# **Step by Step Legal Process:**

# STEP 1

Sign an engagement contract with Toppins
Law Firm for consultation and initial analysis of your EB5

## STEP

2

Payment of a flat fee covers the EB5 application legal services (except for RFE which is billed separate if applies.) Translation and filing fees are separate

# **STEP**

3

Research,
identification, and
legal analysis of (1)
USCIS approved
investment EB5
projects or (2) investor
own project

# STEP



Investor makes the required investment. (\$800,000 or \$1.050.000)

## STEP



Law firm works with investor to obtain, design and catalogue documents necessary to apply for successful EB5

#### **STEP**



Submit EB5
application and
complete supporting
package to USCIS for
approval of conditional
green card

# STEP



If I-526 is approved, assistance with NVC/USCIS processing of conditional green card

# STEP



Receive conditional approval from USCIC for a green card, and

### STEP



after entry into the US, your immigration attorney submits an I-829 to remove the conditional status.
This service is an additional flat flee.

# Ask us about filing AOS!

enter the US

EB-5 results in permanent residency, unlike other investor visas.



# Call (713) 858-7260 for your consultation

# **Houston, USA**

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#### **Additional Practice Areas:**

- Contractual & Transactional Law
- General Business & Corporate Law
- International Transactions Latin America
- Labor & Employment
- General Civil Litigation
- Real Estate and Banking
- Employment-Based and Corporate Immigration



# Wilka Toppins, Corporate and Immigration Attorney

Ms. Toppins has over 33 years of legal experience, and she is a nationally and locally recognized businesswoman, with multiple awards and accolades. She is fully bilingual in Spanish and works with clients from all over the world. By retaining Wilka Toppins as your immigration attorney, you receive the added benefit of her corporate legal experience and her strategic investment acuity.



Toppins Law Firm is your "one-stop source" for all of your business and immigration legal needs.

Call us for a consultation (713) 858-7260 wilka@toppinslawfirm.com



# TOPPINS

LAW FIRM, P.C.

Corporate and Immigration Attorneys



**EB-5** 

The fastest way to secure permanent residency in the US for your family

# **■** What are the EB5 Visa Benefits?

- Attractive return of investment with potential profits.
- The investment is usually guaranteed by real estate or other legal documents.
- The process gives the applicant and dependents (spouse and children under 21 years of age) Green Cards.
- The opportunity to apply for citizenship after 5 years.
- There are no requirements on job experience, age, education level, etc.
- Ability to live anywhere in the USA.
- Freedom to travel in and out of the US and travel to the applicant's country of origin.
- The visa application doesn't affect current Student Visas or any other Investor Visas.

- Access to internationally recognized universities and other educational institutions with the eligibility to pay in-state tuition fees.
- Students may work in the USA.
- Access to the American Medical System.
- After Green Card is obtained, the applicant may sponsor a family member to obtain another visa.
- Permanent Residency doesn't require renewal. No other US immigrant visa like E2 and H1B results in permanent residency and requires additional processing with USCIS.
- This permanent visa protects the applicant from future US immigration law changes.

# **Frequently Asked Questions for EB5 Investors**

#### What is EB5?

The EB-5 visa rs "green cards" (permanent resident status) annually to immigrants who invest in U.S. businesses that the economy and create or save ten jobs per investor. While the normal required minimum investment is \$1,050,000, that amount is reduced to \$800,000 if the investment is made in a high unemployment area or rural area.

After your application is approved by USCIS you will obtain conditional residence status for two years.

After two years, if you have maintained the investment and created or saved at least ten jobs, the conditional status will be removed and you will be a lawful permanent resident with a 10-year validity.

# Once I make up my mind that the EB-5 visa is the best visa for me and my family, what do I do?

Contact Toppins Law Firm (TLF) and begin the analysis and process. Once Toppins Law Firm is retained, we will process the legal documents to subscribe or establish the investment, and secure the documents necessary for the EB5 application.

# Live anywhere/work anywhere in the US.

#### Is this investment at risk?

Yes. The US Citizens and Immigration (USCIS) requires that all EB-5 investments must be at risk. However, the attorneys at TLF will help you in identifying any risks and measures to alleviate them. Remember any investments in any business include a measure of risk. You need to be informed, and that is where TLF can help you as experienced corporate lawyers.

# Once I am approved for my conditional EB-5 visa (I-526), how long do I have to wait for my permanent green card?

At the end of month 21 from the date of the approval of the I-526, you and TLFcan apply to remove the temporary conditions (I-829).

#### If the project fails, is my EB-5 green card in danger?

Possibly. At the end of the two year waiting period, you and the Toppins Law Firm can apply to remove the temporary conditions (I-829). Typically, projects are under construction for 1-2 years. As long as the projects are operational and the required jobs are created or there is reasonable expectation that the jobs will be created sometime during the 24-36 month period from approval of the I-526 (the time it takes for the USCIS to adjudicate the I-829), the EB-5 investor can successfully remove the temporary conditions. After the investor has received the permanent green card, there is no danger of losing the permanent green card, even if the project fails and jobs are lost.

#### Do I get my investment back?

Depends on how you invest. If you invested in a Regional Center project, you may receive interest and return of capital or you may have equity in the project. The attorneys at TLF will explain the rent types of investment project returns, if any, before you invest. If you invested in your own direct investment, your investment is dependent on you.

#### If my permanent green card is tied to job creation, what happens if the requisite number of jobs is not created?

Job creation is the primary requirement for the EB-5 investor to receive a permanent green card. If the minimum amount of jobs required for the job is not created, the USCIC will deny approval of the removal of the condition of the green card.





According to recent experiences, adjudication of I-526 applications is taking between 9-15 months. An additional 6 weeks is necessary to process the green card with the National Visa Center or USCIS depending where you are.

# If I choose to pursue an EB-5 green card, will I be subject to tax on my world-wide income?

Possibly. However, a tax consultant can advise you on how to do proper tax planning to minimize paying tax on income earned outside the US.

#### Can my children immigrate as my dependents?

move to the US?

Under EB-5 law, all unmarried children under the age of 21 at the time of the I-526 is received are covered under the primary investor's application.

# Am I as the investor required to be active in the business I invest in?

Depends. If you invest in a Regional Center, you do not have to have be active in business or be an or employee of the business. If you invest in your own program, you will have to "direct and control" the enterprise.

#### What is the most important part of the EB5 application?

Proof of lawful origin of investment funds. TLF will provide guidance on the best way to direct the source of funds as well as the various options the investor has to obtain the investment funds.

# Ask us about filing AOS!