

IMMIGRATION UPDATE®

January 19, 2012



FOSTERQUAN WINS U.S. SUPREME COURT VICTORY

We are pleased to announce our recent U.S. Supreme Court victory in the deportation case of *Umer v. Holder*. Members of FosterQuan's litigation team successfully argued that Khalid Umer, a legal U.S. resident originally from Pakistan, should be allowed to present his request for relief from removal to the immigration judge under former Section 212(c), a law that allows certain permanent residents in removal proceedings to retain their permanent resident status.

In a decision made on January 9, 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court granted the petition to review the case, vacated the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals' original judgment and remanded the case for further consideration in light of another recent U.S Supreme Court decision, *Judulang v. Holder*.

Removal proceedings against Umer, a legal resident of the United States for 28 years, were initiated in 2004 by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for a past criminal offense, related to a government sting, for which Umer had fulfilled his obligations under the law and was rehabilitated. FosterQuan attorneys requested the opportunity to apply for relief from removal based on their client's longtime presence in the U.S., his U.S. citizen immediate relatives, his rehabilitation and his ties to the community, which was originally denied by the immigration judge.

<u>Angelique Montano</u> and <u>Magali Suárez Candler</u>, who were lead attorneys on the case, were assisted by FosterQuan attorney Zelda Howell.

"This decision finally establishes a consistent legal interpretation of legal U.S. residents' eligibility for former Section 212(c) relief, which is a type of waiver, for individuals throughout the United States with similar circumstances," said Montano. "We are very pleased that our firm was able to bring attention to this legal issue and help our client present his case in court, which we hope will allow our client to remain in the United States with his family."

ABOUT THE FIRM

FosterQuan, LLP offers a full spectrum of U.S. and global immigration legal services to assist corporations with the strategic and compliance issues involved in the employment and movement of key personnel across international boundaries. The firm's comprehensive suite of services includes a patented I-9 auditing and compliance process. With a team of attorneys operating from Houston, Austin, San Antonio, Washington, D.C., the Rio Grande Valley and Mexico City, the firm is also the nation's largest minority-owned immigration law firm and has more attorneys board certified in immigration and nationality law than any other Texas law firm. FosterQuan utilizes the most current technology to help its clients efficiently manage immigration issues. For more information, visit fosterquan.com.