## E-1 TREATY TRADER, E-2 TREATY INVESTOR AND EB-5s RESEARCH TOOLS AND AVAILABLE INFORMATION

**JAMES D. PRAPPAS,** *Houston* Kane Russell Coleman Logan

State Bar of Texas
21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL
ADVANCED IMMIGRATION LAW

February 16-17, 2023 Houston

**CHAPTER 11.2** 

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	TOPICS COVERED	1
II.	PRACTICE POINTERS CONCERNING E-1 TREATY TRADER AND E-2 TREATY INVESTOR VISAS	1
III.	PRACTICE POINTERS CONCERNING EB-5 PETITIONS	2
IV.	LEGAL RESEARCH CONERNING E-1 AND E-2 VISAS	3
V.	LEGAL RESEARH CONCERNING EB-5 VISAS	6
VI.	DEVELOP A THEORY OF THE CASE	7
VII.	USEFUL WEBSITES INCLUDING LAW FIRM NEWSLETTERS	7

# E-1 TREATY TRADER, E-2 TREATY INVESTOR AND EB-5s RESEARCH TOOLS AND AVAILABLE INFORMATION

This paper discusses research tools and available information e to prepare and file an E-1 and E-2 petition or application and EB-5 petition. The E visa process requires a thorough understanding of the applicable law and regulations, and the current practice with the applicable consulate (assuming consular processing) or USCIS. The EB-5 process requires a thorough understanding of the applicable law and regulations, and the current practice with the applicable consulate (assuming consular processing) or USCIS.

#### I. TOPICS COVERED

- 1. Practice Pointers
- 2. Legal research for E visas
- 3. Legal research for EB-5s
- 4. Useful websites for law firm newsletters
- 5. Setting up a case

#### II. PRACTICE POINTERS CONCERNING E-1 TREATY TRADER AND E-2 TREATY INVESTOR VISAS

- 1. **Statute and Regulations** Carefully review the USCIS regulations and FAM regulations.
- 2. Review the AILA and website literature.
- 3. Client interview Have a thorough client intake interview to evaluate the eligibility issues including if the principal has more than one nationality under which he/ she may qualify
- 4. If you do not regularly file E visas, consult with a colleague who has such expertise. There are many pitfalls and hidden issues that otherwise may not be apparent.<sup>1</sup>
- 5. **Communication** Communicate with your clients in writing regularly to avoid any misunderstanding or miscommunication.
- 6. Where to file Determine where you will file, i.e. consulate or USCIS, assuming already in the U.S. and eligibility for change of status or extension of stay
- 7. **Processing times** If filing at a consulate, determine the current processing time and if such timing meets with the client's business and personal expectations, i.e., principal's children need to start school in August.
- <sup>1</sup> See Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct Disciplinary Conduct Rule 1.01. Competent and Diligent Representation

- 8. Page limitation and translations Determine if there is a page limitation or translation requirement for the particular post.
- 9. Embassy/ consulate website Assuming filing at a consulate or embassy, carefully review the post website at the start of the case, the week prior to filing and as part of your checklist just before submission. If filing with USCIS, review the current form and USCIS Policy Manual.
- 10. Check the reciprocity schedule.
- 11. Prepare a checklist for the submission.
- 12. **Troubleshoot** Is there any particular problem or issue with the case that makes it something out of the ordinary? e.g. prior status violations or overstay, substantive changes, marginality, age out issues for the principal's children.
- 13. Check with practitioners who regularly file with USCIS or for consular cases at such post to determine if there are any USCIS or post specific nuances, recommendations and procedures to consider at the beginning of the case and prior to filing, assuming time has elapsed since your initial contact with such person with local post procedures.
- 14. Form edition Check the USCIS or Department of State form edition at the beginning of the case and prior to filing with USCIS or the Department of State to determine if the form is still accepted.
- 15. Clients' review of USCIS or Consulate submission Prior to submission to USCIS or post, email a copy of the entire submission to the employer and employee prior for review and confirmation the information and documents provided is accurate and correct.
- 16. Consulate Interview and Post Entry / Change of Status or Extension of Stay Issues

