US Immigration Thailand: The K1 Visa from Bangkok

Many articles dealing with US Immigration from Thailand cover the process of submitting forms to the USCIS, but do not go further. This post is intended to inform prospective applicants about the <u>K-1 Visa</u>, and what measures ought to be taken by a Thai fiancée to navigate through the visa interview and hopefully obtain a favorable outcome in her case.

What is a lawyer in consular practice and how could such a person assist my Thai loved one?

A Consular Processing Lawyer is a duly licensed attorney in good standing in one of the United States who has a presence close to an American diplomatic post overseas. While an Immigration Lawyer in the US has the ability to file a petition with USCIS it is unlikely that they will have an office in Thailand to help expedite the process. At the same time, a lawyer with a presence in the Kingdom of Thailand may be better equipped to assist a Thai fiancée because such a law office would have Thai associates and staff to inform the Thai fiancée regarding necessary documents and help with any document retrieval or translation work. Also an Attorney on sight can personally deal with the Embassy. Among the things an Immigration Attorney in Thailand can assist with: preparing your Thai Fiancée for the visa interview (by going over probable questions and explaining them in Thai), Preparing all documents to be filed with the consular services division (translations can be included as well), obtaining a Police Clearances for the Thai Fiancée, obtaining medical exams for your Thai Fiancée, and responding to <u>221(g)</u> requests for more information (often the Embassy, in their discretion will require some other documentation).

As well as these advantages, merely having an Attorney on the scene to consult with can add a great deal to one's peace of mind regarding the Immigration process particularly where the US Citizen is back in the US waiting for the Thai Fiancée to come to the US. In cases such as this it can be a godsend to have someone on the scene dealing with the Embassy to take the burden off of the Thai loved one. Where there is a difficulty communicating due to a lack of language proficiency the Immigration process can be made a great deal more difficult. However, by having an Attorney on hand the frustration and confusion can be reduced because the burden does not fall upon the Thai to deal with the Embassy. Basically, a professional with a legal background and licensure will probably be able to most effectively deal with the Embassy and inform the Thai fiancée as to what steps need to be taken in order to complete the process.

Packet 3 and your Thai Fiancée: how a Consular Processing Attorney Can Help

Packet 3 is the Packet the US Embassy will send to your Thai Fiancée explaining what documentation needs to be obtained before the K1 Visa Interview. A Consular Processing Attorney will not only assist in obtaining the documentation, but can also provide guidance on what is required and tips to expedite the process. Many people fret over Packet 3, but with proper assistance the Packet 3 process can be very smooth.

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