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NOVEMBER 2015

SECURITIES AND
EXCHANGE COMMISSION
V. ROBERT YANG,
CLAUDIA KANO, SUNCOR
FONTANA, LLC, SUNCOR
HESPERIA, LLC, SUNCOR
CARE LYNWOOD, LLC

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CHINESE DEVELOPER PROPOSES
SEEKING \$350M IN EB-5 FUNDS
TO BUILD MIAMI'S BRICKNELL
TOWERS Page 09



RECEIVER IN DARGEY CASE SAYS PATH AMERICA'S FINANCES A MESS Page 10





The Securities and Exchange Commission today announced an asset freeze obtained against two people in San Bernardino, California accused of defrauding Chinese investors who invested in their related companies in an effort to obtain U.S. residency through the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program. The EB-5 program provides a method to obtain visas by investing \$1 million, or at least \$500,000 in an area designated as rural or high unemployment, and which creates or preserves at least ten jobs for U.S.

NBA TEAM COURTS CHINESE INVESTORS FOR NEW ARENA

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Verification and Due Diligence to help make the SAFEST PROJECT SELECTION and to keep clients

informed on the Development and Operation of the Asset from Subscription until Exit



Puerto Rico is caught between a rock and a hard place



Puerto Rico has a debt deadline Dec. 1st that it might not be able to meet.

Puerto Rican government officials don't think the commonwealth can make the payment of \$354 million, because it needs

the money to keep vital institutions like schools and government agencies running.

Over the past year, Puerto Rico has been no stranger to dealing with creditors. The island defaulted on a debt payment of almost \$60 million in August. That marked the first default in the island's history. That was bad. Ted Hampton, Credit Officer at Moody's, said missing this deadline could be worse. (Read more)

Limiting Securities Litigation Risks in EB-5 Offerings: What Regional Centers and Issuers Need to Know

The flurry of federal suits filed by the <u>U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)</u> in the past few months against several companies and individuals for alleged fraud and false statements in soliciting foreign investors under the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program shows that the government is taking a tougher approach to enforcement in the EB-5 space. Recent SEC suits include SEC v. <u>Luca International Group, LLC</u>, SEC v. <u>Path America, LLC</u>, SEC v. EB5 Asset Manager, LLC and SEC v. <u>Robert Yang</u> et al. Although the SEC's complaints in these cases describe extreme situations involving the defendants' misuse of investor funds to fund their own personal purchases, the securities laws invoked by the SEC have broad coverage

and can be used to sanction less egregious conduct. Indeed, in some cases merely negligent misstatements to investors can trigger liability. (Read more)



Related stories:

- EB-5 Visa Due Diligence Best Practices & Challenges
- Questions EB-5 Regional Centers Should Be Asking When Purchasing D&O Coverage
- United States: EB-5 Immigration Investment Projects and Effective Due Diligence Strategy for Wealthy Investors
- EB-5 Due Diligence Matters: Industry at Point Of Inflection Regarding Securities Compliance

Popular Senior Housing Investment **Program Faces Uncertain Future**



A popular financing program is under fire as Related stories: a Congressional deadline looms. Lawmakers could extend the EB-5 investment and visa program or enact changes that could make it more difficult for U.S. developers to fund projects, including in senior housing.

The EB-5 Regional Center Program allows foreign citizens to qualify for a U.S. residency visa if they make a significant development investment of at least \$500,000 for a project that creates or preserves at least 10 jobs for U.S. workers. The program has become increasingly popular over the years in senior housing as well as for other types of projects, with many aimed at targeted employment areas (TEA), where unemployment rates are significantly higher than the national average. (Read more)

- IIUSA Submits Comments on EB-5 Reauthorization Legislation
- Congress remains quiet about eb-5 discussion draft
- EB-5 industry seeks reauthorization and measures to enhance program integrity
- Statement of Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee, On the Need to Reform the EB-5 Regional Center Program
- The Draft EB-5 Bill: The Good News and the Bad News
- Real Estate and Green Cards: EB-5 Debate Heats Up in Washington
- Feinstein Calls for End to Controversial EB-5 Immigration Program
- Summary of Industry-Supported Reforms to the EB-5 Program

Securities and Exchange Commission v. Robert Yang, Claudia Kano, Suncor Fontana, LLC, Suncor Hesperia, LLC, Suncor Care Lynwood, LLC

Securities and Exchange Commission today Related story: EB-5 Gets another Black Eye announced an asset freeze obtained against two people in Maybe Two of Them San Bernardino, California accused of defrauding Chinese investors who invested in their related companies in an effort to obtain U.S. residency through the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program. The EB-5 program provides a method to obtain visas by investing \$1 million, or at least \$500,000 in an area designated as rural or high unemployment, and which creates or preserves at least ten jobs for U.S. workers. (Read more)



Walton Westphalia Development Corporation Reports Third Quarter 2015 Fiscal Results



Walton Westphalia Development Corporation (the "Corporation") announced today its results for the third quarter of 2015. Launched in March 2012, the Corporation was formed to provide investors with the opportunity to participate in the acquisition and development of the 310-acre Westphalia Property (the "Property") located in Prince George's County, Maryland, United States of America. (Read more)



Funding delays movie theatre project



for a new movie theatre for Marion that would have at least six "stateof-the-art" screens combined with a family entertainment center featuring bowling, an arcade and an eatery. It would be located next to Big Lots in

the empty portion of the old Walmart building.

One year ago, plans were unveiled Since that announcement, the much-anticipated theatre has not yet become a reality and many local residents have wondered whether it will happen at all. But the developer hired by the city of Marion and McDowell County to work on this project said recently it is still moving forward. (Read more)

Hard Rock Hotel planned near Falcons' Mercedes-Benz Stadium

The famous three-pointed star adorns this rendering of the new Mercedes-Benz Stadium, which will be the \$1.4 billion home of the Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta United.

Perhaps the second time will be the charm for a Hard Rock Hotel near downtown Atlanta.

