



*On October 10-11, 2016, Invest in the USA (IIUSA), the national not-for-profit industry trade association for the EB-5 Regional Center Program will hold its 6th Annual EB-5 Industry Forum on the campus of the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). Attended by international investment and economic development professionals from around the world, the EB-5 Industry Forum will feature panels on legislative and regulatory activities that will shape the future of the EB-5 Program.*

**Monday & Tuesday October 10-11, 2016**  
**UCLA Meyer and Renee Luskin Conference Center**  
**425 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095**

*Updated 9/23/16. Topics and speakers subject to change.*

## **MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2016**

**7:00am – 5:00pm**

### **REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITS**

**9:00am – 12:00pm**

### **CASE STUDIES SEMINAR**

A three-panel seminar focused on assessing the practical implications of various emerging topics within the EB-5 industry, including:

- Capital redeployment
- Project Marketing & Investor Market Diversification
- Law Enforcement & Litigation

**9:00am – 10:00am**

### **CASE STUDIES SEMINAR SESSION #1: CAPITAL REDEPLOYMENT**

This panel will review the issue of “redeployment”, that is the question as to whether EB-5 investments must be sustained at risk – or merely just sustained – after the jobs have been created. In its August 10, 2015 Draft Memorandum, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) states that the New Commercial Enterprise (NCE) cannot simply hold the money since the investment must not only be sustained, but must be sustained “at risk.” With quota backlogs for Mainland Chinese investors resulting in their not receiving their condition removals until some number of years after the traditional 4 to 5 years, the issue of redeploying EB-5 capital to satisfy the statutory and regulatory language has wide-ranging ramifications for both projects and investors in an EB-5 transaction.

**PANELISTS:**



*Julia Park, Managing Director, Advantage America EB-5 Group*  
*Ronald Fieldstone, Partner, Arnstein & Lehr LLP*  
*Enrique Gonzalez, Partner, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP*  
*Joe McCarthy, Principal, American Dream Fund*

**10:00am – 11:30am**

### **IIUSA COMMITTEE MEETINGS (INVITE-ONLY\*)**

Five of IIUSA's 12 standing committees will meet in the morning session. Committees include: Banking, Compliance, Editorial, Public Policy and Technology.

\*IIUSA Members can sit in on any committee meetings, however prior notice is required. If you are interested, email us at [info@iiusa.org](mailto:info@iiusa.org).

**10:00am – 11:00am**

### **CASE STUDIES SEMINAR SESSION #2: PROJECT MARKETNG & INVESTOR MARKET DIVERSIFICATION**

With the new reality that investors from Mainland China will have to wait a minimum of six years before a visa number will be available for them to immigrate to the United States, it has become a necessity for project sponsors to explore new, untapped investor markets for future growth. This panel will review the unique dynamics at play in marketing EB-5 projects to investors in Latin America, Eastern Europe, Southeast Asia and other key growth markets.

#### PANELISTS:

*Mona Shah, Principal, Monah Shah & Associates*  
*Edward Beshara, Managing Partner, Beshara P.A.*  
*Irina Rostova, Partner, Rostova Westerman. Law Group, P.A.*  
*David Appel, Senior Partner, Tax & Business, Marcum LLP*  
*Jeff Carr, President, Economic and Policy Resources*  
*Bruno L'ecuyer, Chief Executive, Investment Migration Council*

**11:00am – 12:00pm**

### **CASE STUDIES SEMINAR SESSION #3: LAW ENFORCEMENT & LITIGATION**

Litigation in the EB-5 context has arisen in the form of mandamus, review of I-526 and I-829 petition denials, review of regional center denials and defense of securities law violations. With the inherent complexity of the EB-5 Program with commercial, economic, securities, corporate and immigration issues tied into the disputes in each and every case, it is likely that litigation will continue to be an



avenue for EB-5 Regional Centers and petitions to entertain.

PANELISTS:

*Michael Homeier, Founding Shareholder, Homeier & Law, P.C.*  
*John Pratt, Partner, Kurzban Kurzban Weinger Tetzeli & Pratt P.A.*  
*Chris Robertson, Partner, Seyfath Shaw LLP*  
*Russell Weigel, Principal, Russell C. Weigel, III, P.A.*

**12:00pm – 1:30pm**

**LUNCH\***

Catch up with old friends and make new ones at IIUSA's welcome luncheon. All ticketed participants will be allowed to join this gathering.