#### A. Instruction memo and checklist

- (1) Prepare a checklist / instruction memo for the client(s) visa interview.
- (2) Retain a completed copy of the DS160 as submitted by the principal, his/ her spouse and children, if any, for their review prior to the visa interview.
- (3) Are there any nonimmigrant intent issues? See FAM at 9 FAM 402.9-

https://www.texasbar.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home&ContentID=27271&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm

## 4(C) Intent to Depart Upon Termination of Status

An applicant for an E visa need not establish intent to proceed to the United States for a specific temporary period, nor does an applicant for an E visa need to have a residence in a foreign country which the applicant does not intend to abandon. The applicant may sell their residence and move all household effects to the United States. The applicant's expression of an unequivocal intent to depart the United States upon termination of E status is normally sufficient. An applicant who is the beneficiary of an IV petition will need to satisfy you that his/her intent is to depart the United States at the end of his/her authorized stay, and not stay in the United States to adjust status or otherwise remain in the United States.

- B. Close out memo After the visa interview or change of status, provide a close out memo which discusses in detail future actions and the effect of changes on current and future eligibility.
  - (1) Discuss impact on current and future eligibility concerning "substantive changes" including changes in ownership and the impact on nationality.
  - (2) Discuss impact on current and future eligibility concerning "substantive changes" in trade.
- C. Post submission considerations After filing, calendar periodically to check the case status.
  - (1) For USCIS cases it is possible to register for updates at <a href="https://egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do">https://egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do</a> whereby you receive emails when there is any activity on the case.
  - (2) For consular cases, it is possible to check the case status at <a href="https://ceac.state.gov/CEACStatTracker/Status.aspx">https://ceac.state.gov/CEACStatTracker/Status.aspx</a> which states in part as follows:

- D. Future immigration strategy Develop a strategy for future U.S. immigration benefits concerning the employer, the principal, the principal's spouse and children, including any age out issues.
- 17. Discuss the possible benefit to enter the U.S. as a B-1 nonimmigrant prior to opening a business to conduct market research for 6 months on a B-1 or 3 months on visa waiver.
- 18. **Monitor developments**, i.e., James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023- see below.

**Practice Pointer** - This may allow eligible Brazilian citizens who hold Portuguese passports to qualify for E visas.

19. Develop a team of trusted advisors for the E visa matters — corporate, real estate, intellectual property, U.S. and international tax/ CPA and business plan.

## III. PRACTICE POINTERS CONCERNING EB-5 PETITIONS

- 1. See E visa practice pointers above.
- 2. If you do not regularly file EB-5 visas, consult with a colleague who has such expertise. There are many pitfalls and hidden issues that may not otherwise be apparent.<sup>2</sup>
- 3. Is there a strategy to obtain and/ or to file an extension of the nonimmigrant status for the principal, his/ her spouse and children? Are there any nonimmigrant intent issues?
- 4. Are there any age out issues?

https://www.texasbar.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home&ContentID=27271&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm

CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

BACK

VISA STATUS CHECK

VISA STATUS CHECK

Welcour et On this website, you can check your U.S. visa application status.

Visa Application Type
| NONEMBERANT VISA (NIV)

Flease select a location
| - Sel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct Disciplinary Conduct Rule 1.01. Competent and Diligent Representation

- 5. Check the visa bulletin and the priority date monthly.
- 6. What are the short term, long term and ultimate objectives of the principal and his/her spouse and children?
- 7. **Focus on the prize/ long term goal** U.S. citizenship for the principal, his/her spouse and children
  - A. Does the principal and his/ her spouse and children wish to obtain U.S. citizenship? Has the principal and his/ her spouse and children consulted with U.S. and international corporate, estate planning and tax counsel to ascertain the domestic/ U.S. consequences of obtaining LPR status?
  - B. Has the principal and his/ her spouse and children consulted with U.S. immigration and U.S. and international tax counsel in the event any of them either abandon and/or lose their LPR status?