Hard Rock International and the city of Atlanta announced plans

Monday for a 220-room hotel near the new Atlanta Falcons stadium in the Castleberry Hill neighborhood. It will rise along Centennial Olympic Park Drive. The developer is firm called Bolton Atlanta LP. (Read more)

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Feds outline City Center developer Zhong's alleged lavish lifestyle, lies to victims

The federal investment-fraud case against absentee Related stories: City Center developer Lily Zhong exposes how the businesswoman allegedly preyed upon Chinese citizens longing to live the American dream, according to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Zhong jetted across the globe in search of investors for her EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program, leaving behind a trail of failed projects, bankruptcy and receipts for ritzy gifts she bought for herself and to woo potential investors, according to the SEC, which has frozen Zhong's assets in connection with its Nov. 3 case. (Read more)

- SEC freezes assets of EB-5 Asset Manager LLC and Alleged Fraudster Lin Zhong
- Yet Another EB-5 Promoter Swindles Alien Investors, This Time in Florida
- Life is larger than Fiction in EB-5 Litigation: SEC Moves for Asset Freeze, Accounting, and Receiver Appointment in Civil Fraud Action in Florida

Capital Chat: Steve Klein of Gerson Preston



Klein, partner at Gerson Preston, explains what the upcoming Dec. 11 deadline means for the EB-5 program.

In this instalment of Capital Chat, Steve Capital Chat is a weekly column for Multi-Housing News and Commercial Property Executive in which top industry leaders give exclusive interviews where they share their insights on market trends, investment strategies and more. (Read more)

Global Future City Holding Inc. Appoints Ran Qi Jun as Marketing Director in Mainland China

The Board of Directors of Global Future City Holding Inc. China. We feel that the integration (OTCQB:FTCY) (the "Company") has appointed Ran Qi Jun as the Marketing Director of Mainland China to promote the multi-level marketing (MLM) business of its whollyowned subsidiary, GX-Life Global, Inc.

Ning Liu, CEO and President of the Company commented, "We are delighted that Ran Qi Jun has joined our team to help us quickly expand into the MLM market in Mainland of the GX-Coin digital security into our membership compensation plan will set us apart from other MLM businesses. With the help of Mr. Ran's expertise and contacts in the MLM business, we should be able to reach a wide range of audience in Mainland China at a rapid pace." (Read more)



Chicago's hotel sector is strong, Here's Why



ongoing hotel boom. And two panelists at Bisnow's Hospitality Boom? Chicago Hotel and Investment panel Dec. 10 at Trump Hotel are leading the way.

ECD Co and SMASH Hotels president Scott Greenberg (center, with Clark Hill's Don Schindler and Hotel Appraisers

Foreign capital is a major factor in Chicago's & Advisers' Hans Detlefsen) has found success lining up EB-5 investors for the Marriott Autograph in Streeterville. He set up GoUSA EB-5 Regional Center to access that funding pool, which can be difficult to do. It's helped Scott build direct relationships with Chinese and other foreign sources of capital, which he believes will be a key source of funding in the future. (Read more)

Senior Housing Finance Activity: Cushman & Wakefield, Ziegler

<u>Cushman & Wakefield</u> Arranges \$53.4 Million in The Residence at Vinnin Square in Construction Financing for LCB Senior Living Developments Swampscott, Massachusetts, will consist of 84 units for independent living, assisted

Cushman & Wakefield Senior Housing Capital Markets, a global real estate services firm, has arranged \$53.4 million loan in construction financing and joint venture equity for LCB Senior Living's two senior housing developments in Massachusetts.

The Residence at Vinnin Square in Swampscott, Massachusetts, will consist of 84 units for independent living, assisted living and memory care. The three-story building will be situated on a 3.1-acre site. (Read more)



NBA team courts Chinese investors for new arena



Sacramento Kings, a key Californiabased franchise in the US National Basketball Association's professional league, is courting Chinese investors for its Golden 1 Center mixed development plan. The project will have a new basketball arena, luxury retail, hospitality and residences. It will open in October 2016.

"This is the first time that an area combined with surrounding mixed-use development has been offered as a prime EB-5 investment opportunity," said <u>Ginny Fang</u>, CEO of <u>Golden Gate Global</u>. (Read more)

The Strange Tale of a Flaky, Failing EB-5 Firm

ldor Technok

We have previously reported that <u>Seldon Technologies</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, an EB-5-funded firm in Vermont that briefly made water filters for Mexico-based Bebederos, went out of business abruptly, laying off all of its 32 employees.

In June, Seldon had a grand ceremony with <u>Sen. Pat Leahy</u> (D-Vt.) present to announce that it had been awarded a \$20 million contract to make the filters for Bebederos. A

few months later, the contract was cancelled with minimal explanation.

CIS recently has learned more about Seldon, an odd and ill-fated corporation that was able to secure EB-5 funding anyway. (Read more)



Morrie Returns! Former USCIS Official-Turned-SDRC, Inc. Exec Surfaces in EB-5 Scandal Doc

Joop Bollen's response to the state's effort to hang him for the corruption of <u>South Dakota</u>'s EB-5 program draws <u>Maurice Berez</u> back into the public spotlight. In its response to the USCIS begging to keep South Dakota's EB-5 Regional Center status, the Governor's Office of

Economic Development includes the following e-mail from "Morrie"—Mr. Berez, that is:

Bollen or his lawyer Jeff Sveen appears to have stamped "CONFIDENTIAL" on Berez's e-mail; the state appears to disagree with that designation. (Read more)

SDRC alleges defamation, lost revenue in EB-5 suit response

A private firm that previously managed South Dakota's investment-for-visa program says the state defamed the company, caused it to lose revenue and interfered with its business relationships.

SDRC Inc., which oversaw the EB-5 visa program in South Dakota until 2013, filed a response last week to a state lawsuit, asked that the government's claims be denied and requested damages for the company. The state's October suit seeks records from SDRC and recovery of state costs, among other requirements. (Read more)

Related stories:

- Measures indicate concerns in S.D.
- Daugaard defends himself, Republican Party against corruption allegations
- Daugaard: EB-5 visa program a tool state should retain
- Petition Calls for SD Education Secretary Resignation
- OPINION: More Jobs Needed in the Right Places



Chinese developer proposes seeking \$350M in EB-5 funds to build Miami's Bricknell Towers



Tang Group, which are planning a nearly \$1 billion mixed-use development in Miami's Brickell area, will seek EB-5 funding to help build the project, an attorney linked to

the developers has announced. The EB-5 program allows foreign nationals who invest at least \$500,000 in projects that create at least 10 jobs to get on a fast track for U.S. residency.

China City Construction and American Da In October, Chun Wo Development acquired a 45 percent stake in the venture that owns the 2.78-acre site at 1420 S. Miami Ave. for \$40 million and said it has the potential for 3.2 million sq. ft. of development, South Florida Business Journal reports. The developers of the project, dubbed CCCC Miami Towers, have yet to announce the final square footage and height. (Read more)

> Related story: CCCC Miami Towers looks to EB-5 for development scratch

Still getting your **EB-5** project information this way?