\*IIUSA Leadership Luncheon held separately, followed by IIUSA Board Meeting.

**2:00pm – 3:30pm**

**IIUSA COMMITTEE MEETINGS (INVITE-ONLY\*)**

Five of IIUSA's 12 standing committees will meet in the afternoon session. Committees include: Association Building, Best Practices, Investor Markets, Membership, and Public Relations.

\*IIUSA Members can sit in on any committee meetings, however prior notice is required. If you are interested, email us at [info@iiusa.org](mailto:info@iiusa.org).

**1:45pm – 4:45pm**

**EB-5 DUE DILIGENCE SEMINAR**

This seminar will focus on the evolving EB-5 market landscape which requires increased due diligence and compliance on the part of both project sponsors and investors.

- Immigration Due Diligence
- Investor Fund Protection
- Compliance with Securities Laws
- Transactional Due Diligence - Return of Capital & Exit Strategy

**1:45pm – 2:30pm**

**DUE DILIGENCE SEMINAR SESSION #1:  
IMMIGRATION DUE DILIGENCE**

While there are many issues that need to be reviewed carefully to determine whether a project is EB-5 immigration-compliant, the



first step is often immigration due diligence. This involves reviewing a project for compliance with USCIS regulations, precedent decisions and policies to determine the likelihood that a project will receive I-526 approval as well as the likelihood of investors obtaining condition removal and therefore obtaining their permanent green cards.

PANELISTS:

*Peyman Attari, Co-founder, President & CEO, AISA Investment Advisers*

*Michael Kester, Economist, Impact DataSource*

*Dawn M. Lurie, Shareholder, Polsinelli LLP*

*Angelo Paparelli, Partner, Seyfarth Shaw LLP*

*Rachel Zou, Chairperson, Lianhong Overseas Consultants Service Limited*

**2:30pm – 3:15pm**

**DUE DILIGENCE SEMINAR SESSION #2:  
INVESTOR FUND PROTECTION**

EB-5 projects that lack third party oversight or controls allow unethical owners room to misuse funds. Increasingly, investors are demanding transparency in monitoring the flow of funds to ensure the funds are properly deposited and transferred according to the project's offering documents and business plan. This panel will discuss activities such as fund administration, construction monitoring and independent audits that can help projects sponsor provide more accurate reporting on its financials and ensure EB-5 funds are being used appropriately.

PANELISTS:

*Jim Gamble, Vice President-Director of Construction Management, Tetra Tech, Inc.*

*Kurt Reuss, Co-founder and Advisor, EB5 Diligence*

*Jay Rosen, Partner, Arnstein & Lehr LLP*

*John Shen, CEO, Regional Centers Holding Group*

*Dan Smith, President, Trident Fund Services*

**3:15pm – 4:00pm**

**DUE DILIGENCE SEMINAR SESSION #3:  
COMPLIANCE WITH U.S. SECURITIES LAWS**

Under draft legislation, EB-5 Regional Centers would be required to adhere to enhanced compliance and integrity requirements including site visits, extensive annual reporting requirements and certifications, monitoring of agents, and potential background checks for regional center principals and owners, as well as



compliance with federal and state securities laws. This panel will assess new compliance procedures being adopted by Regional Centers in the face of potential legislation that would regulate the EB-5 industry.

PANELISTS:

*Robert V. Cornish Jr, Partner, Phillips Lytle LLP*

*Michael Fitzpatrick, Partner, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP*

*Mariza McKee, Partner, Kutak Rock LLP*

*Christian Moore, COO, Global Verification Network*

*Russell Scarcela, Director of Investigative Due Diligence and Business Intelligence, BDO USA LLP*

**4:00pm – 4:45pm**

**DUE DILIGENCE SEMINAR SESSION #4:  
TRANSACTIONAL DUE DILIGENCE – RETURN OF  
CAPITAL AND EXIT STRATEGY**

This panel will review due diligence measures that can be taken to ensure the viability of a project comports with the requirements of the EB-5 Program. Furthermore, this panel will assess repayment risk and position of EB-5 in the capital stack, New Commercial Enterprise (NCE) budgets and operational costs, corporate governance, reinvestment and more.

