

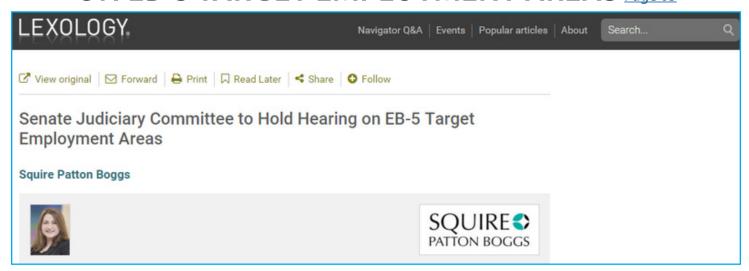




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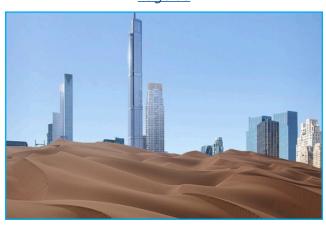
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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TO HOLD HEARING ON EB-5 TARGET EMPLOYMENT AREAS Page 05



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FEDS THREATEN TO CUT FUNDING FOR PHOENIXMART Page 06









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Senate Judiciary Committee to Hold Hearing on EB-5 Target Employment Areas

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Baker Team Heading For EB-5 Investor Conference in China Page 08



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San Diego H1B Visa & Employment Based Immigration Attorney Launches New Premises Page 08



An Investment in Real Estate Can Yield Citizenship or Residency for Your Client
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U.S. ESTATE AND INCOME TAX ISSUES FOR MULTINATIONALS

04/07/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



SPEAKER: PAULA JONES

This webinar will provide the fundamentals on U.S. estate and income taxation in the multinational context, including the basis for estate and income taxation, concepts of residency for estate and income tax purposes, how non-U.S. persons can still be subject to U.S. taxation and planning techniques to avoid future U.S. taxation.



FXE INDUSTRIES INVESTORS CALL

04/20/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



SPEAKER: FRANCOIS-XAVIER TERNY

Call with potentail investors, attorneys and advisors, on the FXE Industries offering. This call is open to accredited investors who have registered on the portal and professionals in the industry.



WITH RENTING, BUYING & SELLING AN EB-5 VISA REGIONAL CENTER

04/27/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



AREAA EB-5 UPDATE

04/28/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



SPEAKER: MICHAEL GIBSON

Industry update to the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA) members.

SPEAKERS



Bernard Wolfsdorf



Ignacio Donoso



Jor Law



Michael

Gibson

Mike Schoenfeld

This webinar will cover issues and topics related to buying and selling an EB-5 Regional Center such as: Current procedures for notifying USCIS regarding changes in structures or management, Proposed statutory changes, Due diligence steps when purchasing or renting a Regional Center, Immigration lawyer's role in a purchase or rent transaction, and Key provisions in purchase or rent transactions.

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



Senate Judiciary Committee to Hold Hearing on EB-5 Target Employment Areas



This week, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold its second hearing of the year examining the EB-5 Regional Center Program. This program is designed to bolster the U.S. economy by incentivizing investment from foreign individuals in exchange for legal permanent residence. The FY 2016 omnibus appropriations measure passed by Congress at the end of 2015 extended the EB-5 Regional Center Program for the remainder of the Fiscal Year. However, lawmakers are currently debating whether to overhaul the program in light of what some argue is a need to better protect against potential abuse, refocus investment in areas that need it most, and increase the minimum levels of funds required to participate in the program. (Read more)

Related stories:

 E3 Investment Group's CEO Matt Gordon Testifies at the House Judiciary Committee's EB-5 Hearing as an Expert Witness

- House Judiciary Committee Calling for EB-5 Suspension
- EB-5 Debate Tackles the TEA Designation
- Statement of the Honorable John Conyers, Jr. At Hearing on the EB5 Immigrant Visa Investor Program
- House Judiciary Committee to Examine the EB-5 Investor Visa Program
- <u>Green Cards through E-B 5 Program to Soon Require More Investment</u>
- The Failures and Future of the EB-5 Regional Center Program: Can it be fixed?
- Senate Judiciary Committee Holds Hearing on the EB-5 Program
- Chinese Governments and EB-5 Projects What the Witness Did Not Report
- Chuck Schumer Defends NYC Developers against EB-5 Gerrymandering Allegations
- Leahy: Job-Creating EB-5 Foreign Investment Program Must Be Reformed
- Senate Panel to Consider Changes to Investment Visa Program

Lenders Losing Interest In Financing High-End Condo Projects

Wary of a slowdown in high-end apartment sales and a potential supply glut, lenders are beginning to retreat from Manhattan's luxury condominium market.

Many banks are either cutting down their luxury condo construction lending or stepping away from the market altogether, according to brokers and lenders interviewed by The Real Deal. Developers, however, remain bullish that their product will sell, and are trying new avenues to obtain the financing.

"Everyone's a little worried," said Michael Stoler, a managing director at investment firm Madison Realty Capital and head of New York Real Estate TV. "With anything at \$2,500



(per square foot) or more, lenders are very cautious," he added. (Read more)

Feds Threaten To Cut Funding For PhoenixMart

The US Attorney's office, FBI, <u>Securities and Exchange Commission</u>, and the US Customs and Immigration Service are investigating possible abuses by officials from <u>PhoenixMart</u>, for its involvement in a program that trades foreign investment for US "Green Cards."

In November, the FBI raided the PhoenixMart headquarters. Most of the investigation is under seal, but documents filed in case PhoenixMart officials brought against the US government in an effort to retrieve confiscated computers sheds some light on the government's accusations against the company. (Read more)

U.S. Boosts Scrutiny of N.Y., Miami Cash Real Estate Deals (1)

President Barack Obama's administration, citing concern about the origin of funds used for all-cash purchases of luxury real estate, said it is stepping up scrutiny of transactions in New York City and Miami.

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network said on Wednesday that it will temporarily require title insurance companies to identify individuals behind companies that pay cash for high-end residential real estate in Manhattan and Miami-Dade County.