CUT THROUGH THE CIRCUS PROMOTIONS, ADVERTISING HYPE AND GET TO THE FACTS.





New York Has More Hotel Rooms than Ever, but Industry Suffers



New York is one of the top global destinations for business There will be 31,000 new rooms coming online in New York and leisure travelers. And the city's hotel sector has been booming for years. However, too many hotel rooms coming online makes the business outlook gloomy, according to experts.

New York has been an attractive destination for hotel investors and developers in recent years. The city's hotel room inventory has increased by 60 percent in the last 10 years and currently stands at 115,000.

in the next few years according to Michael Meyer, president of F&T Group. This implies a more than 25 percent growth in room inventory. (Read more)

Related story: Real estate industry split over EB-5 funding program

Vertebral Technologies, Inc. raises \$3.5 million series B financing



InterFuse® technology

We believe VTI's modular technology has the potential to significantly disrupt the current spine market— Matt Kyle, CEOMINNEAPOLIS, MN,

New funds to support growth UNITED STATES, November 17, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ of minimally invasive modular -- Vertebral Technologies, Inc. (VTI), a differentiated spinal solutions company, today announced that it closed the first tranche of a \$3.5 million Series B financing utilizing the EB-5 immigrant investor program. Proceeds from the funding will provide growth capital for VTI's commercialization of its expandable, modular- interbody device suite designed to alleviate painful spine conditions. (Read more)

Mothballed resort to rise again on Saipan

An abandoned hotel resort on Saipan is expected to get a makeover that would help solve a dearth of hotel rooms on the island.

Bridge Capital LLC says it is planning to redevelop the mothballed Plumeria Resort property in Achugao and restore it to its former glory as an EB-5 project.

The EB-5 programme was created by Congress in 1990 to stimulate the US economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors. (Read



Related story: Bridge Capital, Greenland Group in talks to develop Plumeria hotel



Receiver in Dargey case says Path America's finances a mess

says it's difficult to know what happened to Path America investors' money because the money trail leads to <u>Dargey</u>

A court-appointed receiver Path America's finances and business affairs are so intertwined with other companies controlled by former CEO Lobsang Dargey that it's impossible right now to know exactly where investors' money went, a court-appointed receiver said Wednesday in his first report. (Read more)

Development and other closely related entities he doesn't control.

This is where rich Chinese like to invest in real estate

Wealthy Chinese have snapped up properties in Hong Kong over the past decade, marking their first foray into the overseas property market.

With many affluent Chinese families sending their children to universities overseas, buying property abroad is a sensible proposition.

US gateway cities with large Chinese populations are their favourite. (Read



New EB-5 Project in Miami, Florida: **Retirement Community**



population lives in Miami, Florida an unprecedented EB-5 project. The new retirement community project is opening the way for visas by foreign investors, as a way to gain permanent U.S. residency.

Reshaping the way, the retirement A state-of-the-art retirement community designed in the heart of the cultural heritage of Miami to meet the active lifestyle and healthcare needs of Dade and Broward County's aging population is a unique concept for this market, but that is what developer SR Healthcare Group intends for Biscayne Park Residence to be. The nearly 100,000-square-foot community, is estimated to cost \$40 million to build, is drawing interest from foreign investors through the EB-5 Immigration Visa program. (Read more)

RED Leads \$36.4M Construction Loan for Homestead Senior Living

RED Capital Partners LLC recently arranged a \$36.4 million first mortgage construction loan for Homestead Senior Living LLC. The balance of the capital stack was provided by an institutional private equity group and Regional Capital Group, which will provide EB-5 financing along with sponsor's equity.

The joint venture between Pike Senior Housing Partners LLC and Solvere Senior Living is set to develop the 195-unit Class A seniors housing community located in Hamilton.

Homestead Dubbed Hamilton, the community will include 96 independent living units, 75 assisted living units and 24 memory care units. (Read more)

Related story: Columbus' Red Capital Partners takes lead on \$36 million construction loan for seniors living facility



Vermonters Are Clever When It Comes to Immigration Rules

the immigration rules, Vermonters are clever, and/or lucky. This is the home state, after all, of the current ranking member and former chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.); that's the committee that South Dakota. (Read more) handles immigration matters.

When it comes to working with, or perhaps manipulating, We know that over the years Vermont has gotten quite substantial inputs of alien capital from the EB-5 immigrant investor program for its ski resorts, with a bare minimum of the scandals that beset that program elsewhere, such as in



I-829 success depends on tracking the flow of EB-5 funds

To ensure successful I-829 filing, EB-5 issuers should Related stories: establish procedures to track the flow of an EB-5 investor's funds throughout the entire EB-5 lifecycle - not just through the escrow account.

When an investor begins the EB-5 process, their funds are typically wired into a subscription escrow account, where they are then held until release conditions are met. (Read more)

- Company seeks to steer international investment to Texas
- Achieving a record of 100% I-829 approvals in multiple CMB EB-5 investment partnerships is no easy task.

Gerrymandering Alleged in **Investor Visas**

U.S. immigration agencies violate congressional intent foreigners by routinely issuing investor's visas to people who invest \$500,000 in rich areas rather than poor ones, the Texas nonprofit Urban Equality Now claims in court.

Urban Equality Now claims the Department of Homeland Security and <u>U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services</u> let

gerrymander bogus "targeted employment areas," to pump up their unemployment rates by using phony statistics, sometimes from 200 miles away. (Read more)



Trump could be YMCA pool lifesaver



I was shocked to read of the YMCA's application for EB-5 Foreign Investments [Wellmark YMCA donors irked by pool delay, Nov. 11], a controversial and complex program supported by Sen. Charles Grassley that will provide U.S. immigration papers to wealthy donors to U.S. job-producing projects such as the YMCA's new swimming pool. It appears Des Moines has reached its max in donations for the pool. Suddenly I can

visualize the wall espoused by Donald Trump, with doors that can only be accessed by those with a golden key.

Donald Trump constantly rails against foreign investments and easy entrance through borders and voices support for job-producing projects. (Read more)

Small firm took on big one and won

Trademark battles can be tough for little companies, but a Bellingham woman just beat apparel giant Nautica thanks to some East Coast law students. Also: Chinese investor left in dire straits after Path America deal, and Mercer Island home prices aren't quite in the U.S. top 20.

