EXODUS MIGRATION

Exodus Migration - - Issues Important to our Clients

We consider many factors unique to each individual and family before advising clients of the optimal country or countries for their new or additional citizenship or residence. Examples of these factors that we discuss with our clients are:

CITIZENSHIP OR RESIDENCE

- Some countries offer citizenship (passports); other countries only offer residence. For countries that offer residence, we consider whether the residence is temporary or permanent and, if temporary, what needs to be done to extend and at what intervals? Does extension require a further investment? Is there a risk that the extension won't be granted?

INVESTMENT AMOUNT: Investment amounts range from about $200,000 to an excess of $3 million. The client's financial resources, and interest in allocating financial resources to CBI or RBI, are obviously often a determinative factor.

TYPE OF INVESTMENT: Some investments are actually donations with no return expected. Some investments are actually real estate purchases. Some investments are investments in government funds. Some investments are actually long-term bank deposits. Some investments are in securities. Some investments are speculative, and some are very safe. These are all issues that we discuss with our clients.

PROCESSING TIMES: The processing times for some countries may be as little as 2 to 3 months. The processing times for other countries may be as much as 18 to 24 months. Obviously, this can be a significant consideration if a client has an imminent need to obtain residence or citizenship in a third country.

ANTISEMITISM: Concerns with antisemitism are a major driving factor for many US citizens seeking third country citizenship or residence. We often find ourselves counseling clients in regard to antisemitism concerns in targeted CBI or RBI countries.

FAMILY MEMBERS: Some countries have very restrictive rules on what family members can accompany the principal investors. In some countries, it may be limited to the spouse and any minor children. Other countries have more expansive definitions of the "family" that can obtain citizenship or residence through one investor. Family members that are covered in some countries, but not others are: dependent parents; non-dependent parents; parents in law; children up to age 29 if dependent; children up to age 29 if not dependent; siblings. The issue of how many family members want to accompany the principal investor is often a key issue in leading to a choice of a certain country for CBI or RBI.

HEALTHCARE: The quality of healthcare varies greatly country by country. The availability of health insurance may be a factor. In some countries, healthcare may be substandard for most; but higher quality healthcare may be available for the wealthy. In some countries, the realistic advice is that proximity to the US is important because airlifting to US for critical healthcare is a reality.

LGBTQ CONCERNS: The LGBTQ community in the US has been a growing market for seeking CBI and RBI. Obviously, not every country is equal regarding treatment of this community.

CRIMINAL ISSUES: If a client has any criminal background, we have to determine their eligibility for qualifying for citizenship or residence by investment in particular targeted countries.

PROXIMITY TO THE US: For some clients, the ability to travel quickly from or to the US is a key issue. Some countries do, and some countries do not, have nonstop flights to the US. In some cases, the flight might be an hour or two; and in other cases, the flight might be 12 hours or more.

PHYSICAL PRESENCE REQUIREMENTS: Some countries do, and some countries do not, have physical presence requirements in order to retain residence or citizenship. For some countries, these requirements may be as little as one to two days per year or even every couple of years. Other countries' physical presence requirements are more substantial. In some countries, physical presence requirements only apply if the client is interested in obtaining citizenship after a period of time.

LANGUAGE: In some countries, English is either the predominant language or at least understood universally. In other countries, knowledge of another language might be at the very least helpful to engage in day-to-day activities. In some countries, speaking the native language is essential to obtaining citizenship.

CLIMATE: How important is climate to the client? How relevant is it whether the country is in a hurricane zone? How relevant is it to the client it if a country suffers from earthquakes or other turbulent climactic conditions?

AVAILABILITY OF EMPLOYMENT: Citizenship generally allows for employment. Residence may or may not allow for employment.

COST OF LIVING: Cost of housing and cost of living may be relevant factors. In some countries, the cost of housing and the cost of living may be far less than in the US, which can be a major attraction. In other countries, the opposite may be true.

POLITICS OF THE COUNTRY: The state of democracy in a particular country is sometimes a relevant issue. The political stability of the country may be important.

TAX CONSIDERATIONS: In almost all of the target countries, a citizen or resident is not taxed on worldwide income, at least unless they spend at least a majority of time in that country. In most countries, they are taxed on income earned in that country. However, it is critically important that our clients obtain tax advice regarding the specific countries for which they are considering citizenship or residence and the particular facts in their financial history and planning.

These are some of the factors that we most often consider when advising clients. Every client's case is different, every client has different priorities among these factors and the optimal country for each client is unique to client's circumstances and preferences.