

# Jinhee Wilde

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Jinhee Wilde is the principal and managing partner of Wilde & Associates LLC, a boutique law firm focusing on business and investment immigration. Her 32 years of legal experience began first as a prosecutor for Chicago and then as the Inspector General designee, special counsel and attorney advisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This government experience gives her a government lawyer's perspective to help her clients, which may explain her

track record in both I-526 and I-829 filings with only three RFEs on Source of Fund on numerous cases filed since 2007. Wilde only represents the investor side of EB-5 and is independent from any regional centers. She is on the President's Advisory Council of IIUSA, active in AILA and is a frequent speaker at EB-5 conferences. Wilde received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Chicago and J.D. from Loyola University of Chicago School of Law.

## **What do you think the future of the EB-5 industry looks like?**

Congress' original intent to create jobs and boost economic growth through EB-5 was a positive result of EB-5 that should be preserved. However, there is a risk congress or USCIS may throw the "baby out with the bath water" without implementing much-needed integrity measures and making minor changes to restore EB-5's original intent to put resources into the rural and hardship urban areas. If some of the existing, shiny, mega office and hotel buildings in Manhattan and elsewhere were only allowed \$1 million EB-5 investment (non-TEA), we may not have had the explosion of EB-5 investors, which has created such a huge backlog in visa availability.

## **What trends are you seeing in the EB-5 industry?**

One alarming trend is the migration agencies pushing to sell the EB-5 projects that pay the highest finders fees and commission while utilizing inexperienced attorneys with the lowest fee to file the investors petition. It is normal for agencies to receive commissions of \$120,000 or more for each EB-5 investor they find. Too often, EB-5 investors are not aware of the dynamics between parties and the fees being paid. Investors too often blindly subscribe to a project and use the lawyers given by the agents or the regional centers. In this structure, no one is accountable only to the investor without any conflict.