It isn't often that small, local companies go up against a nationally known brand and come out on top. But that's what happened recently when the federal Trademark Trial and Appeal Board ruled in favour of Bellingham-based NautiGirl in a



case brought by apparel giant Nautica. (Read more)

Finance pro sues partner for \$11 million; says stole idea for products aimed at foreign EB-5 investors, locked him out of company



sour over the summer and has landed the opposing parties in court with potentially \$11 million at stake.

A partnership that started in April turned Gregory Palivos filed a complaint Nov. 9 against Kyle Rolek, individually and as an agent of Rolek Advisory, in Cook County Circuit Court, alleging six different types of misconduct and seeking actual, exemplary and punitive damages of at least \$11 million. (Read more)

Citizenship Shopping for Affluent Investors

wealthy individuals are looking around the globe for a "home" that will give them better passports and tax treatment. Can anyone become Canadian? Irish? Maltese? If you deal with high-net-worth clients, you'll need to understand the issues involved.

Citizenship shopping is a growing trend. Many The motives for seeking citizenship can be complex. They include a wish for political safety, freedom of travel, a healthy environment, tolerance, work opportunities and, of course, lower taxes. (Read more)



Related story: Why Split Hairs Over a Viable **Economic Development Program?**



Milk producer buys Tulare County cheese plant

Bay Area developer Tom works Henderson immigrant investors, including those from China who seek to buy into U.S.

businesses. Many are ready to put at least \$500,000 to help create jobs in low-income urban areas or rural areas like Tulare County.

Henderson and partners in the dairy business have purchased the vacant Mozzarella Fresca cheese plant in Tipton in a deal that closed this month. The facility has been shut down since 2013.

Henderson's company Crystal Garden plans to produce dairy products but not cheese, since that was part of the agreement with Lactalis America who owned the 51,000 square-foot building. (Read more)

IIUSA Successfully Hosts its 5th Annual EB-5 Market Exchange in Dallas, Texas

Invest in the USA (IIUSA), the national not-for-profit industry discussions on topics ranging trade association for the EB-5 Regional Center Program (the "Program"), hosted its 5th annual EB-5 Market Exchange from October 21-23 in Dallas, Texas. IIUSA's Market Exchange is the EB-5 industry's most comprehensive conference for educational and business development.

In record-breaking numbers, this year's Market Exchange hosted approximately 600 registrants, 53 exhibitors, and 61 sponsors. The conference agenda featured 20 panel from recent SEC actions, to diversification public-private-partnerships as well as important legislative updates from the IIUSA government affairs team and members of the organization's Public Policy Committee. (Read more)



Bright, But Uncertain **Future for NEK Airport**

airport. A runway extension in Coventry could increase economic development in the Northeast Kingdom. But while the future looks bright, there is some uncertainty.

Improvements for another Vermont "We've got the first couple rungs to this really tall ladder, and it's exciting to me, because it's one of the biggest rungs," said Guy Rouelle, Vermont's Aviation Administrator. That first rung, adding a thousand feet onto the runway to the newly named Northeast Kingdom International Airport. (Read more)





Northeast kingdom international airport runway christened

partners and several state leaders cut the ribbon on a 1,000foot runway extension at the newly renamed Northeast Kingdom International Airport on Thursday.

It was raining and windy when Bill Stenger, his business Members of Gov. Peter Shumlin's cabinet sent representatives, as did Vermont's congressional delegation. Legislators from the Newport area came to hear about the 100 jobs that could be created once the airport expands. Private aviators who use the airport were very happy. (Read

> Related story: Stenger Says Refund for Disqualified Investor is on the Way

Florida East Coast Realty's Landmark Tower, Currently Under Construction in Downtown, Is the First Project in the Regional Center Open to Receiving Investor Applications

Announced last year as the City of Miami EB-5 Regional When complete, Panorama Center's first EB-5 designated development, the 83-story Panorama Tower currently under construction in Downtown is now officially open to receiving applications from potential investors looking to participate in the City of Miami's EB-5 program. Panorama Tower is now ready to launch a private placement offering to qualified foreign investors in compliance with all applicable U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules and regulations.

Tower will be the tallest building in the State of Florida and the tallest residential building on the eastern seaboard south of New York. The project, from well-known developer Florida East Coast Realty, LLC (FECR), is located at 1101 Brickell Avenue on



the largest parcel of property in the heart of Brickell. (Read more)



Palm Desert breaks ground on \$36M hotel on El Paseo

Construction is about to begin on Hotel Paseo, Palm Desert's newest hotel and the first for its signature shopping district.

City officials – including all five council members – were joined by business owners and others at the ceremonial

Construction is about to groundbreaking for the 150-room, three-story Hotel Paseo begin on Hotel Paseo, on Friday morning.

The hotel is unique not only to El Paseo, but the city overall.

While operating under the Marriott brand, its features will set it apart from any other hotels, said Robert Leach, codeveloper of the hotel with Dave Worlow. (Read more)

Strong Commercial Real Estate Market Conditions Expected to Stabilize; Concerns over Interest Rates & Global Volatility

Commercial real estate executives forecast that asset values and capital availability will stabilize over the next year, leading to more measured market conditions, according to The Real Estate Roundtable's latest quarterly "Sentiment Index" released today.

"Responses to our Q4 2015 Sentiment Survey show that commercial real estate fundamentals continue to be strong, driven by robust demand across most major markets and asset classes. Concerns with appreciation in CRE asset values over the next year center on the timing and pace of interest rate changes, and international volatility. However,

some survey respondents also note that international volatility might create more demand for safe haven assets like US CRE, thus continuing to push values forward and a slow, measured rate increase could be very positive longer term for the US economy," said Roundtable CEO and

President Jeffrey D. DeBoer." (Read more)





Akerman Revenue Grows by 4 %, Profit by 8%

Akerman reports a solid year with a 4 percent rise in gross revenue to \$337 million and an 8 percent boost in net income to \$130 million.

reports While not as strong as the previous year's revenue growth ar with rate of 9 percent, the gain reflects a fifth year of growth and rise in a return to pre-recession levels.

The firm's attorney headcount rose to an all-time high of 620 lawyers and 20 lobbyists in 20 U.S. offices in the fiscal year ended Oct. 31. Akerman hasn't determined the full-time equivalents figure, but it reported 548 FTEs in its 2014 Am Law 100 survey. (Read more)

La Moda (Gale) Eb-5 Investment \$16.00 million Financing. Daniel Teng Submitted Nov 4 Form D

La Moda (Gale) Eb-5 Investment LP, Limited Partnership La just had published form D because of \$16.00 million equity financing. The date of first sale was 2014-09-26. La Moda (Gale) Eb-5 Investment was able to fundraise \$7.50 million so far. That is 46.88 % of the round of financing. The total private offering amount was \$16.00 million. The financing document was filed on 2015-11-04. The reason for the financing was: Finders' fees paid to Chinese immigration agents/agencies in China. The fundraising still has about \$8.50 million more and is not closed yet. We have to wait more to see if the offering will be fully taken.

