

RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) secures L1 intracompany transfer visa to US for Leading BVI Law Firm

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[RIAA Barker Gillette \(USA\) Supports the Expansion of Leading BVI Law Firm O’Neal Webster into New York by Successful L-1A Intracompany Transfer Visa Application.](#)

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October 12, 2018 – NEW YORK – RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) is pleased to announce its success in assisting O’Neal Webster, a premier British Virgin Islands law firm, in the establishment of its New York City office—the first BVI law firm to stake a physical presence in the city. Headquartered in Tortola, the firm also staffs an office in London, UK. The U.S. office will focus exclusively on counseling U.S. and LatAm clients on BVI law.

RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) specializes in setting up new, or growing existing, United States offices for foreign, multinational companies. A core expertise of its immigration practice is obtaining legal work authorization for employees coming to work in the U.S. from their home country or other foreign offices. This practice is headed up by Mr. Mohammad Ali Syed, the Managing Partner of RIAA Barker Gillette (USA).

RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) is part of the RIAA Barker Gillette Global Alliance, an alliance of international, industry-focused law firms, with presence in eleven cities in the UK, USA, Middle East and Asia. [RIAA Barker Gillette](#) is the exclusive member firm for Pakistan of [Lex Mundi](#), the world’s leading network of independent law firms with in-depth experience in 100+ countries worldwide. O’Neal Webster is Lex Mundi’s member firm in the British Virgin Islands.

Holding a decidedly unique position among British Virgin Islands law firms, being among the first to establish exclusively in the BVI in 1989, O’Neal Webster serves international clientele in BVI law related to corporate, finance, banking, business, investment funds, property, and trusts and estates. The firm is highly regarded for its expert handling of transactional, regulatory, and cross-border litigation.

Kerry Anderson, O’Neal Webster’s former, long-serving managing partner and head of its investment funds and regulatory practice, was selected for transfer from the BVI to start up and lead the newly established New York office. As a key executive, Anderson qualified for the L-1A intracompany transfer visa status, which allows foreign national executive and managerial employees located outside the U.S. to work in the U.S. for an affiliated entity. An L-1A visa is a non-immigrant status and does not automatically give the foreign employee permanent residency or a “green card.” However, in certain circumstances, it may be a gateway for a green card. More details on the L-1A visa and the subsequent green card application process may be found [here](#).

Mr. Syed and his team at RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) provided strategic guidance throughout Anderson’s L-1A process, from initial concept to the preparation and submission of the L-1A application with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; the preparation and submission of the visa application with the U.S. Embassy in Bardados; and, his visa interview and final arrival in the U.S.

“On behalf of O’Neal Webster, we are extremely impressed by the services provided by RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) and the role it played in helping us establish our New York office,” says Anderson. “Over the years, our firm has been fortunate to form close, working relationships with U.S. clients, many of which came

through our Lex Mundi network. The savvy guidance of RIAA Barker Gillette (USA) was essential to obtaining the L-1A."

"We strive to maintain close, beneficial relationships with all of our clients," says Managing Partner Vanessa King, in an earlier press statement released by O'Neal Webster. "Our presence in New York allows us to create stronger bonds with our U.S. and LatAm clients and to better understand and respond to their legal and business needs. The initial response from our clients has been exceptionally positive, and we also look forward to welcoming new clients into our market."

Anderson says he expects to begin hosting seminars and events from the New York office on a regular basis, highlighting the benefits of doing business with and in the BVI, which is the world's leading jurisdiction for company incorporations.

In an earlier release, BVI Finance Executive Director Lorna G. Smith commented, "O'Neal Webster's office in New York, the global hub of international finance, is a significant milestone for the firm and the entire BVI jurisdiction. For the first time, clients will receive advice on BVI funds and private client activities directly within the U.S., thereby facilitating the speed and effectiveness for entering global capital markets. We are very proud of our member firm's accomplishment."

The O'Neal Webster New York office is located at 380 Lexington Ave #17th Floor, Suite 1754, New York, NY.

Mohammad Ali Syed
+1 (202) 5031425
mohammad.syed@riaabg.com
www.riabarkergillette.com



Note: This is not legal advice; it is intended to provide information of general interest about current legal issues.