## IV. LEGAL RESEARCH CONERNING E-1 AND E-2 VISAS

- 1. Statutes and Regulations See INA §101(a)(15)(E); 8 CFR §214.2(e); 22 CFR §41.51
- Kurzban Immigration Law Sourcebook, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition, pages 1299-1310; Seehttps://ailalink.aila.org/file.aspx?id=84954appendix6-treatytraderinvestorcountriespdf; 18<sup>th</sup> Edition – Vol 2 - pages – 2251-2262
- 3. Department of State website —see <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/fees/treaty.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/fees/treaty.html</a> for list of treaty countries
- 4. USCIS Policy Manual https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-2-part-g Part G Treaty Traders and Treaty Investors (E-1, E-2)
- 5. **8** CFR 214.2(e)

  https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-8/chapterI/subchapter-B/part-214/section-214.2

#### FAM E Visa Notes:

https://fam.state.gov/FAM/09FAM/09FAM040209.html

U.S. visa news from the U.S. Department of State <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news.html</a> and <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/Visa-Reciprocity-and-Civil-Documents-by-Country.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/Visa-Reciprocity-and-Civil-Documents-by-Country.html</a> - visa reciprocity schedule to check on availability for E status

Embassy website – See the website which covers the place(s) where you will apply. The U.S. Embassy in London has very good information – See - <a href="https://uk.usembassy.gov/news-events/">https://uk.usembassy.gov/news-events/</a>

## 6. Check AILA Infonet concerning the following:

- A. Recent developments
- B. Practice Alerts
- C. Practice Pointers
- D. Resources by topic <a href="https://www.aila.org/infonet/topics">https://www.aila.org/infonet/topics</a>
- E. Review the literature on AILAlink see <a href="https://ailalink.aila.org/login.html">https://ailalink.aila.org/login.html</a> (there is an annual fee, but this is a comprehensive immigration library on the web). See items 8 23 below.
- 7. James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 was signed into law by President Biden on December 23, 2022.
  - A. See <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/legislation/2022/12/23/press-release-bill-signed-h-r-7776/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/legislation/2022/12/23/press-release-bill-signed-h-r-7776/</a>
  - B. See <a href="https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/congress-passes-the-ndaa-with-h-2b-and-e-visa-chan">https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/congress-passes-the-ndaa-with-h-2b-and-e-visa-chan</a> which states in part as follows:

#### Practice Alert: Congress Passes the NDAA with H-2B and E Visa Changes

AILA Doc. No. 22121653 | Dated December 16, 2022
On December 15, 2022, Congress passed the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (H.R. 7776/NDAA). The NDAA contained two immigration-related provisions that impact the H-2B program and E visa eligibility. Section 5901 makes two important changes to eligibility for E visas:

- 1. Portugal has been designated as a treaty country.
- 2. Individuals who have acquired citizenship through financial investment must have

been domiciled in that country for "a continuous period of not less than 3 years at any point before applying for an E nonimmigrant visa."

Note: This residency requirement *does not apply* to individuals who has previously been granted E nonimmigrant status. However, this provision will limit use of "Citizenship by Investment" programs of countries, such as Grenada, that have enabled investors who acquire citizenship in a treaty visa country to obtain E-2 nonimmigrant visas while awaiting availability of an immigrant visa. These provisions are expected to take effect once the bill has been signed by the President, which will likely be within the next week.

AILA will monitor the implementation of the new E visa requirements and provide updates as necessary.