La Moda (Gale) Eb-5 Investment is based in

California. The filler's business is Commercial. The form was submitted by Daniel Teng Manager, GP of Applicant. The company was incorporated in 2014. The filler's address is: 17961 Gale Avenue, Industry, Ca, California, 91748. Daniel Teng is the related person in the form and it has address: 18555 Fieldbrook St., Rowland Heights, Ca, California, 91748. Link to La Moda (Gale) Eb-5 Investment Filing: 000162188515000001. (Read more)

Don't End Up on a USCIS List of Terminated EB-5 Regional Centers: Be Creative and on Time with your I-924A Filing



<u>USCIS</u> updated its online list of terminated EB-5 regional centers on October 22, 2015. In the coming two months, regional centers are required to comply with the requirement to file their Forms I-924A in order to update USCIS on relevant job creating activity over the past year. We expect that USCIS will terminate more regional centers in the next six months where there are credibility issues over data supplied by regional centers in these filings, or

where regional centers simply fail to update the agency through filing a Form I-924A. It would be fully within the realm of reasonable expectations to see at least 100 or more terminations initiated within the coming year. As USCIS uses more resources to tighten up administration of the EB-5 regional center program, and with lawmakers looking closely at the program, dormant or non-compliant regional centers may find their designations revoked. (Read more)

It's Time for USCIS to Issue New Source of Funds Guidance — but until Then, Here's What Investors Can Do



On May 30, 2013, following months of discussions, stakeholder comment, and even federal court litigation, <u>USCIS</u> finally issued its much-anticipated Final EB-5 Adjudications Policy Memorandum. The May 30th Memo sets forth an accepted framework for Regional Centers and Investors alike regarding topics such as amendments, escrow, bridge financing, states' TEA designations, and

material changes to the I-526 business plan at the time of condition removal. Yet, the May 30th Memo was largely silent on perhaps the most central and time consuming issue for most EB-5 investors: guidance on source of funds.

Determining what constitutes an acceptable EB-5 source of funds (and even more so, what documents are needed to carry the day) can be quite challenging for investors and their attorneys. The regulations provide that capital investments acquired "directly or indirectly by unlawful means (such as criminal activities)" are not qualifying. (Read more)



Chinese Developer Eyes U Village-Like Project for Tacoma

two years, Tacoma officials think they've found the man to develop a big downtown property by the University of Washington's branch campus.

After looking for more than His name is Xunkun Luo, and he is proposing a mixed-use project that could cost up to \$135 million. City officials describe it as a town center development modelled after Seattle's University Village. Luo's China-based company plans to build approximately 370 apartments, up to 200,000 square feet of retail and about half that amount of office space. The buildings could be up to 10 stories tall. (Read more)

Exclusive New Details Revealed For First Micro-Condo Project in Houston

Novel Creative Development LLC has revealed new details for Ivy Lofts, the first "micro-unit" condominium project in Houston.

The Houston developer plans to build the 24-story, 550-unit project on a 1.4-acre city block, bounded by Leeland Avenue, Nagle Street, Pease Avenue and Live Oak Street in East Downtown. The land, which formerly housed a Vietnamese grocery store, was purchased in November 2014 for a little less than \$3 million. (Read more)





Downtown Hotel Plan Raises Concern from Condo Residents

Residents of Two City Plaza are resting easier. When they got wind that the city commission

was about to approve a 14-story hotel next to their 22-story condo at 701 S. Olive Ave. downtown, they fired off angry calls and emails to the mayor and commissioners and girded for battle.

But by Tuesday, West Palm Beach officials had reassured them there'd be no instant approval, that by the time the proposal for a Canopy by Hilton luxury hotel gets vetted by various committees, neighbours will have had two or three months to raise objections and press for design changes. (Read more)

Wanted: Immigrant Funds to Build Final World Trade Center Tower

Silverstein Properties markets EB-5 visa program in China, Silverstein Properties Inc. recently aiming to raise about \$500 million

A rendering of 2 World Trade Center. Silverstein Properties' goal is to raise about \$500 million in low-cost financing to construct the lower Manhattan tower.

To help finance construction of the final office tower to go up at the World Trade Center site, its developer is turning to aspiring immigrants.

began a marketing push in China seeking investors to put in \$500,000 apiece for 2 World Trade Center through the federal EB-5 visa program, which gives green cards to foreigners who invest in certain jobcreating businesses. (Read more)





Selecting the Best Geographic & Demographic Area to Introduce an EB-5 Project

contradictions of China's rapid growth under the auspices of the Communist Party has been the rapid emergence of private wealth."

"China's overall individual investable assets totalled RMB 62 trillion [\$10.212 trillion] in 2010, a 19 percent increase from

"One of the most fascinating 2009. By the end of 2010, there were 500,000 Chinese high net-worth individuals, with at least RMB 10 million [\$1.647 million] in investible assets. Average investible assets per capita were approximately RMB 30 million. Aggregate investible assets for all high net-worth individuals equalled RMB 15 trillion [\$2.470 trillion]. (Read more)

International Trade Center Could Bring the World to North Las Vegas

International trade centers typically don't come with center and a gas station on taglines that describe them as "quirky." But if North Las Vegas has its way, Huanghai won't be a typical international trade center.

Depending on the number of foreign investors it attracts, Huanghai could be a \$125 million project, with 264 units that are part showroom, part apartment, plus 120 hotel rooms, four restaurants, two office buildings, a convention

what is now an empty 35acre parcel in the middle of an industrial part of town. Its current neighbors: Republic Services and a rock-crushing operation. (Read more)

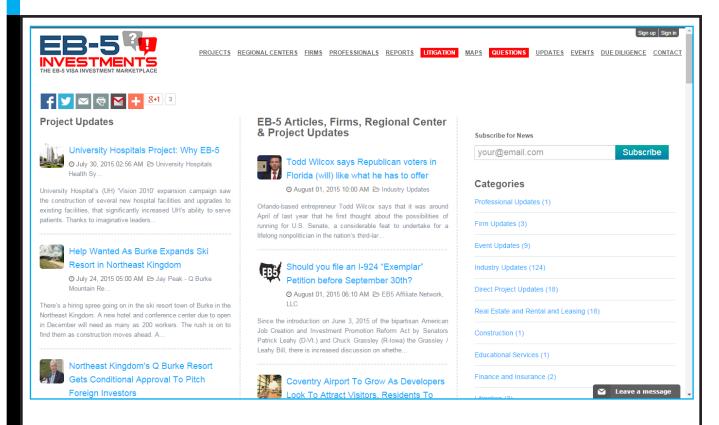




City Connections Gets Green ight for EB-5 Regional Center

Connections scored approval to open an EB-5 regional center, becoming the first residential brokerage to do so.

