Article: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) ABOUT BUSINESS (B1) VISAS

By: Christopher A. Kerosky

What activities are acceptable to do on a B-1 visa?

Here is a list of the legitimate activities you can engage in on a B-1 visa:

• Meet with potential business partners
• Negotiate and sign contracts
• Purchase supplies or materials
• Attend business meetings
• Attend/exhibit at a convention
• Hold or attend short-term training or a company course

Can I work or study on a B-1 visa?

No, you may not work or study on B-1 visa.

How long can I stay in the U.S. on B-1 visa?

You may stay in the U.S. on a B-1 visa up to 6 months, depending on the purpose of your trip and the amount of time you are permitted to stay upon entry into the U.S.

Can I apply for extension on B-1 visa?

You may apply for extensions up to 6 months each

What if the passport containing my B-1 visa is expired?

You must remember that your visa is valid only until its expiration date unless previously canceled. Therefore, if you have a valid U.S. visitor visa in an expired passport, you may use it along with a new valid passport for travel and admission to the U.S.

About the author:

CHRISTOPHER A. KEROSKY is a partner with Wilson Purves in the law firm of KEROSKY PURVES & BOGUE, with offices located in San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Ukiah, Napa, Walnut Creek, San Jose and Sacramento. Mr. Kerosky has been an attorney licensed to practice law in California for 25 years. He is a graduate of UC Berkeley (Boalt Hall) School of Law and a former trial lawyer for the Civil
Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington D.C. For 9 years, he has been honored as one of Northern California’s top lawyers by San Francisco Magazine, “Super Lawyers” edition. Mr. Kerosky speaks English, Spanish and Polish and has also working knowledge of Russian.

WARNING: The article above is not intended to be a substitute for legal advice. We recommend that you get competent legal advice specific to your case.