FinCen, a unit of the U.S. Treasury Department, said it's concerned that real estate purchases without bank financing "may be conducted by individuals attempting to hide their assets and identity by purchasing residential



U.S. Boosts Scrutiny of N.Y., Miami Cash Real Estate Deals (1)

By Ian Katz

(Bloomberg) -- President Barack Obama's administration, citing concern about the origin of funds used for all-cash purchases of luxury real estate, said it is stepping up scrutiny of transactions in New York City and Miami.

properties through limited liability companies or other opaque structures." (Read more)

Related Story: <u>Plans Fall Apart for Massive Movie Studio near Miami Gardens</u>



An Investment in Real Estate Can Yield Citizenship or Residency for Your Client



It is important that financial advisors and wealth managers inform their clients of the benefits of second citizenships, including issues related to international diversification of financial assets as well as personal assets.

For the past several months, the global markets have shifted into unpredictable financial territory. Nonetheless, a recent data report by Wealth-X found that the amount of global high-net worth individuals is continuing to steadily increase and establishing an expanding potential investor base to match the growing number of countries offering high-net worth investors second citizenship. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- RCBJ Retrospective: Six Data Points Show EB-5 Has Never Been Stronger
- What Money Can and Can't Buy in Our Immigration System
- EB-5 Financing Accelerates In 2016 and Favors (1) Hotels,
 (2) Mixed-Use and (3) Multifamily As Top 3 Targets for EB-5
 Funding
- Recap of the Feb. 3, 2016, EB-5 Program Stakeholder Engagement
- EB-5 Program—No Guarantees for the Coveted US Green Card
- Why Is The EB-5 A Good Business?

Foreign Investors Sue over Stalled Short Vine Development



Chinese investors who contributed to a stalled Short Vine development project in Corryville as part of a federal program to gain residency are suing the developers, claiming their money was mishandled.

A group of 10 Chinese nationals is suing the <u>Midwest EB5</u> <u>Regional Center</u>, its former principals and the landowner and developer of the project in the 2600 block of Short Vine. The lawsuit claims the defendants misspent \$5 million of the investors' money. The suit was filed in the U.S. District Court Southern District of Ohio.

Neither attorneys for the investors filing the suit nor the defendants could be reached for comment. (Read more)

Baker Team Heading For EB-5 Investor Conference in China



"We now have an attractive project," Chad Patton, project co-principal, said. "We're going to China to demonstrate we're willing to spend the time and money on it."

Patton and co-principal Laird Fairchild, along with EB-5 project partner Pathways, will head to Shanghai next week for the 2016 Invest in America Summit, the largest trade show and conference of its kind in China, as a way to build relationships with potential investors. (Read more)

San Diego H1B Visa & Employment Based Immigration Attorney Launches New Premises



The Ahmad Law Group, led by prominent corporate and immigration attorney Khalil Ahmad, launched a new office in San Diego, California to expand its legal assistance for the businesses and individuals pursuing employment

based visas, including the H1B Specialty Occupation, and more.

The corporate and immigration Ahmad Law Group announced the launch of a new office in Orange County, San Diego to provide additional legal counselling and support to US businesses looking to recruit or hire foreign professionals and individuals applying for US employment based visas. (Read more)

Aliens and Money: Let's Look at the Big Picture

Suppose there are two stacks of money, which can either be used in our economy or in that of some other nation. In each case there is an alien population tied to the money.

One stack consists of \$2-3 billion dollars.

The other stack consists of more than \$50 billion and growing.



Which stack of dollars do you think would get the most attention from our policy makers? The big one or the little one? (Read more)

The 19,000-Pound Gorilla in the Room



As two extension deadlines came and went for the EB-5 Regional Center Program at the end of 2015, it became clear that meaningful reform for the program would have to wait. Ultimately, the program's fate was wrapped up in

larger federal spending legislation passed at the eleventh hour, extending it--as is--through the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, 2016, with potential integrity measures on the horizon.

In the weeks leading up to the decision, a flurry of articles and commentaries addressed this relatively tiny immigration program - a program that amounts to less than 2 percent of all legal immigration; in other words, less than 4,000 families per year. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- Looking Ahead: EB-5 Program Reform
- Setting The Record Straight on EB-5 Program's 'At Risk' Clause
- A Preview of Business Immigration in 2016: H-1B
- Senators Vow EB-5 Reform
- Critics Say Immigrant Investor Visas Subsidize Real Estate
 Projects in Wealthy Areas
- The EB5 Way to US Just Got Extended

Congress Amends the Visa Waiver Program Indicates Immigration Attorney Stewart Rabinowitz



On December 18, 2015, President Obama signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. The bill contained several immigration provisions which amended the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) and extended several programs until September 30, 2016, including E-Verify, Special Immigrant Religious Workers, The Conrad 30, and EB-5 Regional Centers provisions.

The appropriations law changed the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) in several significant ways. Under the VWP, nationals from 38 countries may visit the U.S. for up to 90 days without applying for a B-1/B-2 visa at a U.S. consular post abroad, provided such persons have been

cleared through the online Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). (Read more)

House Members Introduce Bipartisan Companion EB-5 Integrity Act Bill



On Feb. 10, 2016, Representatives Jared Polis (D-CO) and Mark Amodei (R-NV) introduced H.R. 4530, the EB-5

Integrity Act of 2016. This bill is a companion bill to the EB-5 Integrity Act of 2015, S.2415, which we covered in December following its introduction by Sen. Flake (R-AZ), Sen. Cornyn (R-TX), and Sen. Schumer (D-NY).

At time of this publication, the text of the H.R. 4530 is not publically available. However, its provisions are expected to be virtually the same as S. 2415, and to include the following... (Read more)

Brookings Institution to Help Create Foreign Investment Plan for BEAM Region

The Bluegrass Economic Advancement Movement (BEAM) region has been selected to develop a regional plan to attract and leverage foreign direct investment as part of the Global Cities Initiative, a joint project of the Brookings Institution and JPMorgan Chase.

The BEAM region, 22 counties that include and surround Louisville and Lexington, will join Charleston, Chicago, Indianapolis, Phoenix and Wichita in developing their foreign direct investment plan. These six metro areas were selected by Brookings after undergoing an extensive application process. (Read more)

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Publications

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

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Brookings Institution to help create foreign investment plan for BEAM region

Lexington, Ky. – The Bluegrass Economic Advancement Movement (BEAM) region has b∉ develop a regional plan to attract and leverage foreign direct investment as part of the Globa

Role of Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in EB-5 Application Process

bruary 22, 2016 NATIONAL LAW REVIEW

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57 NEW ARTICLES

Role of Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in EB-5 Application Process

Monday, February 22, 2016

The crux of an I-526 Petition is proving the lawful source of funds for

The crux of an I-526 Petition is proving the lawful source of funds for an investor. Generally, applicants from across the globe are able to fund their investment via a wire transfer through their banking institution to the designated escrow account for the selected EB-5 project without incident. While escrow is not a legal requirement, it is the industry

norm for most projects to establish one where funds are held for a certain period of time prior to deployment to the project.