Realty The new designation means that the 100-agent firm led by Dave Schlamm can sponsor EB-5 investors who invest \$500,000 in the American economy and in exchange receive a green card. City Connections' geographic reach will extend to development projects throughout New York State, as well as Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. (Read more)



Doctor Accused of Misappropriating \$10 Million in Immigrant Investor Funds

SEC to freeze assets after allegations that an Inland physician and partner'siphoned off' \$10 million from Chinese investors seeking a green card.

Federal authorities are seeking to freeze the assets of a San Bernardino doctor and office manager accused of illegally diverting half of \$20 million they raised from Chinese investors hoping to qualify for an immigration program.

In a Nov. 19 filing in Riverside federal court, the Securities and Exchange Commission states that Dr. Robert Yang, 45, of Redlands and the administrative manager of his medical practice, 45-year-old Claudia Kano of Pomona, secured funds from 40 investors hoping to immigrate to the U.S. (Read more)

PhoenixMart Reclaims Servers Seized By FBI

AZ Sourcing has gone to court to get back six network Related Stories: servers seized by the FBI last week.

The Phoenix Business Journal reported that PhoenixMart's parent company filed an emergency motion to get back the servers one day after FBI agents searched its offices in Scottsdale and Casa Grande.

An FBI spokesman said it is routine procedure for agents to take that type of technology during a search. When servers contain an excess amount of data, it may take agents a few days to image all the necessary items for forensic analysis. (Read more)

- EXCLUSIVE: Chinese News Media Say PhoenixMart Misled China Investors
- PhoenixMart's \$10 Million Sewer Line: City Has spent \$172K on Project
- EXCLUSIVE: PhoenixMart: 'We're Open for **Business As Usual' On Friday**



KeyBank Unsure How Long It Will Occupy New Office at 250 Delaware



into their new administrative office in downtown Buffalo, but how long they will actually stay there is anyone's

KeyBank N.A. employees are settling The bank has a 15-year lease at the 250 Delaware Building, but the 12,000-square-foot space on the sixth floor won't be large enough for the No. 3 largest bank in Western New York when parent company KeyCorp (NYSE: KEY) purchases Buffalo-based First Niagara Financial Group Inc. (Read more)

Link to Project Video

English, Chinese Subtitle: https://vimeo.com/146435444

(Read more)



Lucky Dragon Hotel & Casino Needs \$25 Million to Make August 2016 Debut



them millions.

The North Strip's Lucky Dragon Hotel & Casino is rising rapidly, but the owners say they need a new multi-million injection of cash if they are going to meet their projected opening date, now revealed to be August 2016.

Operators Las Vegas Economic Impact Regional Center and Lucky Dragon LP have formally approached the City of Las Vegas for "tax increment financing," or TIF assistance, to

The Asian-themed resort wants Las Vegas to loan help fund the last steps to completion. If they can raise an additional \$25 million, the First Foundation Bank will float them the final \$30 million necessary to finish construction. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- City Of Las Vegas Declines to Help Lucky Dragon Casino
- Casino Presses Its Luck with Tax Financing Plan

Construction Update

Yesterday the contractors completed placing metal sheeting on all four sides of the property line. Now that the sheeting is in, we can now safely remove the soil to build the basement of the hotel. (Read more)





Inside Look At Marriott Autograph Hotel Collections

Link: http://www.autograph-hotels.marriott.com/tagged/lnsideLook (Read more)

Green Card Investment 'Loophole' Saves Sugarbush



The EB-5 Visa provides a method of obtaining a green card for foreign nationals who invest money in the United States. To obtain the visa, individuals must invest \$1,000,000 in normal circumstances or at least \$500,000 in a Targeted Employment Area (a high unemployment or rural area), creating or preserving at least 10 jobs for U.S. workers excluding the investor and their immediate family. -U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The controversial program has provided Sugarbush resorts with \$20m needed to finish a series of planned refurbishments. 40 investors from Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia were required (at \$500k per investor) to raise the sum, of whom the 18 who meet the minimum 5-year EB-5 investment requirement and have already accepted a cash/ real estate deal by Sugarbush as repayment/exited the program. (Read more)



Q Burke Contractor Threatens To Walk Off Job Blames State

The general contractor for an EB-5 funded hotel and crossfire between the project's developers and state conference center development at Q Burke Resort says the state is holding up payments for completed work.

The general contractor in charge of building a resort hotel in the Northeast Kingdom said he's caught in the

regulators, resulting in payment delays that might force him to abandon the \$120 million project. Jerry Davis, president of PeakCM, the construction firm managing the 180,000-square-foot development at Q Burke Resort, blames the state. (Read more)

New Coliseum Czar Should Come To Nassau

the New York Islanders and the Toronto Maple Leafs on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014, in Uniondale.

Thursday, officials will -- finally -- break ground on the longawaited renovation of the Nassau Coliseum. But even as

A general view of Nassau Coliseum before a game between the work begins, the persistent and complex questions about this project are unending. Who exactly is the county doing business with? And as the players change, what will it mean for the Coliseum and its surrounding property? (Read more)

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

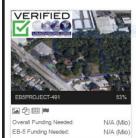
HARD TO TELL FACT FROM FICTION?





