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Immigration News Update

March 4, 2010

Welcome to Immigration News Update, your resource for the latest developments in U.S. immigration laws, procedures, and breaking news. Immigration News Update is published bi-monthly by Bashyam Spiro, a firm committed solely to the practice of Immigration and Nationality Law. To further explore what is happening in immigration across our nation and the world follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

To hear what our clients and staff say about our firm, please click [here](#).

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Bashyam Spiro LLP handles U.S. immigration cases in all 50 states and around the world. We are located at The Summit Building, 4101 Lake Boone Trail, Suite 200, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607. Telephone: 919-833-0840. Web Site: www.bashyamspiro.com.

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Join us! Two (2) Upcoming Immigration Webinars

Our law firm will be presenting the following free immigration webinars:

- [Wednesday, March 17, 2010](#) - How To Become a U.S. Citizen (12 - 1 pm.) To sign up, please click [here](#).
- [Wednesday, March 31, 2010](#) - The New USCIS Memo on Employer-Employee Relationship for H1B Applications - What You Need To Know (12 - 1 pm.) To sign up, please click [here](#).

Given that the H-1B filing season is nearly upon us, employers are encouraged to sign up for the webinar on March 31, 2010. We will discuss the USCIS memo, what it says about the employer-employee relationship, and what additional documentation employers will have to submit in the H-1B application process.

You can also sign up for these and any upcoming seminars and webinars at the [Seminar/Training](#) link on our [web site](#).

Senators Introduce Startup Visa Act of 2010

Senators John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) introduced legislation to drive job creation and increase America's global competitiveness by helping immigrant entrepreneurs secure visas to the United States. The *Startup Visa Act of 2010* will allow an immigrant entrepreneur to receive a two year visa if he or she can show that a qualified U.S. investor is willing to dedicate a significant sum – a minimum of \$250,000 – to the immigrant's startup venture.

The *Startup Visa Act of 2010* would amend immigration law to create a new EB-6 category for immigrant entrepreneurs, drawing from existing visas under the EB-5 category, which permits foreign nationals when they invest at least \$1 million and create 10 jobs to obtain a green card. After proving that he or she has secured initial investment capital and if, after two years, the immigrant entrepreneur can show that he or she has generated at least five full-time jobs in the United States, attracted \$1 million in additional investment capital or achieved \$1 million in revenue, then he or she would receive permanent legal resident status.

We will keep you updated on our [web site](#) if and when the StartUp Visa Act moves through the legislative process. To read the entire press release from Senator Lugar's office, please

click [here](#).

USCIS Revises Immigration Forms and Filing Locations

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) recently announced that a number of USCIS forms have been revised and their filing locations changed. The changes are part of an overall effort to transition the intake of USCIS benefit forms from Service Centers to Lockbox facilities. If you are about to file an application with USCIS, we urge you to first check the [USCIS web site](#) to see if your form and/or filing location has changed.

We will provide updates on www.bashyamspiro.com as they become available.

Client Testimonial Video - Stanley Hsu

One of our firm's favorite clients, Mr. Stanley Hsu, stopped by our office a few weeks ago to discuss his immigration experience and our law firm's representation. Stanley had a particularly complicated and lengthy employment-based immigration case. Over the course of our representation of Stanley, we could tell that our communications with him were changing from formal to friendly, as if the traditional attorney-client relationship was also evolving into a friendship. Just last year, Stanley and his family received U.S. permanent residency. Helping good people and building lasting relationships – that's why we enjoy what we do!

To see Stanley describe his immigration experience on video, please visit our [YouTube page](#).

Just Call Me An Immigration Socialite

By Pam Prather, Client Relations Manager, Bashyam Spiro LLP



We're a big hit on the social circuit....

You think YOU hate going to parties and other social events? Maybe you're shy, or what

your spouse lovingly calls 'antisocial'. Maybe you get bored, or just don't know what to talk about. Discussions on the weather can only take you so far, so most people resort to talking about their careers at things like this. But what if you recently lost your job? Or you do some obscure research that no one understands? Maybe you're a dermatologist and when you tell strangers they ask you to look at the rash on the bottom of their feet. When I had young children, and wasn't employed outside the home, I would dread the question "So what do you do"? I would panic and stammer something like "Uh. Nothing.", when that's the LAST thing that could describe what I did all day.

All that pales in comparison to my experiences these last couple of years. My husband works for a health insurance company. (Was that a shudder that just went through you?) Anyway, we've started keeping it secret from new acquaintances. It's just no fun getting that hateful glare as they digest the fact that he makes a living with the 'evil empire' that single-handedly destroyed their friend's aunt's life savings, or refused to pay for their sister's neighbor's liposuction. I think people would take it better if he was a used car salesman (apologies to all you used car salesmen).

Those that try to remain polite in the face of such circumstances will inevitably turn to me to change the topic of conversation. They try to disguise their contempt as they struggle to maintain their composure and not attack my sweet hubby in public. "Me"? I say. "Oh, I work in immigration"! There's an audible gasp, and then silence. Their face turns white. And then they let me have it.

No one has mild feelings on the subject of immigration. I've heard it all. Every misleading idea, every misunderstanding, every out-and-out lie that gets spread as if it's the gospel truth. So I have taken this on as my personal life's mission: to educate the average American on 1] why our country NEEDS immigrants; 2] why our country should WANT immigrants; and 3] how the US is inestimably richer for our melting-pot culture. I back them in to a corner (figuratively if not literally) and explain how immigration law is the only federal law that is completely made up. It's been cobbled together from politicians good and bad over many generations, and currently makes as much sense as the continued popularity of America Idol. I tell them heartbreaking, personal stories of clients I've worked with (no names of course!), which show the truly ugly picture of our broken immigration system. They'll look sheepish and say something like "Oh that's different, I'm not talking about THAT kind of immigrant". I smile sadly, and say as gently as I can, "But there's more of this story than you can possibly imagine".

Well, I may not change the world, or even my little corner of it, but my husband and I are getting very good at publicly defending our chosen fields! Both are at the forefront of the public's minds right now, because they both desperately need to be fixed. Until then, every

hostess in the Triangle is scratching the Prathers off their guest lists.....

HELPFUL LINKS

To access some helpful immigration related web sites, please click [here](#).

To schedule a consultation, please send an email info@bashyamspiro.com or click [here](#).

To learn more about Bashyam Spiro LLP, please visit www.bashyamspiro.com.

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4101 Lake Boone Trail, Suite 200 | Raleigh, NC 27607



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