However, nationals from certain countries, including Syria and Sudan, or investors who seek to utilize sanctioned institutions (e.g., Maulawi Ahmed Shah Hawala aka Roshan Money Exchange of Kandahar, Afghanistan) may find that they may not participate in the EB-5 program or have to obtain U.S. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- NVC Launches New EB-5 Investor Assistance Desk Email Box
- U.S. Department of State Issues March Visa Bulletin Showing Cut-off Date for Mainland China Applicants Advances
- When is a Waiver of Immunity Required of an EB-5 Applicant?

Shared workspace provider Regus will occupy roughly 30,000 square feet of space at Staten Island's new mixed-use development.

Phase one of Lighthouse Point, a \$200 million mixed-use residential and commercial project on Staten Island, has nailed down its anchor tenant, it was announced Tuesday by Triangle Equities, the project's developer. That tenant is Regus, a shared workspace provider, which will occupy about 30,000 square feet of the nearly 65,000 square feet intended for retail and office. (Read more)



Related Story: <u>Lighthouse Point Breaks Ground As Regus Signs On As Anchor</u> Tenant

People in the News - Feb. 25, 2016 - Las Vegas EB-5 Conference



Klasko Immigration Law Partners attorneys Ronald Klasko and Daniel B. Lundy received awards for their expertise and leadership in the EB-5 industry during the third annual Las Vegas EB-5 Conference sponsored by EB5 Investors Magazine.

Klasko was recognized as the "thought leader" in EB-5, and Lundy was recognized as the "go to" attorney for complex EB-5 legal matters

Several members of the firm's EB-5 team were involved the conference. (Read more)

Still getting your EB-5 project information this way?

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





India Plans Investment-Linked Residency Permits For Foreigners



India is planning to offer an investment—linked residency permit for foreign companies that invest Dh7.34 billion (\$2 billion) in the country, according to a media report.

"If a foreign company invests \$2 billion, it will get residency permits allowing long stay in India for its key executives as well as cheap rates for utilities and a special package on upscale housing," the Economic Times reported quoting unnamed senior officials.

The proposal, it said, may be formally unveiled post the budget session of the Indian Parliament, which gets over in mid¬-March. (Read more)

How to Contact Students Using Social Media?

In addition to attempting to contact HNWI Chinese citizens about your EB-5 projects, it is sometimes easier to contact children of wealth. Working through the children, you can reach their parents, other relatives and close family friends. Keep in mind that Chinese traditionally prefer direct contact as the best form of communication.

Social networks like Facebook, Pinterest, WhatsApp and Twitter have registered a large online presence among Chinese young people. However, not all Chinese citizens like to use Western social media, because they have their own. (Read more)



Oriental Dolphins EB-5 Regional Center and Concerted Care Group Receive Expedited Immigration Approvals in War on Heroin

The EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program allows foreign nationals to receive permanent resident status by investing a minimum of \$500,000 into an investment that creates and sustains at least 10 jobs per investor within two years of such investor's entry into the United States. <u>Oriental Dolphins EB-5 Regional Center (ODRC)</u> is authorized by <u>United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)</u> to establish qualifying EB-5 projects and match eligible investors to those investments.

In 2015, ODRC affiliated with Baltimore's Concerted Care Group (CCG) for the purpose of providing CCG with EB-5 senior debt. (Read more)

Related Story: <u>Additional Actions Needed to Better Assess Fraud</u>
Risks and Report Economic Benefits

Senate Advances Anti-Corruption Board

The Daugaard administration's proposal to deter corruption in state government and throughout South Dakota's public education system won unanimous approval Wednesday from the state Senate.

The 35-0 vote to create a new state Board of Internal Control sends SB 162 to the House of Representatives.

The House has already approved 67-0 a separate measure to regulate conflicts of interest involving members of state boards, commissions and authorities. (Read more)



Related Stories:

- With EB-5, Gear Up Scandals in Mind, Lawmakers Advance
- After EB-5, Gear Up Scandals, Daugaard Calls for Internal

The Invest in America Summit -Celebrating Five Years of Service and Growth



The Invest in America Summit and The goal of the Summit has always Exhibition is the largest annual American investment conference and trade show in China. It focuses exclusively on the U.S. EB-5 investment program. Launched in 2011, the Summit has continually grown both in attendance and prominence over the past five years.

been to provide attendees with the most current information about the mechanics of the U.S. EB-5 immigration investment program. (Read more)

Related Story: 2016 Invest in America Summit and Exhibition to Be Held in China in March

Valley Cities investigates sale of Woodmont Recovery Center site in Des Moines



Valley Cities – Behavioral Health Care provides counselling and drug use recover services to more than 7,500 people at seven locations in King County.

Ken Taylor, CEO of Valley Cities - Behavioral Health Care, signed an agreement on Thursday, Feb. 18, with a potential buyer of the Woodmont property to enter into a 45-day period to complete a feasibility study and property value appraisal. (Read more)

Patrick Murphy Goes on Offense against Senate Opponent Alan Grayson's Hedge Funds

U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy has been going on the offensive against his U.S. Senate primary opponent, taking advantage of recent bad headlines about U.S. Rep. Alan Grayson's controversial hedge funds.

Grayson also has shown his teeth, attacking Murphy for money a super PAC that supports him took from a businessman who would have benefitted from legislation he co-sponsored. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- Why Isn't Senate Candidate Patrick Murphy Under Investigation?
- Alan Grayson Campaign Questions Contribution to Super Pac Supporting Patrick Murphy



Flow of 'Medical Tourists' From China to Start Early

Patients are expected to arrive in the midst of a project to convert a former factory in Auburn into post-surgical housing.

A banner announces the \$50 million medical tourism project that's planned for the former shoe factory at 81 Minot Ave. in Auburn. This site and an adjacent former police station have been sold to the Shengton Group of China. The investment group has nearly 200,000 square feet of building space.