INVEST DIRECTLY -> NO COMMISSIONS OR FINDER'S FEES ON SELECT VERIFIED PROJECTS

Accredited investors can subscribe to VERIFIED projects directly without needing to go through an agent or finder saving thousands of dollars in unnecessary commissions











The Source for Information on EB-5 Visa Investments

Verification and Due Diligence to help make the SAFEST PROJECT SELECTION and to keep clients

informed on the Development and Operation of the Asset from Subscription until Exit

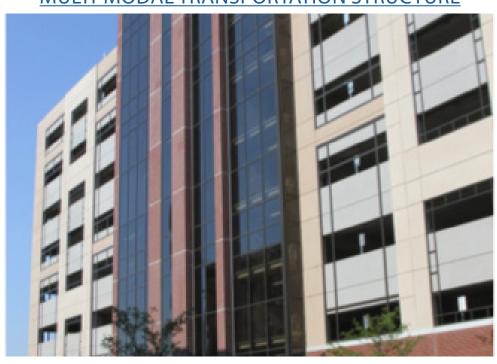
LE JARDIN HOUSE



GATES VASCULAR INSTITUTE



MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION STRUCTURE



HEALTH SCIENCES CHARTER SCHOOL



250 DELAWARE AVENUE



HAPPY HOLLOW CHARTER SCHOOL PALM BEACH



SPECTRUM FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER



SELDON TECHNOLOGIES



BISCAYNE PARK RESIDENCY

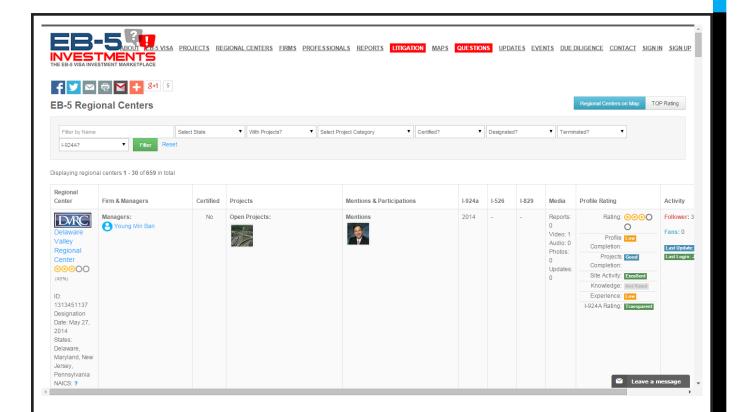


GREAT AMERICAN DINER RESTAURANTS



WOODVILLE TX SAW MILL





Amaxi Regional Center, LLC



City Connections Regional Center LLC



MCFI Southern California / Arizona



Invest CNMI, LLC



American EB-5 Properties Regional Center, LLC



Ashcroft/Sullivan/Baybridge Mid-Atlantic <u>Economic Development Center</u>





Oklahoma State Regional Center, LLC



Baypointe EB5 Regional

BayPointe EB-5 Regional Center

Nature All Co., Inc. EB-5 Regional Center



Queensfort Capital Massachusetts Regional
Center, LLC



Civitas Alabama Regional Center



ARC Atlantic Regional Center, LLC



Lexin New York Regional Center



Good Life EB5 Georgia Regional Center, LLC

GOOD LIFE EB5 ADVISORS LLC

American Dream Fund Hawaii Regional Center, LLC

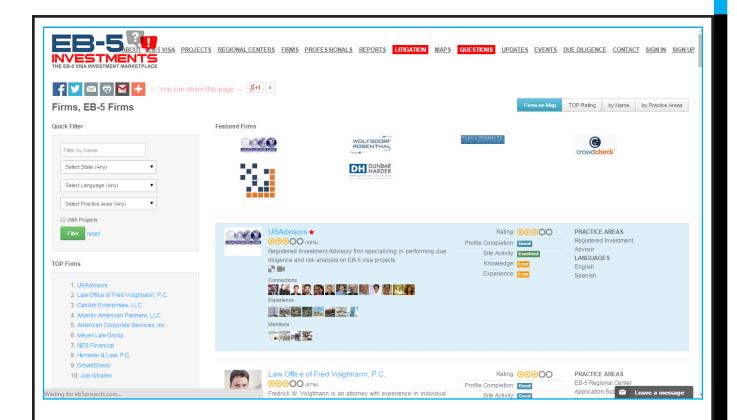


EB5 Affiliate Network State of Illinois Regional Center, LLC



EB5 Florida Real Estate Regional Center, LLC

EB5 FLORIDA REAL ESTATE REGIONAL CENTER



Yu, South & Associates, PLLC.



CAN-ACHIEVE EDUCATION



Kennedy&Mohn, P.S.

Clarity Development Company





AsiaWise

Austar Group Ltd





AOHUAVISA

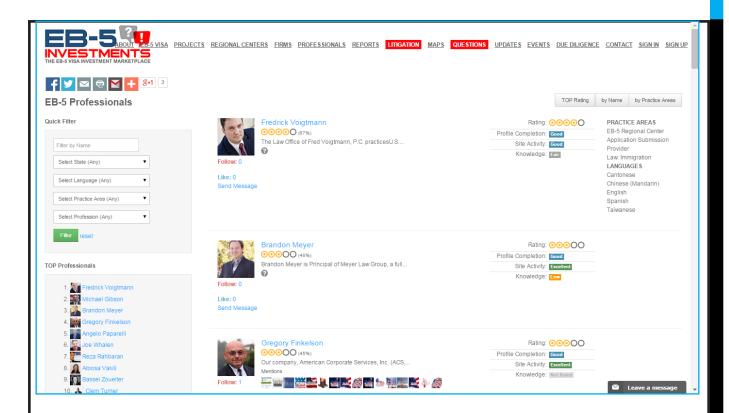


Qingdao Jiahe Consulting Services Co. Ltd.