- 8. AILA's Immigration Law Practice & Procedure Manual: A "Cookbook" of Essential Practice Materials [© 2022], E-2 Visas in the Time of COVID by Sujata Ajmera, Tammy Fox-Isicoff, Kushal Patel, and Bernard Wolfsdorf pp. 190–193 and E-1 and E-2 Nonimmigrants originally authored and updated by Henry J. Chang pp. 194- 220. See <a href="https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/99956">https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/99956</a>
- 9. AILA's Immigration Law Practice & Procedure Manual: A "Cookbook" of Essential Practice Materials [© 2021], Chapter 4: E-1 and E-2 Visas, Chapter 4

  Text: E-1 and E-2 Visas, pp. 329-340, https://ailalink.aila.org/#documents/95368
  - Sample Workflow for E-1 or E-2 Change of Status or Extension of Status
  - Sample Workflow for Consular Petition for E-1 or E-2 Change of Status or Extension of Status
  - Sample Eligibility Screening Assessment
    Tool for E-1 Treaty Trader and E-2
    Treaty Investor Cases
  - Chart of E-Visa Countries
  - Sample Memorandum to Client
    Explaining E-1 and E-2 Visa
    Requirements
  - Sample Intake Questionnaire for E-1 and E-2 Nonimmigrant Visas

- Sample Checklist of Documents for Client for E-1 or E-2 Visa Application
- Sample Checklist of Documents for Client for E-1 Visa Application
- Sample Template for a CEO Job Description
- Sample Template for Letter Showing Gift of Funds
- Sample Statement of Intention to Depart the United States
- Sample Cover Letter for E-2 Extension of Status
- Sample Index of Documents for E-1 Nonimmigrant Visa Application Packet
- Sample Cover Letter for E-1 Nonimmigrant Visa Application
- Sample E-1 Trade Summary Chart
- Sample Index of Documents for E-2

  Nonimmigrant Visa Application
  Packet
- Sample Cover Letter for E-2 Nonimmigrant Visa Application
- Sample Cover Letter for E-2 Derivative
  Spouse EAD
- Sample E-1 Interview Preparation
  Instructions for Client
- <u>Sample E-2 Interview Preparation</u> <u>Instructions for Client</u>
- Instructions and Tips for Completing
  Petitions for Change of Status or
  Extension of Status for E-1 or E-2
  Nonimmigrant Workers: Forms G28, I-129, and I-129 E Supplement
- Sample Forms for Extension of Status of
  E-2 Nonimmigrant Status: G-28, I129, and I-129 E Supplement
- Instructions and Tips for Completing
  Form for E-1 or E-2 Nonimmigrant
  Visa: DS-160
- Sample Forms for Application for E-2 Nonimmigrant Visa: G-28, DS-160, and DS-156E
- 10. AILA Conference Publications / Annual Conference Publications / Immigration Practice Pointers [© 2010-21] / Immigration Practice Pointers, 2021-22 / Consular Nuances in Processing E-1 and E-2 Visa Applications by Cindy Azoulay, Ian E. Scott, and Dominique Pando Bucci

https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/95281

11. AILA Conference Publications / Annual Conference Publications / Immigration Practice Pointers, 2018-19 / Business

Immigration / The Minefield of the E-1/E-2
Multi-Jurisdictional Practice by Cindy
Azoulay, Leigh N. Ganchin, Michael
Ryvin and Ian E. Scott

https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/78279

12. AILA Conference Publications / Annual Conference Publications / Immigration Practice Pointers, 2017-18 / Business Immigration / The E-1 (Treaty Trader) and E-2 (Treaty Investor) Visas: Real or Fake News? by Amanda Shipley, Terry Feiertag, Charles H. ("Chuck") Kuck, and Kripa Upadhyay

https://ailalink.aila.org/#documents/66413

13. AILA Conference Publications / Annual Conference Publications / Immigration Practice Pointers, 2016-17 / Business Immigration / Expert E-1/E-2 Application Preparation by Jared C. Leung, Allen Orr, and Kathleen Campbell Walker

https://ailalink.aila.org/#documents/64373

14. AILA Conference Publications /
 Immigration Practice Pointers, 2016 17 / Business Immigration / E Visa
 Processing Update – Mission Mexico by
 Kathleen Campbell Walker

https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/64374

15. AILA Conference Publications / Immigration Practice Pointers, 2016-17 / Other Issues / "Do's" And "Don'ts" for Attorneys Representing Visa Applicants updated by Liam Schwartz, Kehrela Hodkinson, Poorvi Chothani and Gary Chodorow

https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/64437

16. AILA Conference Publications /
Immigration Practice Pointers, 201516 / Business Immigration / E-1 Treaty
Traders and E-2 Treaty Investors by Yeu
Hong, Paul Samartin, and Terry Weir
https://ailalink.aila.org/#documents/52008