Patients from China seeking care in Maine will begin arriving well ahead of the completion of a \$50 million



medical tourism project in Auburn, a spokesman for the project said Thursday. (Read more)

The Role of Citizenship by Investment in Tourism Development

There has been significant coverage in regional media in recent months on the subject of Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programmes, which are now operating in five Eastern Caribbean countries. Some of the commentary underestimates the crucial potential value of these programmes for the development of new hotels, as well as for the redevelopment and modernization of existing resorts.

David Jessop of the Caribbean Council wrote in a recent article, that "at a purely economic level, it is hard to

understand why such schemes are not designed to be sustainable in ways that bring continuing income to the country c o n c e r n e d.



Without any residency requirement there is no long term gain in the form of other taxes or fees." (Read more)

As Deadline Nears, Fate of Kingsbridge Development Unclear



A longstanding plan to build an ice rink at the site of the former Kingsbridge Armory in the Bronx will hit a critical deadline next month, when it must present a substantial chunk of funding in order to get a lease from the de Blasio administration to go forward.

But as the date approaches, the fate of the project remains uncertain.

The city has said it would not turn over the lease to the site until the developer, Kingsbridge National Ice Center (KNIC), shows it has \$158 million for the first phase of the project, per an earlier agreement. (Read more)

A Compilation of Enforcement and Non-Enforcement Actions





United States: A Compilation Of Enforcement And Non-Enforcement Actions - 01 February 2016

Last Updated: February 2 2016
Article by Peter D. Fetzer, Stuart E. Fross and Terry D. Nelson
Foley & Lardner



Non-Enforcement

- FINRA's Proposed Pay-to-Play Rule Will Impact Investment Advisers
- Fair Warning <u>SEC</u>'s 2016 Examination Priorities

Enforcement

- Recommendations of 12b-1 Funds to Clients Results in Enforcement Action
- Fund Manager Sanctioned for Misleading and Overcharging Fund Investors (<u>Read more</u>)

Wailian Overseas Consulting Group Sponsors Exciting U.S. Events in 2016



Wailian Overseas
Consulting Group, Ltd.
("Wailian") is a leading
immigration agency in
China specializing in
providing consulting
services to Chinese
nationals interested in
pursuing international

investment and/or educational opportunities. As a trusted

leader in the overseas investment industry, Wailian has generated the highest client volume and holds the fastest approval record for U.S. EB-5 applications. For eight consecutive years, Wailian has earned the "Most Trusted Brand" award in China.

In 2015, Wailian formally agreed to serve as a major tour sponsor for Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra-USA summer tour, with eight stops including performances in New York, Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen to promote Sino-US music exchange programs. (Read more)

High Line's Last Unused Section to Become Piazza

The tree-lined entrance will be located above 10th Avenue at 30th Street

The new addition to the High Line doesn't have to be the Piazza Garibaldi to please real estate investors.

A 4,500-square-foot piazza is planned for an unused section of the popular elevated park.

Greenery will abound at the new 420-foot-long walkway spanning 30th Street between 11th and 10th avenues — running into the Related Cos.' (Read more)



Another Embezzlement and Three Other Developments in EB-5 Land



Over the last few days yet another EB-5 swindle has emerged, along with three other developments in the world of EB-5 investor visas.

The latter three might be described as a deadlock in an unfortunate location, a small victory, and a deck stacked by the EB-5 program.

Swindle. The latest EB-5 scandal involves the all-too-familiar ingredients of Chinese-American middlemen being sued by Chinese aliens for embezzlement over an urban real estate venture. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- Lawmakers Take Steps to Clean Up State's Messes
- Battle Brewing Over Foreign Investor Visas

U.S. Department of State Issues March Visa Bulletin Showing Cut-off Date for Mainland China Applicants Advances

The U.S. Department of State – Bureau of Consular Affairs released its Visa Bulletin for the month of March 2016 (View PDF). The bulletin revealed a cut-off date January 22, 2014 for Mainland-China born visa applicants, moving up a week from January 15, 2014 in the February bulletin.

As of March 1, Chinese investors who filed their I-526 petitions before January 22, 2014 will be eligible to schedule interviews with Department of State Consular offices and be issued conditional immigration visas to enter the U.S. or



apply for adjustment of status if they are already in the U.S. (Read more)

HFZ Seeks \$250M from EB-5 Investors for High Line Condos

Ziel Feldman's HFZ Capital Group is looking to raise around \$250 million in EB-5 funds for its latest High Line condo development at 518 West 18th Street.

The <u>U.S. Immigration Fund</u>, an EB-5 regional center, is handling the fundraising in two phases of more than \$120 million each, and is currently raising cash under the first phase, CEO <u>Nicholas Mastroianni</u> told The Real Deal. (<u>Read more</u>)



Port St. Lucie Considering Buying Long-Undeveloped City Center Land

City officials are in talks over buying the City Center property owned by enigmatic developer Lily Zhong, according to a bombshell legal filing last week.

The filing — part of the <u>Securities and Exchange Commission</u> investment-fraud case against Zhong — reveals that a receiver over Zhong's frozen assets has been "in constant contact with the city of Port St. Lucie" since Nov. 12 about possibly selling the land to Port St. Lucie.

"The receiver and Port St. Lucie are currently exploring the potential sale of the City Center parcels to the city," according to the Jan. 29 preliminary report from receiver Michael Goldberg. (Read more)



Peak Resorts (SKIS) Says Ski Season Continues to Develop from Warm Start



Peak Resorts, Inc., a leading owner and operator of highquality, individually branded ski resorts in the U.S., today announced that its board of directors appointed David W. Braswell, Esq., as a member of the board and as a member of the nominating and corporate governance committee. Braswell is replacing Michael Staenberg, who resigned from the board effective February 3, 2016, for personal reasons.

Braswell is a St. Louis-based partner with Armstrong Teasdale LLP. He has extensive corporate and securities law experience advising a wide range of clients from emerging businesses to Fortune 500 companies. His practice includes serving as lead counsel to corporations and their boards of directors, providing guidance on compliance issues, and helping them shape and execute their strategic plans and operational goals. (Read more)

EXCLUSIVE: ICE Whistle blower Fired after Refusing DHS Hush Money



The Department of Homeland Security on Thursday dismissed an ICE whistleblower it was secretly smearing to reporters after she testified before Congress about her troubles with the agency.