Huiji Capital





David J. Studdert



Michael Lepore



Rudy Vetter



Mike Carroll



Girish Patel



Scott Wagner



Steven L. Willobee



<u>Jamie L. Salvetti</u>

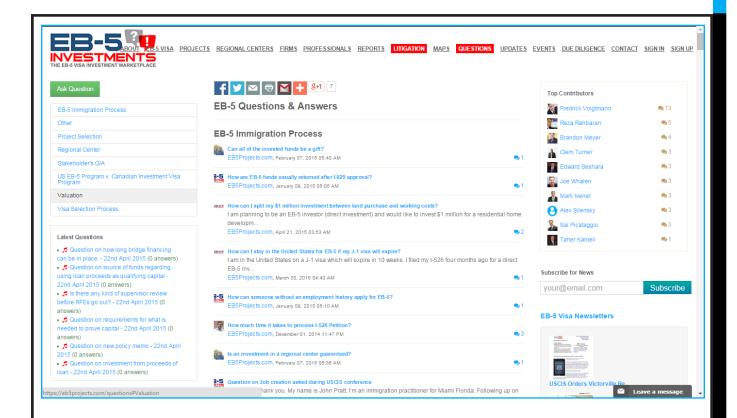


Stephen Strnisha

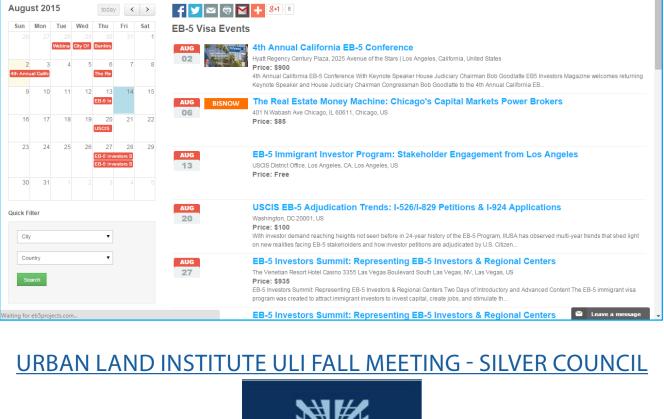


Caroline Andersen





- 1. Can a single family housing development of 100 to 140 homes qualify for an EB 5 Investment?
- 2. Are there any applications that are non-infrastructure or real estate related? 3rd April, 2013
- 3. As an overseas agent/broker to what extent is one allowed to have an office to conduct operations in the US
- 4. As long as the business plan and economic report doesn't change when filing 526 but there are changes in security offering documents, will the USCIS defer to the already approved exemplar business plan and economic report?
- 5. Can the jobs created out of bridge finance be applied to I 526 to be filed? 26th Feb 2014
- 6. <u>Do the counties in Hawaii contiguous to each other but separated by water be considered contiguous with respect to Regional Center geographic area</u>
- 7. <u>Is it possible when you indicate processing times with respect to I 924 to differentiate between hypothetical, actual, exemplar and 924-A amendments?</u>
- 8. <u>Guidance requested for RCs looking to sponsor projects outside their geographical area without amendment</u>
- 9. How can a conditional legal permanent resident apply for adjustment status?
- 10. How far back one needs to go back to prove the lawful source of funds?
- 11. <u>Is it possible for an EB-5 investor to fulfill their job creation requirement if the project's construction has been completed prior to the day I 829 is filed?</u>
- 12. Comment regarding the credibility of EB-5 program and processing time
- 13. Question about action taken when Securities law violation is found in a Regional Center
- 14. Question about efficiency with regard to I 526 adjudication process
- 15. Question about investment company Act, safe harbor issue, Reg S and Reg D



VISA PROJECTS REGIONALCENTERS FIRMS PROFESSIONALS REPORTS LITIGATION MAPS QUESTIONS UPDATES EVENTS DUEDILIGENCE CONTACT SIGN IN SIGN UP



ПРИЕЗД GARY ROYLE В РОССИЮ



2015出国移民中介行业交流峰会暨海外移民项目对接会 THE 4TH IMMIGRATION ABROAD AGENT CONGRESS

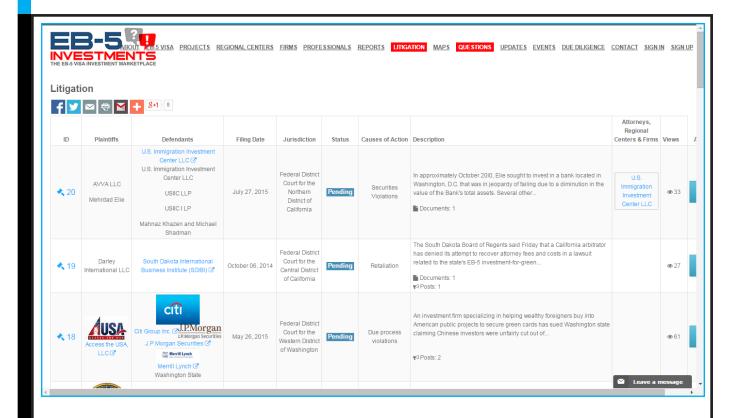


EB-5 REGIONAL CENTER PROJECT CASE STUDIES: THE GOOD,
BAD & UGLY



THE 6TH BEIJNG OVERSEAS PROPERTY& IMMIGRATION EXHIBITION





UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION VS. ROBERT YANG, CLAUDIA KANO, YANROB'S MEDICAL, INC., HEALTHPRO CAPITAL PARTNERS, LLC, AND SUNCOR CARE, INC.



U.S. authorities moved to freeze the assets Thursday of a California doctor, an office manager and businesses accused of plundering at least \$10 million from funds marketed to Chinese investors in proposed facilities who are seeking visas under a program that rewards job-creating investments in the United States.

In a fraud complaint in the Central District of California Eastern Division, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission said geriatric physician Robert Yang and his office manager, Claudia Kano, knowingly diverted at least half of the \$20 million.

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION VS. EB5 ASSET MANAGER LLC, LIN ZHONG, ET AL.



In a civil action filed by the SEC against EB5 Asset Manager, LLC and its owner Lin Zhong in the United States District Court of Southern Florida on November 3, 2015 the SEC alleges that since at least March 2011, Zhong has used several entities that she owns and controls to exploit the EB-5 program, defrauding at least 17 investors out of \$8.5 million. See Case 0:15-cv-62323-JAL. U.S. EB-5 Investments LLC, Oakland Office Holdings LLC, and B.X Property Management, among others, are owned and controlled by Zhong and named as relief defendants. The SEC alleges that Zhong has violated Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a); and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15. U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Exchange Act Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

SANG GEUN AN, ET AL. VS. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Here, the 19 individual Plaintiffs are citizens of different Asian countries who participated in the EB-5 Program. In their complaint, Plaintiffs allege 1) improper retroactive application of the new rules, 2) estoppel preventing the government from denying Plaintiffs' I-829 petitions, 3) violation of the Administrative Procedures Act ("APA") for failing to issue the new rules through notice and comment rule-making procedures, 4) abuse of discretion in retroactively applying the new rules, 5) action exceeding statutory authority, and 6) violation of due process and equal protection.

<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</u> <u>VS.</u> DALIA IVETTE SINGH, AKA DALIA PENA



Dalia Ivette Singh, aka Dalia Pena, 61, who most recently resided in Clearwater, Florida, defrauded more than 40 immigrants from the Caribbean and Latin America. Singh charged some families as much as \$36,000, claiming she had a contact with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) who could provide the immigrants with legal status in the United States. Singh claimed her USCIS contact ran a special program the immigrants could use to get legal status. There was no such program and no USCIS contact – Singh fabricated the story to defraud the victims. Singh's sentencing before U.S. District Judge Richard A. Jones is scheduled for Jan. 22, 2016. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Erin Becker.



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

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