17. AILA Conference Publications / Immigration Practice Pointers, 2015-16 / Business Immigration / My Ever Changing Employment: Material Change As It Relates to H-1B, L-1, E, TN, by Michael P. Nowlan, Atessa Chehrazi, Romy Kapoor, and Sarah Buffett

https://ailalink.aila.org/#search/result/view/52017

18. Practice Alert: E-1 and E-2 Processing at Consular Posts - See <a href="https://www.aila.org/infonet/practice-alert-e-1-e-2-processing-consular-posts">https://www.aila.org/infonet/practice-alert-e-1-e-2-processing-consular-posts</a>

## Practice Alert: E-1 and E-2 Processing at Consular Posts

AILA Doc. No. 18122612 | Dated December 25, 2018

By AILA's Department of State Liaison Committee [1]

The E-1 and E-2 visa application process varies by consular post, with differences evident even in posts located in the same country. For example, in Ciudad Juarez, applications are submitted in hard copy binders with complex page number limits. In Mission Australia, processes vary by post with Perth accepting only hard copy submissions and Sydney and Melbourne accepting only electronic copies. The variety in E-1 and E-2 processing procedure extends also to size limits for electronic document submissions and appointment scheduling. Some posts, such as those in

https://jp.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmi grant-visas/e1-e2-visas/apply-step-1/e2/ and

https://jp.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmi grant-visas/e1-e2-visas/apply-step-1/e2/ , have E-2 registration programs, while most other posts do not.

During the October 18, 2018 liaison meeting with the Department of State Visa Office (DOS), AILA's DOS Liaison Committee raised these differences, and inquired about the possibility of harmonizing procedures for application submission, interview scheduling, and Eregistration across posts.

DOS explained that due to challenges encountered by posts on several fronts (such as post resources/size, workload, infrastructure, and security requirements), each embassy consulate has discretion to determine its own procedures for E visa applications, including whether to implement an E-2 registration program and scheduling systems. While DOS encourages posts to share best practices and is always working with embassies and consulates

to achieve uniformity, each post ultimately determines its own processes. With respect to registration, State further explained that most consular posts receiving E visa applications are small and do not have sufficient volume to benefit from a company registration program.

[1] Thanks to AILA DOS Liaison Committee member Nikki Dryden for preparing this alert.

## 19. Practice 9 FAM 402.9-4(D) Physical Office Space (CT:VISA-1111; 07-17-2020)

An applicant does not necessarily need a physical office space to qualify for an E visa. Although having physical office space may be relevant in determining whether the requirements for an E visa have been met, it is not a requirement to qualify for the visa. <a href="https://fam.state.gov/FAM/09FA

See <a href="https://www.aila.org/infonet/aila-dos-liaison-qas-3-5-20">https://www.aila.org/infonet/aila-dos-liaison-qas-3-5-20</a> AILA DOS Liaison Q&As (3/5/20)

AILA Doc. No. 20031030 | Dated March 5, 2020 | File Size: 672 K

## 20. AILA Rome Chapter Listserve <a href="http://www.aila-rdc-emea.org/">http://www.aila-rdc-emea.org/</a>

http://www.aila-rdc-

emea.org/committee/consular-liaison/ which includes multiple web links with useful information. For example, FAQs from the field on multiple European consular posts. https://www.dropbox.com/s/yup0apq7fnt8o2b/GMT20210602-

