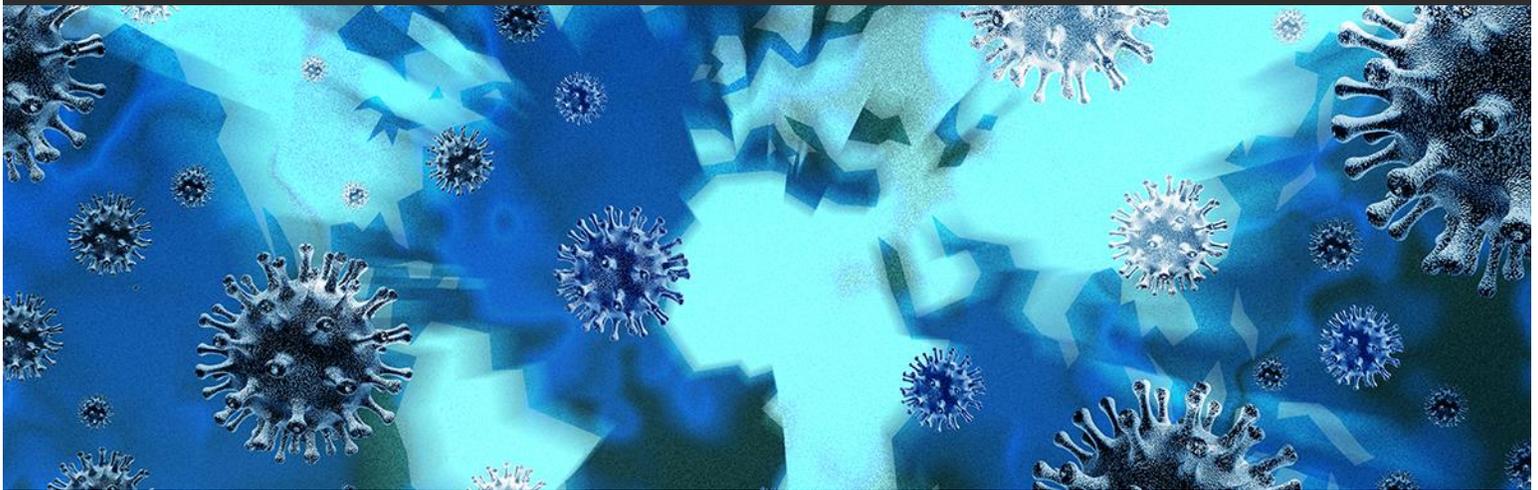


**Alert | Health Emergency Preparedness Task Force:  
Coronavirus Disease 2019**



**May 5, 2020**

## **Israeli Business Immigration to the United States in the Time of COVID-19**

There are unique business relationships between the State of Israel and the United States. It follows that there are some unique issues when it comes to business immigration during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We have reported on immigration issues generally following the pandemic-related shut-downs. These include:

- **Travel restrictions from certain countries;**
- **Changes in business immigration processing at the Department of Labor and USCIS/DHS;**
- **Implications for companies laying off and furloughing sponsored workers on visas.**

In terms of Israeli immigration to the U.S. during the time of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the United States and Israel have **signed a treaty** permitting investors from each country to enter the other country for purposes of overseeing investments.

Additionally, Israeli investors may obtain E-2 visas for qualified treaty investors and employees, as well as their dependent family members. Extensions may be granted in increments of up to two years, with no maximum limit.

Given the flexibility of the E-2 visa and Israel's strong position in the hi-tech sector, this visa may potentially be used to advance Israeli business interests and streamline entrepreneurial ventures in the United States.

While the [U.S. consulates that issue visas are temporarily closed](#) and travel is generally restricted from many parts of the world, it is still possible to travel from Israel to the United States.

Individuals from Israel who want to explore business options in the United States are still permitted to enter the United States to do so. Once the Consular services at the U.S. Embassies and consulates re-open, application for the E-2 investor visas will once again be accepted. Should an Israeli investor wish to begin the process of obtaining an E-2 visa, the petition and supporting documentation may still be prepared at this time.

The [recent proclamation by the Trump Administration suspending certain immigration into the United States](#) released on April 22, 2020, has little impact on Israeli investors. The proclamation was aimed at immigration that would impact U.S. job recovery. E-2 investors by the very nature of the visa create jobs for U.S. workers.

For more information and updates on the developing COVID-19 situation, visit [GT's Health Emergency Preparedness Task Force: Coronavirus Disease 2019](#).

## Author

This GT Alert was prepared by:

- [Laura Foote Reiff\\*](#) | +1 703.749.1372 | [reiff@gtlaw.com](mailto:reiff@gtlaw.com)

\* Admitted in the District of Columbia and Maryland. Not admitted in Virginia. Practice limited to federal immigration practice.

Albany. Amsterdam. Atlanta. Austin. Boca Raton. Boston. Chicago. Dallas. Delaware. Denver. Fort Lauderdale. Germany.† Houston. Las Vegas. London.\* Los Angeles. Mexico City.+ Miami. Milan.‡ Minneapolis. Nashville. New Jersey. New York. Northern Virginia. Orange County. Orlando. Philadelphia. Phoenix. Sacramento. San Francisco. Seoul.∞ Shanghai. Silicon Valley. Tallahassee. Tampa. Tel Aviv.^ Tokyo.‡ Warsaw.~ Washington, D.C.. West Palm Beach. Westchester County.

*This Greenberg Traurig Alert is issued for informational purposes only and is not intended to be construed or used as general legal advice nor as a solicitation of any type. Please contact the author(s) or your Greenberg Traurig contact if you have questions regarding the currency of this information. The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision. Before you decide, ask for written information about the lawyer's legal qualifications and experience. Greenberg Traurig is a service mark and trade name of Greenberg Traurig, LLP and Greenberg Traurig, P.A. †Greenberg Traurig's Berlin office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Germany, an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. \*Operates as a separate UK registered legal entity. +Greenberg Traurig's Mexico City office is operated by Greenberg Traurig, S.C., an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. ‡Greenberg Traurig's Milan office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Santa Maria, an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. ∞Operates as Greenberg Traurig LLP Foreign Legal Consultant Office. ^Greenberg Traurig's Tel Aviv office is a branch of Greenberg Traurig, P.A., Florida, USA. ‡Greenberg Traurig Tokyo Law Offices are operated by GT Tokyo Horitsu Jimusho, an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. ~Greenberg Traurig's Warsaw office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Grzesiak sp.k., an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. Certain partners in Greenberg Traurig Grzesiak sp.k. are also shareholders in Greenberg Traurig, P.A. Images in this advertisement do not depict Greenberg Traurig attorneys, clients, staff or facilities. No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. ©2020 Greenberg Traurig, LLP. All rights reserved.*