

Legal Times

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The Attorney's Corner

Let us talk law today.

Denise E. Greaves Esq.
The Greaves Law Group, LLC

The V Visa

Many permanent residents are living in the United States, while their spouse and children are forced to remain in the Caribbean pending lawful admittance to the United States. This can place a drain on the family both emotionally and financially. There is hope.

A nonimmigrant category, referred to as the V visa has been established to ease this burden. The Legal Immigration Family Equity Act (LIFE Act) established this category to allow the spouse and children of Lawful Permanent Residents to live and work in the United States pending permanent residency. Where the previous law required the spouse and children to wait outside the United States until their permanent resident status has been approved, this new nonimmigrant category allows the family to remain together in the United States pending permanent residency.

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Recent Immigration News

Recent changes which may affect you.

Denise E. Greaves Esq.
The Greaves Law Group, LLC

Commentary: Denying health care to immigrants would be harmful to America

SAN DIEGO - Barring immigrants, irrespective of their status, from purchasing health insurance through whatever plan Congress legislates only endangers the health and the economy of the entire United States. As recognized by numerous international treaties and accords, and any number of sovereign states, access to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is a basic human right. Good health is essential to a person's ability to participate in his or her community. A community's failure to provide adequate preventive or curative medical care poisons its workplaces, schools and the social fabric of daily life. In short, a successful society demands the good health of its citizens.

For more information visit: <http://www.mcclatchydc.com/homepage/story/75948.html> *

Five Important Things to Consider when Selecting an Attorney

1. **Responsiveness:** The fact that the attorney is busy is good. That means his service is in demand by others. However, your attorney should always find time to meet your needs.
2. **Recommendations:** Ask friends, co-workers, your pastor, neighbors, any one you trust which lawyer they used and if that lawyer did a good job.

Who is Eligible Under the V-Nonimmigrant Category?

One may obtain the V visa if (1) the person is lawfully married to a Lawful Permanent Resident of the United States, or is the unmarried child (under the age of 21) of a Lawful Permanent Resident; (2) the person is the principle beneficiary of the petition for permanent residency that was filed by the Lawful Permanent Resident spouse or parent on or before December 21, 2000; and (3) the petition for permanent residence has been filed for at least 3 years, and is still pending or has been approved, but the immigrant visa is not yet available.

How to Apply?

There are different categories of the V visa. One must be able to prepare the various forms provided by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services with specificity. Forms that are not well-prepared may result in a rejected application by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. The forms must be filed with supplemental attachments.

All employers must ensure that all employees, regardless of their national origin, are eligible to work in the United States. Therefore, one who applies for the V visa must also apply for a work permit. The work permit proves that the holder is eligible to work in the United States. There is a code that must appear on the application for work permit in order for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to grant a work permit to a nonimmigrant. As a V-nonimmigrant holder, one cannot work in the United States without a valid work permit.

Can I Travel Outside the United States on a V Visa?

Yes. The V-nonimmigrant category allows the holder of the V visa to travel outside the United States and be admitted and readmitted into the United States. One must ensure that their passport remains valid and that their V visa has not expired. *

Important Links and Resources for your Legal Research

Law of the State of Georgia:
<http://www.lexis-nexis.com/hottopics/gacode/default.asp>

Visa Bulletin:
http://travel.state.gov/v/visa/frvi/bulletin/bulletin_1770.html

USCIS page for processing time reports and individual case status:

<https://egov.uscis.gov/cris/jsps/index.jsp>

USCIS - list of physicians for adjustment:

<http://www.uscis.gov/v/civilsurgeons>

Information on applying for a social security number:

<http://www.ssa.gov/>

Internal Revenue Service - Life Cycle of an Exempt Organization:

<http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=169727,00.html>

Internal Revenue Service - Small Business Forms and Publications:

<http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=99200,00.html>

Office of Public Housing in Georgia:

<http://www.hud.gov/local/ga/working/localpo/pih.cfm>

Office of Child Support Services:

<https://services.georgia.gov/dhr/cspp/do/public/SupportCalc>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

IMMIGRATION SEMINAR

235 PEACHTREE STREET

OCTOBER 21, 2009, 3:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Bring your immigration forms and question.

(Call to register: 404-287-2388)

IMMIGRATION SEMINAR

LIVING SPRINGS ADVENTIST FELLOWSHIP, MARYLAND

NOVEMBER 14, 2009, 4:00 – 7:00 PM

Bring your immigration forms and question.

(Call to register: 404-287-2388)

FREE LEGAL ADVICE CLINIC

235 PEACHTREE STREET

DECEMBER 14, 2009, 3:00 – 4:30 P.M.

(Call to register: 404-287-2388)

3. **Contact your local bar association:** The State bar does not refer individual attorneys, but many local Bar Associations have a referral service.

4. **Referrals:** Ask other lawyers for referrals in the area which they do not practice.

5. **Online Resources:** Many online resources are available for selecting an attorney in your area and the area of expertise you need. *

The Greaves Law Group is the Source for All Your Legal Needs

Contact us today for a free phone consultation

<http://www.greaveslawgroup.com>

info@greaveslawgroup.com

(404) 287 – 2377

Service With Integrity

Do I Qualify for an Uncontested Divorce?

The most commonly asked questions are what exactly is an uncontested and do I qualify to obtain one? An uncontested divorce is a negotiated settlement that resolves and encompasses every outstanding legal issue in a dissolution proceeding.



In order to qualify for an uncontested divorce, you and your spouse must simply agree on all of the terms of the dissolution. An uncontested divorce is really nothing more than a negotiated or an amicable divorce. You and your spouse must sit down and agree in advance on all of the critical issues regarding your divorce. You and your spouse will decide how to divide your property and debts, and how much time you and your spouse should spend with your children. *

The Greaves Law Group, LLC
235 Peachtree Street
North Tower, Suite 400
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1400

PLACE STAMP
HERE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