170140 Recording 1920x1080.mp4?dl=0 - 52 Tips in 52 minutes webinar with Ian Scott, Marco Mazzeschi, John Khosravi and Greg Siskind

https://www.dropbox.com/s/7v01b6sgefmzvj w/CLC%20Practice%20Roundtable%207%2 0May%202021.mp4?dl=0 – webinar consular practice liaison roundtable on May 7, 2021 AILA RDC-EMEA Annual Chapter Meeting (Featuring London Visa Chief – June 2021) http://www.aila-rdc-emea.org/agency-resources/

- 21. AILA Latin America Chapter Listserve <a href="https://ailalacc.org/">https://ailalacc.org/</a> Webinars have up to date practical information. Note the webinars are not recorded.
- 22. Asia Pacific Chapter- website at <a href="https://www.aila.org/membership/communities/chapters/bangkok-district">https://www.aila.org/membership/communities/chapters/bangkok-district</a>

https://www.aila.org/membership/communities/chapters/bangkok-district/meeting-minutes

https://www.aila.org/membership/communities/ch apters/bangkok-district/bangkok-district-chapterwebinars-presentations

https://www.aila.org/membership/communities/ch apters/bangkok-district/resources - Consular Post Contact & Other Information (2018 and before)

## 23.AILA mentor directory for E visas - https://www.aila.org/mentor-directory/results/133

## V. LEGAL RESEARH CONCERNING EB-5 VISAS

- 1. **Statutes and Regulations** –INA §203(b)(5); INA §216(A); 8CFR §204.6; 8CFR§216.6
- Kurzban Immigration Law Sourcebook, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition, pages 1561 - 1595 18<sup>th</sup> Edition Vol 2 - pages 2543-2578
- 3. USCIS website See https://www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/permanent-workers/eb-5-immigrant-investor-program
- 4. **Visa Bulletin** See <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin.html</a>
- 5. **USCIS Policy Manual** See <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-6-part-g">https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-6-part-g</a>
- 6. **AILA Infonet-** See <a href="https://www.aila.org/research-library/?c=EB-5&s=date">https://www.aila.org/research-library/?c=EB-5&s=date</a>

#### 7. Practice Pointers and Practice Alerts

- A. Practice Alert: USCIS Postpones December 29, 2022, Filing Deadlines for EB-5 Regional Center Forms I-956 and I-956G AILA Doc. No. 22122451 | Dated December 24, 2022; See <a href="https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/uscis-postpones-december-29-2022-filing-deadline">https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/uscis-postpones-december-29-2022-filing-deadline</a>
- B. Practice Alert: Summary of EB-5/I PO Stakeholder Engagement

  AILA Doc. No. 22111152 | Dated November 11, 2022; AILA provides a practice alert with a summary of the most significant aspects of the stakeholder engagement held by the USCIS Immigrant Investor Program Office (IPO) on October 19, 2022. See <a href="https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/summary-of-eb-5-ipo-stakeholder-engagement">https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/summary-of-eb-5-ipo-stakeholder-engagement</a>
- C. Practice Pointer: Updates from the October 2022 Visa Bulletin AILA Doc.

No. 22092651 | Dated September 26, 2022; The AILA DOS Liaison Committee provides a practice pointer concerning updates from the October 2022 Visa Bulletin, as well as information concerning USCIS and DOS efforts to utilize all allocated employment-based visas in FY2022. See <a href="https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/updates-from-the-october-2022-visa-bulletin">https://www.aila.org/advo-media/aila-practice-pointers-and-alerts/updates-from-the-october-2022-visa-bulletin</a>

8. **AILA mentor directory for EB-5s** – See <a href="https://www.aila.org/mentor-directory/results/137">https://www.aila.org/mentor-directory/results/137</a>

#### VI. DEVELOP A THEORY OF THE CASE

- 1. At the start of the representation, stop and spend time to create a macro and micro vision of the case. Align your case facts with the regulatory requirements for the benefit requested.
- 2. At the start of the case, conduct a thorough initial client intake interview, request a complete copy of the paper and digital file from the employee and his/ her prior employer(s), and submit a FOIA to applicable U.S. government agencies.
- Given the complexities of post pandemic world, we often recommend the attorney prepare a strategy memo to discuss the potential issues and scenarios which may play out, and to consider the multiple remedies/ options available to present to the client(s), including the potential risks and consequences. This is important because if you skip over this step, it is possible to overlook a significant obstacle that should be addressed and brought to the client's attention at the outset of the representation.
- 4. In terms of the end result, by focusing on the theory of the case, you will focus on the case's weaknesses, strengths, and plan for the uncertain.