Special Agent Taylor Johnson — who had a storied career until she irked Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid by objecting to a visa program for foreign investors tied to the senator's son — says she declined to take a \$100,000 severance package because it included a non-disclosure agreement. (Read more)

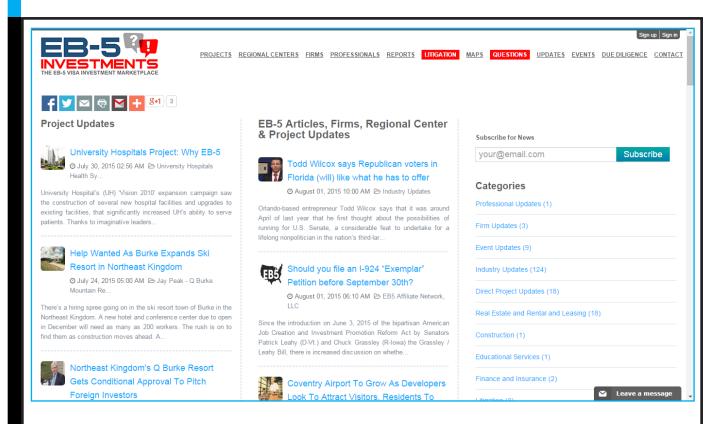
Reauthorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program: A Boon for Foreign Investors and the National Economy

In recent years, the EB-5 Investment Green Card Program has gained popularity among high net-worth individuals seeking the freedom and flexibility to live and work in the United States. This visa allows foreign investors and their immediate family to obtain a Green Card to live permanently in the United States by investing in a business that creates at least 10 jobs for qualifying U.S. workers. The investment amount is \$1 million. This number is reduced to \$500,000 if the investor invests in a targeted employment area, which is a rural or high unemployment area.

The investment amount is also reduced to \$500,000 if the investor invests in a designated regional center. In 1992, Congress expanded the EB-5 program by permitting



the designation of Regional Centers to pool EB-5 capital from multiple foreign investors for investment in <u>USCIS</u>-approved economic development projects within a defined geographic region. (Read more)



REPORT: Madison Looking to Raise \$75M in EB-5 Financing for 45 Broad

Madison Equities and Pizzarotti Group's 1,000-foot condo slim in the middle tower at 45 Broad St is still in the planning stages, but early renderings are out, as well as some word on how the team plans to finance the project.

Madison is reportedly looking to raise roughly \$75M through the EB-5 visa program. Marketing materials, including early renderings, have been circulated among prospective investors, The Real Deal reports.

Renderings reveal a soaring gold structure that's quite

with a broad top and base. 45 Broad will rise 65 to 75 floors and include about 50k SF of commercial space. (Read more)



- Revealed: Madison Equities' 45 Broad Condo Tower
- 45 Broad Will Manifest as a Hulking, Gold-Framed Supertall

Wealthy Foreigners Invest in Chicago for Green Cards While Others Wait Turn



seeking residency in the United States are paying big bucks to leapfrog wait times. It's completely legal

foreign The US government's EB-5 visa program allows foreign citizens faster access to green cards if they invest \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 in a development project that creates at least ten US jobs. The project must be in an area considered in need of an economic boost. (Read more)

and supporters claim it is boosting the economy.



Eyewitness News Investigates the Delay on the Downtown Rockford Hotel

For decades the vacant Amerock building has sat as an Hotel and conference eyesore on the edge of downtown Rockford. Rusting, crumbling, fenced off from the public, Amerock is a towering reminder of Rockford blight.

It's why Rockford aldermen were met with an ovation two years ago after giving Wisconsin developer Gorman the green light to turn the building into an Embassy Suites

center.

But fast forward to 2016, and nothing has changed except that a Gorman trailer now sits on the site. (Read more)



Biscayne Park Residency Welcomes International Chef Francesco Casetta

senior living experience community in Miami, Florida, welcomes International Chef Francesco Casetta.

Southeast Florida EB-5 Regional

Center's and SR Healthcare Group are excited to welcome International Italian Chef Francesco Casetta through his

Biscayne Park Residency, a luxurious international managing company to lead the five-star restaurant at the Biscayne Park Residency, a luxurious senior living experience community in Miami, Florida

> Just like in Italy, Chef Francesco Casetta creates inspired seasonal menus to Biscayne Park Residency that will bring unforgettable taste and food style to our flagship facility. (Read more)

Developers Say Family Key to **Bright Oaks in Aurora**

The key word at the Bright Oaks of Aurora ribbon-cutting Tuesday was family.

And nowhere was that more evident than with Bright Oaks' developers, Nader Kameli, the chief executive officer, and his brother, Taher, a lawyer and Nadel's business partner.

After the ribbon was cut on the 53,432-square-foot senior living center at 1340 River St. in Aurora — courtesy of members of the Aurora Area, Batavia North chambers of commerce — the Kamelis, with their mother, Kloria,



Related Story: New Assisted Living Center to Open Soon In Aurora



D.M. Doubles Down On Convention Hotel Loan

The Des Moines City Council approved a \$10 million guarantee on Monday to help build a convention hotel connected to the Iowa Events Center downtown.

The city's bolstered commitment accommodates a restructured financing package that will replace a foreign investment program initially proposed for the project. Polk County approved nearly \$30 million earlier this month as part of the revised stack of public and private backers

approved by the Iowa Events Center Corp. board.

Des Moines originally committed \$5 million as part of the anticipated EB-5 foreign investment program. The nonprofit board overseeing the hotel abandoned that course this month due to timing issues. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- Why EB-5 Got Nixed From D.M. Hotel Plan
- Polk Co. Commits \$30 Million for Convention Hotel

Sampson Mill to Become Lofts



The former Sampson Mill that housed the American Spinning Company for nearly a century in the Poinsett

District will see new life as a Virginia-based firm plans to transform the mill into loft apartments.

The company — ASGA, LP — plans to spend \$49.8 million to redevelop the mill into 230 apartment units making up 240,000 square feet of space.