PANELISTS:

*Scott Barnhart, Economist, Barnhart Economic Services*

*Jonathan Bloch, Shareholder, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP*

*Rupy Cheema, Co-founder and Senior EB-5 Business Analyst, EB5 Diligence*

*William P. Gresser, Director Emeritus, IIUSA; President, EB-5 New York State, LLC*

*Rob Lee, CEO, Elite EB-5 Solutions*

**4:45pm – 5:00pm**

**I-829 AWARD CEREMONY**

Honoring Member Regional Centers who have been successful in bringing EB-5 projects “full circle” – that is those who have had clients’ I-829 petitions approved by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) in Fiscal Year 2016. This year’s recipients are:

- American Dream Fund
- American Life Investments, LLC
- BirchLeaf Capital
- CanAm Enterprises, LLC
- City of Dallas Regional Center
- Cleveland International Fund



- CMB Regional Centers
- EB5 Capital
- EB-5 Jobs for Massachusetts
- EB-5 New York State Regional Center
- Florida Overseas Investment Center
- New York City Regional Center
- Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce
- Maryland Center for Foreign Investment, LLC
- Whatcom Opportunities Regional Center, Inc

**5:00pm – TBD**

**EVENING RECEPTION (BEL AIR COUNTRY CLUB)**

Address: 10768 Bellagio Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90077

Shuttle service to and from reception.

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016**

**7:00am – 4:30pm**

**REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITS**

**8:00am – 9:15am**

**GENERAL SESSION SYMPOSIUM #1 – EB-5 LEGISLATION AND REGULATORY REFORM**

Several pieces of legislation have been introduced in Congress on EB-5 and are actively being considered in the process towards a single piece of broadly supported reauthorization and reform policy that results from constructive engagement and compromise. This panel will review the ongoing discussions regarding the reform and reauthorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program. This discussion will be presented in parallel with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) plan to update the EB-5 Program's regulations for the first time since the early 1990s.

**PANELISTS:**

*Hunter Bates, Principal, Republic Consulting, LLC*

*Dan Healy, Director, IIUSA; CEO, Civitas Capital Group*

*Peter D. Joseph, Executive Director, IIUSA*

*Tom Loeffler, Senior Council, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP*

*Hans Rickhoff, Senior Council, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP*

*Laura Reiff, Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

*Stephen Strnisha, CEO, Cleveland International Fund*

**9:20am – 10:00am**

**GUEST OF HONOR PRESENTATION: JULIA HARRISON, DEPUTY**



## CHIEF, USCIS IMMIGRANT INVESTOR PROGRAM OFFICE (IPO)

10:00am – 10:30am

**NETWORKING BREAK/NEW & POTENTIAL MEMBER COFFEE BREAK**

10:30am – 11:15am

**BREAKOUT SESSION #1**

- ***Issue Spotting in EB-5 Legislation for Regional Centers***

This panel will explore the different issues addressed in various legislation on EB-5. From TEA reform to job creation methodology to integrity measures and more, panelists will delve into the issues that would affect Regional Center projects and explain the provisions in current legislation.

PANELISTS:

*David Andersson, President, IIUSA; President, Whatcom Opportunities Regional Center*

*Nima Korpivarra, Partner, David Hirson & Partners, LLP*

*Bob Kraft, Director, IIUSA; President, and CEO of FirstPathway Partners*

*John Tishler, Partner, Sheppard Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP*

- ***Issue Spotting in EB-5 Legislation for Investors***

EB-5 legislation does not just affect Regional Centers, but current and potential investors too. This panel will look at current EB-5 legislation from the perspective of an investor to explore and explain various policy proposals.

PANELISTS:

*Michele Franchett, Partner, Stone Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP*

*Mina Tran, Founder, Tran Law Group*

*Cletus Weber, Co-Founder and Senior Attorney, Peng & Weber, PLLC*

11:15am – 12:30pm

**BREAKOUT SESSION #2**

- ***Practical Issues in Project Management in Uncertain Times***

With change and reform to the Program just beyond the horizon, it is important for EB-5 stakeholders to understand the implications of the proposed legislation on the table. This panel will look at possible changes to the Program and delve deeper into what these changes could mean for your business, your marketing strategy and ultimate success to help you prepare for the future.



