** **4th Annual California EB-5 Conference**
Hyatt Regency Century Plaza, 2025 Avenue of the Stars | Los Angeles, California, United States
Price: \$900
4th Annual California EB-5 Conference With Keynote Speaker House Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte EB5 Investors Magazine welcomes returning Keynote Speaker and House Judiciary Chairman Congressman Bob Goodlatte to the 4th Annual California EB...
- AUG 06** **BISNOW** **The Real Estate Money Machine: Chicago's Capital Markets Power Brokers**
401 N Wabash Ave Chicago, IL 60611, Chicago, US
Price: \$85
- AUG 13** **EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program: Stakeholder Engagement from Los Angeles**
USCIS District Office, Los Angeles, CA, Los Angeles, US
Price: Free
- AUG 20** **USCIS EB-5 Adjudication Trends: I-526/I-829 Petitions & I-924 Applications**
Washington, DC 20001, US
Price: \$100
With investor demand reaching heights not seen before in 24-year history of the EB-5 Program, IIUSA has observed multi-year trends that shed light on new realities facing EB-5 stakeholders and how investor petitions are adjudicated by U.S. Citizen...
- AUG 27** **EB-5 Investors Summit: Representing EB-5 Investors & Regional Centers**
The Venetian Resort Hotel Casino 3355 Las Vegas Boulevard South Las Vegas, NV, Las Vegas, US
Price: \$935
EB-5 Investors Summit: Representing EB-5 Investors & Regional Centers Two Days of Introductory and Advanced Content The EB-5 immigrant visa program was created to attract immigrant investors to invest capital, create jobs, and stimulate th...

Waiting for eb5projects.com... **EB-5 Investors Summit: Representing EB-5 Investors & Regional Centers** [Leave a message](#)

U.S. REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE & FORUM IN SHANGHAI



EXPANDING YOUR BUSINESS GLOBALLY



THE REAL ESTATE PRIVATE EQUITY SENIOR HOUSING



THE EB-5 INVESTMENT VISA



EB-5 INTERACTIVE SERIES



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

THE CITY OF MIAMI EB-5 REGIONAL CENTER PRESENTS OUR FIRST HANDS-ON WORKSHOP



Office of International Business Development

EB-5 LITIGATION: STRATEGIES & TRENDS



| ID | Plaintiffs | Defendants | Filing Date | Jurisdiction | Status | Causes of Action | Description | Attorneys, Regional Centers & Firms | Views |
|----|--------------------------|---|------------------|--|---------|------------------------|---|--|-------|
| 20 | AWA LLC Mehrdad Elle | U.S. Immigration Investment Center LLC U.S. Immigration Investment Center LLC USIIC LLP USIIC ILP Mahnaz Khazen and Michael Shadman | July 27, 2015 | Federal District Court for the Northern District of California | Pending | Securities Violations | In approximately October 2010, Elle sought to invest in a bank located in Washington, D.C. that was in jeopardy of failing due to a diminution in the value of the Bank's total assets. Several other... Documents: 1 | U.S. Immigration Investment Center LLC | 33 |
| 19 | Darley International LLC | South Dakota International Business Institute (SDIBI) | October 06, 2014 | Federal District Court for the Central District of California | Pending | Retaliation | The South Dakota Board of Regents said Friday that a California arbitrator has denied its attempt to recover attorney fees and costs in a lawsuit related to the state's EB-5 investment-for-green... Documents: 1 Posts: 1 | | 27 |
| 18 | USA Access the USA, LLC | Citi Group Inc. J.P. Morgan Securities Merrill Lynch Washington State | May 26, 2015 | Federal District Court for the Western District of Washington | Pending | Due process violations | An investment firm specializing in helping wealthy foreigners buy into American public projects to secure green cards has sued Washington state claiming Chinese investors were unfairly cut out of... Posts: 2 | | 61 |

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION VS. PATH AMERICA



Since February 2012, defendants Lobsang Dargey; Path America, LLC; Path America SnoCo LLC; Path America Farmer's Market, LP; Path America KingCo LLC; Path America Tower, LP; Path Tower Seattle, LP; and Potala Tower Seattle, LLC (collectively, "Defendants") have exploited a federal visa program to defraud investors seeking investment returns and a path to United States residency. To date, Defendants have fraudulently raised at least \$125 million through their sales of securities to 250 investors and collected at least \$11 million in additional fees.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS. STEPHEN YOUNG KANG



Over at least the past four years, federal investigators say Stephen Young Kang took millions of dollars from Korean clients who asked him to invest their money and instead used it for his own expenses or paid other victims in a Ponzi-like scam stretching from Orange County, Calif., to Houston.

ALLEN YOUNG VS. SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL CENTER



The owner of the iconic Tribune Tower and several other downtown Oakland office buildings is facing a lawsuit from a business partner accusing him of diverting funds from their enterprise to help amass his growing real estate portfolio.

EB-5 INVESTMENTS

THE EB-5 VISA INVESTMENT MARKETPLACE

*"The Source for Information on EB-5 Visa Investments.
Inform your clients, protect your practice."*

GLOBAL WEBCASTS OF EB-5 PROJECTS • SEPT: NYC • OCT: LA • NOV: MIA

Studio interviews & on-site project visits broadcast globally to inform & educate qualified investors, attorneys & advisors on EB-5 investment opportunities in compliance with U.S. securities laws & regulations.



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