The project will be funded in part from \$7.5 million related to the federal government's EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program, which allows foreign entrepreneurs to apply for a green card in exchange investing in a commercial enterprise and creating at least 10 full-time jobs. (Read more)

Related Stories:

- VA. Firm to Transform Poinsett Mill into Apartments
- Old Mill Spins New Apartment Project

Inside Randall Davis' New Astoria Luxury Condo Tower in Uptown

Randall Davis Co. is nearing completion on the Astoria, a about two years on the 29-story high-rise at 1409 Post new luxury condominium tower in the Galleria/Uptown area and the first of three such projects the Houston developer has underway.

Developer Randall Davis along with his partners DC Partners and Roberto Contreras have been under construction for Oak Blvd. near Uptown Park and the West 610 Loop. The 75-unit project, which has all but one of its units sold out, is expected to open in May and be finished in June. (Read more)

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

HARD TO TELL FACT FROM FICTION?





Dargey, Allies Seek To Keep Potala **Tower Project Going**



Path America founder Lobsang Dargey and others are asking a federal judge to reject a court-appointed receiver's proposal to sell the unfinished Potala Tower in downtown Seattle, which was financed by overseas investors seeking EB-5 visas.

Dargey, who is accused by federal regulators of fraud, lost control of his Everett-based company Path America in October, when a federal judge handed the keys to receiver Michael Grass¬mueck. (Read more)

Developers Update City of Rockford on Amerock Hotel Project

hotel will fall through. In an email to the City of Rockford, developers say they're committed to this project and are working to make it happen, but there are possible roadblocks.

Last week, Rockford aldermen got the good and the potentially not-so-good news about the downtown Amerock building from developer Gorman & Company, Inc.

There are fears that plans for a major downtown Rockford Gorman wants to turn it into an Embassy Suites. To do that, developers are banking on getting funding from a program called EB-5. In an email to city staff, Gorman Director of Operations Laura Narduzzi says that program was extended another year, so fund raising efforts will continue. But, one alderman says there are important details missing from this update. (Read more)

A Red Flag Tossed At Sports Complex



"Give me your tired, your poor, but also your well-heeled foreign investors willing to lay out half a million dollars or so

to get a green card." - Emma Lazarus, from "New Colussus," on the Statue of Liberty

That, essentially, is what the developers of Attleboro's new New England Sports Village are promoting with their pitch to get money from overseas under a little-known but controversial federal government policy known as the EB-5 program. The program grants foreign nationals green cards - residency visas allowing them to live and work in the United States and permitting them to apply for citizenship after five years - if they invest at least \$500,000 in a jobcreating program. (Read more)

Related Story: New England Sports Village in Attleboro Seeks **Foreign Investors**



More Civitas EB-5 Investors Receive Permanent Residency civitas and Return of Capital

2011 Investment Helped Catalyze Economic Development LP, have received unconditional permanent United States in Southern Dallas Submarket

<u>Civitas EB-5 Capital ("Civitas")</u> is pleased to announce that nine (9) investor families in Civitas Zang Triangle Fund,

residency through the City of Dallas Regional Center ("CDRC") and full repayment of their investment. The CDRC is a public-private partnership between the City of Dallas Office of Economic Development and Civitas. (Read more)

One University Circle Apartment Tower Steps Closer To Ground-Breaking, With Port Bond Deal

Local developers aim to break ground in March for a 20-story apartment tower in University Circle, on land formerly occupied by the Children's Museum of Cleveland.

On Thursday morning, the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority's board of directors approved a bond-financing deal for the tower, called One University Circle. The port expects to issue up to \$80 million worth of bonds, which will be sold to a lender group led by First National Bank of Pennsylvania. (Read more)



Receiver 'Optimistic' Palm Beach's Palm House Eventually Will Reopen



The court-appointed receiver for the Palm House said Wednesday that he's optimistic that the long-troubled hotel-condominium project eventually will be completed.

"There is a way through this," receiver Cary Glickstein told the Town Council. "I can't stand here today and give you tangible evidence or tell you how, but the interest in completing the project is aligned. ... I'm reasonably optimistic that if a few things fall into place, this effort will have been productive." (Read more)

Federal Express Ground Facility Progress Report (Read more)



Unlikely Couple Expanding Boutique Hotel Brand in North Carolina



The story of Rhea Hospitality is a unique one that's reflected in its two boutique hotels.

Founded by husband and wife Colin and Deanna Crossman, the North Carolina-based company was born nine years ago when the couple developed and began operating the 17-room King's Daughters Inn in downtown Durham.

But rather than leaning on knowledge and experience, it was the couple's shared passion that led them to develop the successful boutique hotel brand. (Read more)

Developers of 125 Greenwich in Talks with Singaporean Bank for \$500M-Plus **Construction Loan**

United Overseas Bank preparing term sheet to finance FiDi supertall

The developers of a supertall Financial District condominium tower at 125 Greenwich Street are in advanced talks to land just north of \$500 million in construction financing, separate from a round of EB-5 funding, The Real Deal has learned.

The lender, sources said, is Singapore's United Overseas Bank, which would provide a three-year construction loan







with a one-year extension option. The developers, Bizzi & Partners, Michael Shvo's SHVO and Howard Lorber's New Valley LLC, have yet to sign a term sheet, but are in advanced discussions, according to sources familiar with the financing. (Read more)

\$120M Washington Place Brings Hotel, **Apartments to Southcenter**

Absher Construction recently finished the concrete grade To create the floors, Absher has scheduled two major slabs and started building post-tensioned decks that will make up Washington Place, a \$120 million, 19-story hotel and apartment complex one block east of Westfield Southcenter.

concrete pour days per week in the coming months. The decks are packed with post-tensioned cables, rebar, electrical conduit, PEX piping, Blue Banger hangers and sleeves. (Read more)

The site is at 223 Andover Park E. in Tukwila.

Construction Begins On Midtown Park Senior Living Development in North Dallas

<u>US Freedom Capital</u> and OnPointe Health Development — started construction Wednesday on a new senior living community in Midtown Park in North Dallas.

The 77,132-square-foot, three-story campus will sit at 8160 Meadow Road near Manderville Lane is in proximity to Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas hospital.

In all, the project, called <u>Adora Midtown Park</u>, will bring 109 skilled nursing and assisted living suites to this part of the city upon completion. (Read more)



Beninati's Bauhouse Seeks \$80M Mezz Loan for 3 Sutton Place



Developer scales back plans for East Side skyscraper, which is now projected to cost \$750M-plus

Joseph Beninati's Bauhouse Group is seeking an \$80 million

mezzanine loan to fund his troubled residential skyscraper project at <u>3 Sutton Place</u>, according to investor documents reviewed by The Real Deal.