**PANELISTS:**

*Michael C. Gibson, Partner, Bass, Berry & Sims PLC*  
*Chad Ellsworth, Partner, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP*  
*Ali Jahangiri, CEO, EB5Investors.com and EB5Investors Magazine*  
*Mark Roberts, VP, Specialty Banking Manager, Alliance Bank of Arizona*  
*Steve Shpilsky, Co-Founder, CaRE EB-5 Regional Center*

• ***Practical Issues in Marketing to Investors in Uncertain Times***

The EB-5 industry has experienced a roller coaster of realities over the past year and the repercussions of uncertainty does not stop at the American border. This panel will help navigate this uncertainty by unpacking what various provisions in current legislation would mean in the eyes of an investor and for overseas marketing of projects to help ease concerns of the future of the Program and ensure success for all stakeholders.

**PANELISTS:**

*David Enterline, Partner, WTW - Taipei Commercial Law Firm*  
*Grant King, Managing Partner, Hollywood International Regional Center*  
*Kevin Wright, Principal, Wright Johnson LLC*  
*Robert Whyte, Managing Partner, Whyte & Co*  
*Devin Williams, President, EB5 Global*

**12:00pm – 1:30pm**

**LUNCH**

**1:30pm – 2:15pm**

**GUEST OF HONOR PRESENTATION: MICHELE W. LAYNE, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC), LOS ANGELES REGIONAL OFFICE**

**2:15pm – 3:15pm**

**GENERAL SESSION SYMPOSIUM #2 – PROGRAM INTEGRITY**

Virtually all EB-5 stakeholders support changes to the EB-5 Regional Center Program that would enhance its integrity and transparency. This panel will review how such integrity measures, including provisions to prevent and address fraud, including measures designed to be responsive to recent enforcement actions, provisions to protect innocent investors who may be harmed by misconduct by bad actors and provisions to strengthen national security can and should be implemented.

**PANELISTS:**





*Mary King, COO, New York City Regional Center (NYCRC)*  
*Dave Souders, Director, IIUSA; Broker, Todd & Associates, Inc*  
*Lincoln Stone, Partner, Stone Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP*  
*Oswaldo Torres, Founder, Torres Law, PA*  
*Reid Thomas, Executive Vice President, NES Financial*

**3:15pm – 4:00pm**

**GUEST OF HONOR PRESENTATION: CHARLES OPPENHEIM,  
CHIEF, VISA CONTROLS OFFICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

MODERATED BY:

*Robert C Divine, Vice President, IIUSA; Shareholder, Donelson,  
Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz P.C*  
*Lee Li, Policy Analyst, IIUSA*

**4:00pm – 5:00pm**

**GENERAL SESSION SYMPOSIUM #3 – VISA CAPACITY**

The growing wait time for EB-5 visa availability threatens to undermine the important reforms Congress is considering for the Program. With an estimated eight-year wait for an EB-5 visa to be available to the vast majority of investors, increasing visa capacity is a priority. This panel will analyze the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) processing backlog, visa availability as well as viable ways Congress can address these important issues, which are central to sustaining the program's national positive economic impact.

PANELISTS:

*Patrick F. Hogan, CEO and Managing Member, CMB Regional  
Centers*  
*David Hirson, Partner, David Hirson & Partners, LLP*  
*Kristal Ozmun, Partner, Miller Mayer LLP*  
*Kyle Walker, Director, IIUSA; CEO, Green Card Fund, LLC*  
*Bernard Wolfsdorf, Partner, Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP*

**5:00pm – 5:15pm**

**CLOSING REMARKS & CONFERENCE CONCLUDES**

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#### **CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Conference Planning Committee helps the IIUSA staff and leadership layout the agenda for the event, identify potential guest of honor speakers and welcome guests from all over the world. Thank you to the volunteers listed below!

- Michael Homeier, Homeier & Law, P.C.
- Lincoln Stone, Michele Franchett, Susan Pilcher & Elise Arias, Stone Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP
- Jonathan Bloch, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP



- Trevor Saliba, NMS Capital Advisors, LLC
- Rupy Chema & Kurt Ruess, EB5 Diligence
- George Ekins & Joe McCarthy, American Dream Fund
- Steve Shpilsky, California Real Estate Regional Center
- Nima Korpivarra, David Hirson & Partners Yale Kim, Elite Visa Plans
- Chad Ellsworth, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy
- Grant King, Hollywood International Regional Center Lili Wang, New City Advisors
- John Shen, Regional Centers Holding Group
- Angelo Paparelli & Michael Clark, Seyfarth Shaw