## VII. USEFUL WEBSITES INCLUDING LAW FIRM NEWSLETTERS

- 1. BAL <a href="https://go.balglobal.com/newsf">https://go.balglobal.com/newsf</a>
- 2. Klasko Immigration Law Partners LLP <a href="https://www.klaskolaw.com/contact-us/subscribe-updates/">https://www.klaskolaw.com/contact-us/subscribe-updates/</a>; <a href="https://www.klaskolaw.com/news-category/client-alerts/">https://www.klaskolaw.com/news-category/client-alerts/</a>

- https://www.klaskolaw.com/blog/; and https://www.klaskolaw.com/site-map/
- 3. Dickinson-Wright <a href="http://immigration.dickinson-wright.com/">http://immigration.dickinson-wright.com/</a>
- 4. Fragomenhttps://www.fragomen.com/insights/alerts and https://www.fragomen.com/insights/podcasts
- 5. Greenberg Traurighttps://www.gtlaw.com/en/insights?keyword =immigration
- 6. Immigration Daily <a href="https://www.ilw.com/immigrationdaily/">https://www.ilw.com/immigrationdaily/</a>
- 7. Murthy Law Firm <a href="https://www.murthy.com/about-us/online-services/enewsletter/">https://www.murthy.com/about-us/online-services/enewsletter/</a>
- 8. Maggio Kattar <a href="https://maggio-kattar.com/sign-up-for-news-alerts/">https://maggio-kattar.com/sign-up-for-news-alerts/</a>
- 9. Miller Mayer LLP-<u>https://millermayer.com/news-and-insights/</u> go to sign up for our newsletter
- 10. Mintz https://www.mintz.com/subscribe
- 11. Seyfarth <a href="https://www.bigimmigrationlawblog.com/">https://www.bigimmigrationlawblog.com/</a>
- 12. Shusterman https://www.shusterman.com/
- 13. Siskind's Immigration Law Bulletin <a href="https://www.visalaw.com/immigration-resources/bulletin/">https://www.visalaw.com/immigration-resources/bulletin/</a>
- 14. Wolfsdorf Rosenthal <a href="https://wolfsdorf.com/client\_alert/">https://wolfsdorf.com/client\_alert/</a> ; <a href="https://wolfsdorf.com/blog/">https://wolfsdorf.com/blog/</a> ; <a href="https://wolfsdorf.com/blog/">Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP YouTube</a>
- 15. U.S. Embassy London https://uk.usembassy.gov/news-events/
- 16. The Insightful Immigration Blog <a href="http://blog.cyrusmehta.com/">http://blog.cyrusmehta.com/</a>
- 17. Mark Davies —See <a href="https://www.eb5investors.com/">https://www.eb5investors.com/</a>

Practice Pointer – Be thorough and cautious concerning your dependence upon that which is found on internet postings, blogs, newsletters, etc. Treat all information as a means to an end. Carefully review information as published and made available on the public domain alongside the relevant statute and regulations and utilize in the best manner that will support your claim(s). Where there is negative information that can be distinguished from your particular fact pattern, indicate the distinction as needed and lay out the manner in which your case facts are unique and should prevail.

This outline of E visa resources and EB-5 resources is certainly not an exhaustive list, but rather an outline to explore and to become familiar with (if not already). Understanding the statutory and regulatory requirements and the related processes is key to the application/ petition preparation, strategy and submission.