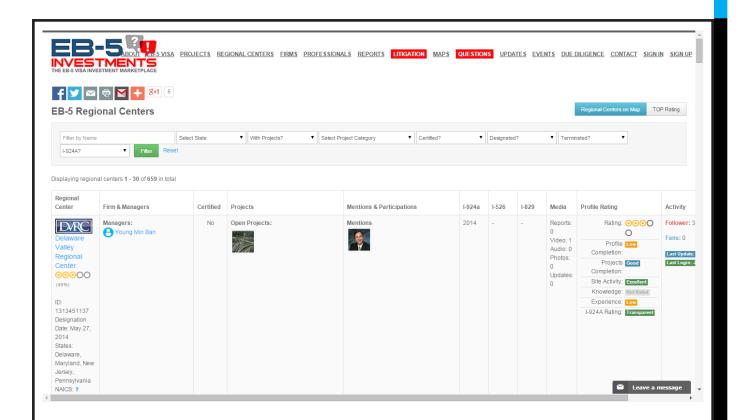
The upcoming tower at 426-432 East 58th Street, which is facing fierce resistance from area residents, is now slated to be 68 stories tall — down from 80 stories in August. The total project size is slated to be 286,000 square feet, with condos slated to be priced between \$5 million and \$6 million. That's according to a letter sent to potential lenders by the Carlton Group, which is trying to arrange financing for Bauhouse. (Read more)

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills Developer Seeking \$150M in EB-5 Financing

The developer behind a plan to bring the first Waldorf Astoria hotel to the West Coast is trying to leverage the strength of the storied brand in order to raise financing from Chinese nationals.

Hotelier Beny Alagem is looking to raise \$150 million in financing for the project through the EB-5 program, a visa program that allows foreign investors to obtain green cards by investing at least \$1 million, or \$500,000 in high unemployment or rural areas, in businesses that will create U.S. jobs, The Real Deal has exclusively learned. (Read more)





Lone Star Regional Centers



AMERICAN FRANCHISE REGIONAL CENTER LLC



Texas Regional Fortune Center



McAllen EB-5 Regional Center



820 Industrial Loop Partners Regional Center





Pangaea Regional Center



Lion's Regional Center



Kansas Regional Center (KRC)



Capital United Regional Center, LLC



North Carolina-East Coast Regional Center (ECRC)



REIF Regional Center



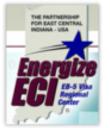
Invest New Hampshire Regional Center

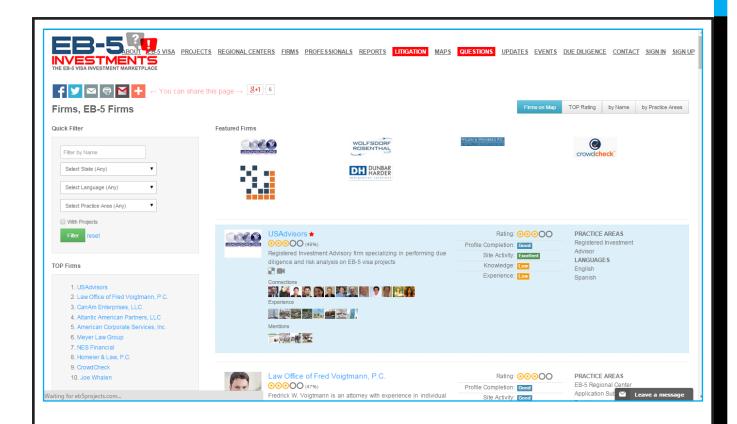


ALLIED ARTISTS HIGH DESERT EB-5 REGIONAL CENTER



Energize-ECI EB-5 Visa Regional Center, LLC





Baurkot & Baurkot



CrowdCheck



Law Office of Fred Voigtmann, P.C.



Beshara P.A.



U.S. EB-5 IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS APPROVABLE SOLUTIONS SINCE 1983



Encubate



SinoTrans International



Yu, South & Associates, PLLC.



Madison Equities

MADISON

Chen Lin & Wessel LLP



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Corrales Group Architects



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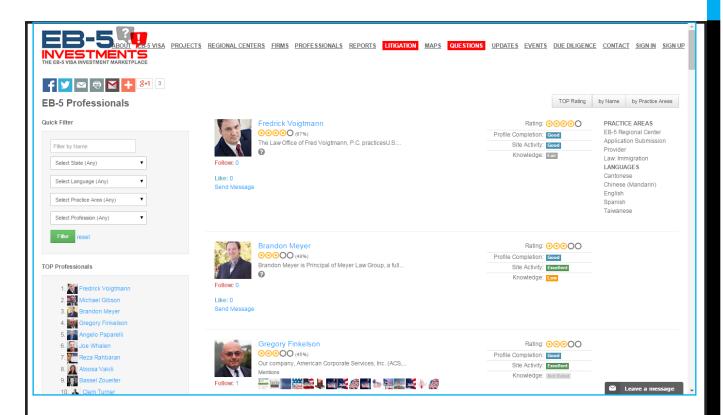


Scannell Properties



Law Offices of Sally Amirghahari, J.D., LL.M.





