

DEUTSCH, KILLEA AND EAPEN IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM

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Your Immigration Team in the Nation's Capital



The Needs of US Employers and Foreign Persons in Legal Status

In announcing his Executive Action on November 20th, President Obama addressed the needs of some of the estimated 11 million *undocumented* persons, those *not* in legal immigration status. However, he did not address the other part of our immigration system, for people *in legal immigration compliance*, which remains broken. Only Congress can fix it.

American employers have hiring needs which the current system does not fulfill. For example, if a business needs to hire a top foreign, professional worker, it might take 5+ years to obtain work permission or permanent residence. If the employee happens to be from India, it might take 10+ years. This is because there are many more applicants for immigrant visas than Congress has allocated, which prevents American businesses from accessing the world's best talent.

Further, many of the foreign graduates of American universities would like to remain in the United States. But they often leave out of frustration with the length of time it takes to get permission to live and work here after their studies.

Some professionals can obtain temporary, H-1B visas to work sooner, but there are only 65,000 of the visas available per year. Recently each year, companies have used up all 65,000 visas during the *first week* they are available. The government then conducts a *random lottery* to pick the lucky winners. The American companies that lose have to do without the employees for now.

In conclusion, the United States Congress has refused to fix any aspect of the *legal* immigration system. Our business clients say they need these fixes: (1) increase the H-1B visa quota from 65,000 to 180,000, so employers can hire professional employees as needed all year long; (2) increase the number of immigrant visas, to get rid of the backlogs for permanent residence applicants, and; (3) make it easier for foreign graduate students of our country's universities to remain in the U.S. These actions would greatly benefit the U.S. economy by giving businesses access to the highly skilled employees they need.

Deutsch, Killea and Eapen Some of Our Accomplishments

Our immigration lawyers, located in Washington, DC, have more than 60 collective years of experience practicing immigration law. We aggressively represent companies in immigration compliance, and in obtaining work authorization for their foreign employees. We also enjoy working with individual clients, with their myriad life situations and immigration needs. In the almost 28 years since Morris Deutsch created the firm, we have helped uncountable people from all walks of life to become permanent residents and later US citizens:

- Attracting foreign investment to the US. We enable foreign investors to set up their hi- or low-tech companies in the U.S. and to work here. Recent examples are a travel-related social media website and a developer of game engine architecture.
- Accessing the best talent in the world, by obtaining permanent residence for highly accomplished scientists and thought-leaders who work at American scientific institutes, non-governmental research organizations, and universities. We have successfully handled numerous applications, in the categories of “extraordinary ability” scientist and artist, “outstanding researcher,” and labor certification for computer and biomedical professionals, economists, marketing and financial specialists, teachers, and others.
- Preventing deportation and keeping families united. Recent examples include our obtaining Asylum for an advocate of women's rights in Central Asia, who had become a target of retaliation by Islamists; Asylum for a West African business leader whose precious metals mine was seized by his government, and; humanitarian permission for a Sudanese child whose father had died to join his step-mother here.
- Obtaining temporary work visas, permanent residence and U.S. citizenship for foreign workers and family members of Americans. We assist businesses each year to bring in seasonal workers for summer camps, resorts, and tree care companies.

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Our best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season . . .

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