



Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P.

Immigration Attorneys

Phone (336) 855-5700 ♦ www.longchangonline.com

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IMMIGRATION ALERT

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Attorneys
[David J. Long](#)
[Kristen A. Chang](#)

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If you would like to receive our monthly Immigration Newsletter by e-mail, call our office at (336) 855-5700 or send an email with "Subscribe" in the subject line to info@longchangonline.com.

In the Spotlight

Status of Labor Certification Cases at Backlog Reduction Centers

Do you have a labor certification case filed under the pre-PERM labor certification system which is now pending at a Backlog Reduction Center? If so, you can now find out the status of your case online. We link to this online cases status system through our website (www.longchangonline.com). To access this link from our website, click [here](#) or visit www.pbls.doleta.gov/pbls_pds.cfm.

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October 2006 Visa Bulletin Now Online

The October 2006 Visa Bulletin, which summarizes the availability of immigrant visas in family-based and employment-based immigration cases during October 2006, is now available online at www.longchangonline.com. To access the Visa bulletin, go to www.longchangonline.com, click on "Processing Times" and then click on "Visa Bulletin". Processing times for all USCIS Service Centers and local immigration offices can also be found online at www.longchangonline.com.



Also In This Issue:

- Helpful Tips for Filing a K-1 Fiancé(e) Visa Petition
- U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Office to open in Durham, NC
- Staffing Levels at the USCIS Office in Charlotte, NC

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Helpful Tips for Filing a K-1 Fiancé(e) Visa Petition

We often meet with U.S. citizens who are planning a trip to another country to meet with his or her fiancé or potential fiancé. They ask what types of documentation they need to prepare if they want to file a fiancé visa petition when they return to the United States. The most important type of documentation is proof or evidence that the couple has met in person. As a result, we recommend getting copies of the following types of documentation: copies of passport pages (showing entry and exit stamps to and from the country), airline tickets, baggage claim receipts, pictures of the couple at various locations during the trip, receipts from the trip (hotels, restaurants, etc.), and other similar evidence showing the couple did in fact meet in person within the 2-year period before the filing of the K-1 fiancé visa petition. It is important to remember that if you are taking pictures with a camera that prints a date on the photograph that the date is actually the correct date! Otherwise, it may be difficult to prove that the couple did in fact meet during a particular overseas trip.

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U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services Office in Durham, NC

As previously reported on www.longchangonline.com, a second USCIS immigration office is scheduled to open in Durham, NC in May 2007. This new office will function much the way the current office in Charlotte, NC functions. It will handle the same types of cases. This is good news for those individuals in the eastern portion of North Carolina who will be able to use a much closer immigration office in Durham. The bad news is that staff is expected to be split 50/50 between the Charlotte office and Durham office. This may slow down the Charlotte office which has been adjudicating cases fairly quickly in recent months.

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Staffing Levels at the USCIS Immigration Office in Charlotte, NC

The USCIS recently announced that there are 21 immigration officers working at the Charlotte immigration office. Beginning October 1, 2006, that number will drop to 14. This may increase the processing times of cases at the Charlotte office. Currently, adjustment of status (green card) cases and naturalization cases are taking approximately 6 months to process in Charlotte. USCIS Charlotte is concentrating on its older, continued cases during the month of September in an effort to resolve as many continued cases as possible.

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About Us

Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P. is a full-service immigration law firm concentrating in the areas of employment-based and family-based immigration law. Our law firm has successfully represented individuals and employers through the immigration process with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS), United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) and at U.S. consulates and embassies in order to obtain both non-immigrant (temporary) visas and immigrant (permanent) visas on behalf of individuals or employees.

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Kristen Aekyung Chang is a founding partner of Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P. She practices exclusively in immigration law and is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the North Carolina State Bar.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Ms. Chang attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. While achieving academic success at the undergraduate level, Ms. Chang devoted much of her time to volunteerism. She served as the Chairperson on the Planning Committee for the University's Bicentennial Class celebration and served as a Research Assistant in the University's Psychology Department where she performed valuable research in the area of cognitive memory. Ms. Chang also volunteered in the school's International Department as an English language assistant for international students and faculty members and at a local psychiatric hospital. In addition to her numerous public-service efforts during her undergraduate career at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ms. Chang studied abroad at the prestigious London School of Economics where she achieved the top academic ranking in International Business Strategy and Human Resource Management.

Ms. Chang received her J.D. (law) degree from the Wake Forest University School of Law. During law school, Ms. Chang was selected as a member of the Law School's Moot Court Board based on her performance in the school's trial court competition. She was one of three members on the school's nationally-recognized and award-winning National Moot Court Evidence Team. During law school, Ms. Chang studied Labor and Employment Law at the law school's summer program in Italy.

Following law school, Ms. Chang opened her own immigration law practice in Greensboro, North Carolina, and subsequently joined Mr. Long in founding Long, Chang & Associates. As a naturalized citizen of the United States, Ms. Chang understands the immigration practice not just as an immigration lawyer but as an immigrant herself who has gone through the immigration process. Based on her personal experiences, Ms. Chang has a remarkable way of relating with her clients and perceiving their anxieties and concerns.

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David J. Long founded Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P. in 1998. He has been recognized by the North Carolina State Bar as a Board-Certified Specialist in Immigration Law. Mr. Long is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the North Carolina State Bar. Mr. Long serves as a Mentor for other immigration attorneys through AILA.

Prior to founding Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P., Mr. Long worked as an attorney with the law firm of Kilpatrick Stockton in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Mr. Long practices in the areas of immigration law, corporate law and real estate.



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Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mr. Long attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he studied in the Honors Program and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. In addition, Mr. Long studied the Korean Language at Duke University for a semester while attending UNC-CH. Mr. Long graduated magna cum laude and in the top 1% of his class.

Mr. Long graduated with highest honors and received his J.D. (law) degree from the Wake Forest University School of Law. During law school, Mr. Long was selected as a member of the Law Review based on his academic standing. He was one of three members on the school's nationally-recognized Gabrielli Family Law Moot Court Team. Mr. Long also studied Labor and Employment Law at the law school's summer program in Italy. Following law school, Mr. Long worked as an attorney in the commercial real estate department of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP in Winston-Salem, NC, one of largest law firms in the United States. After two years of working at a large law firm, Mr. Long desired the opportunity to assist clients on a more personal basis. As a result, he joined Ms. Chang in forming Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P. Most recently, Mr. Long served as an adjunct faculty member at Handong International Law School in Pohang, South Korea where he taught U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Law.

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