Patricia Valmana



Bruce C Rosetto



Emily K Morris



Howard Gould



Christina L Rogers



Kenneth C Wright



Robert Cornish



Blake Harrison

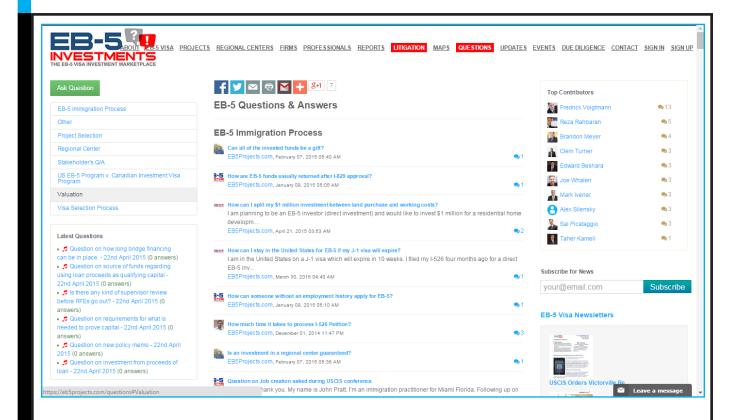


Wakana Hosono

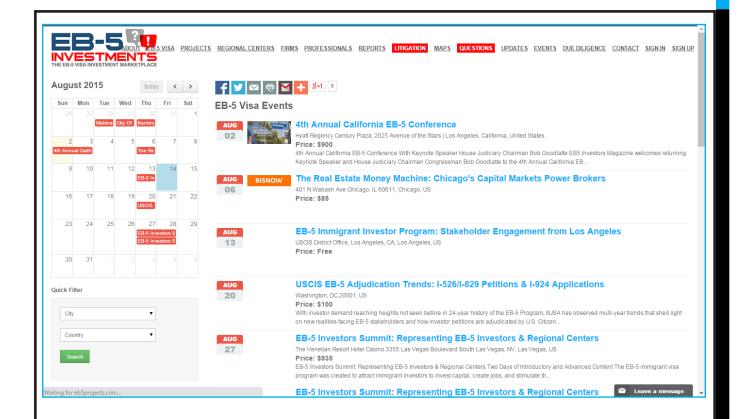


Joseph Rosen





- 1. Do I have to use escrow when taking in EB-5 investor's capital?
- 2. I have heard that a direct EB-5 project can be a 'pooled' investment, is this true?
- 3. I've heard about foreign brokers. How is this different from foreign finders?
- 4. Is Matter of How the only thing I need to know when writing my EB-5 business plan?
- 5. Do I have to invest my own money in my EB-5 project?
- 6. How can I keep capital at risk if I am ready to or need to pay back my investors early?
- 7. How will a feasibility study make my project business more credible?
- 8. How would a bridge loan help my project to be more successful in raising capital?
- 9. <u>Is there a limit or rule of thumb regarding how much (what percentage) EB-5 capital I can raise for my project?</u>
- 10. <u>If I cannot guarantee job creation how can I give investors' confidence about the likelihood of job creation?</u>
- 11. <u>I am confused as to whether an EB-5 project raises money as a loan from investors or in the form of equity participation. Can you please clarify?</u>
- 12. Do investor funds need be reimbursed?
- 13. What are the pros and cons of using guest expenditures and/ or revenues inputs to my economic impact model to show more job creation?
- 14. What is an RFE?
- 15. What is flexible adjudication and when would I use it?



EB-5 SERIES PART 2: STARTING AN EB-5 PRACTICE



THE DISTORTION OF EB-5 TARGETED EMPLOYMENT AREAS: TIME TO END THE ABUSE



6TH ANNUAL INVEST IN AMERICA SUMMIT (2016)



THE 5TH IMMIGRATION ABROAD AGENT CONGRESS

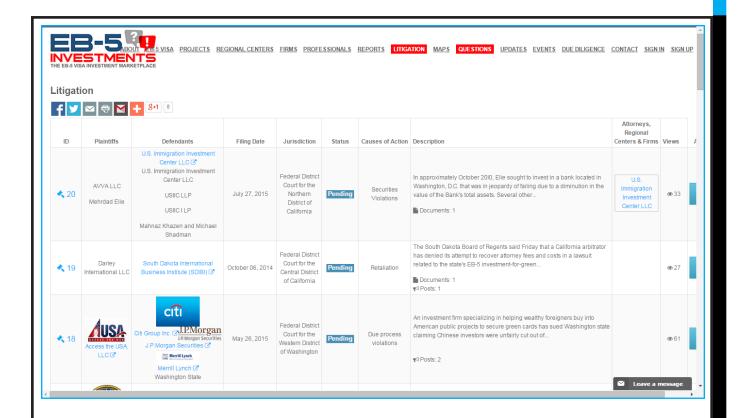


THE 7TH BEIJING OVERSEAS PROPERTY& IMMIGRATION EXHIBITION

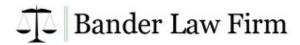


INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION SUMMIT





SEC VS. MICHAEL A. BANDER AND BANDER LAW FIRM, PLLC



Miami-based Michael A. Bander and Bander Law Firm, who agreed to pay disgorgement of \$228,750, prejudgment interest of \$19,434, and a penalty of \$25,000.

SEC VS. MEHRON P. AZARMEHR AND AZARMEHR LAW GROUP



Austin, Texas-based Mehron P. Azarmehr and Azarmehr Law Group, who agreed to pay disgorgement of \$30,000, prejudgment interest of \$2,965, and a penalty of \$25,000.

SEC VS. HUI FENG AND LAW OFFICES OF FENG & ASSOCIATES P.C.



In a complaint filed Dec. 7 in a California federal court, the SEC alleged that attorney <u>Hui Feng</u> and his law firm, <u>Feng</u> <u>& Associates</u>, sold investments to Feng's legal clients on behalf of several regional centers, the third-party entities that typically source and administer EB-5 investments.



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

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FREE WEBINARS



U.S. ESTATE AND INCOME TAX ISSUES FOR MULTINATIONALS

04/07/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



SPEAKER: PAULA JONES

This webinar will provide the fundamentals on U.S. estate and income taxation in the multinational context, including the basis for estate and income taxation, concepts of residency for estate and income tax purposes, how non-U.S. persons can still be subject to U.S. taxation and planning techniques to avoid future U.S. taxation.



FXE INDUSTRIES INVESTORS CALL

04/20/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



SPEAKER: FRANCOIS-XAVIER TERNY

Call with potentail investors, attorneys and advisors, on the FXE Industries offering. This call is open to accredited investors who have registered on the portal and professionals in the industry.



WITH RENTING, BUYING & SELLING AN EB-5 VISA REGIONAL CENTER

04/27/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



AREAA EB-5 UPDATE

04/28/2016 1:00PM - 2:00PM



SPEAKER: MICHAEL GIBSON

Industry update to the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA) members.

SPEAKERS



Bernard Wolfsdorf



Ignacio Donoso



Jor Law



Michael

Gibson

Mike Schoenfeld

This webinar will cover issues and topics related to buying and selling an EB-5 Regional Center such as: Current procedures for notifying USCIS regarding changes in structures or management, Proposed statutory changes, Due diligence steps when purchasing or renting a Regional Center, Immigration lawyer's role in a purchase or rent transaction, and Key provisions in purchase or rent transactions.