Success Story #1

Receipt Number	USCIS Online Account Number	Case Type 1612 - APPLICATION TO WAIVE FOREIGN RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS		
Received Date 03/13/2023	Priority Date	Applicant A		
Notice Date	Page			
01/14/2025	1 of 1			
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J Waiver Approved For a Doctor From Canada

Filed with USCIS and DOS: 03/13/2023 Date DOS processed the case as received: 03/16/2023 Date USCIS issued Request for Evidence: 08/09/2024 Date DOS processed the I-613 from USCIS: 09/09/2024 Date DOS issued favorable recommendation: 11/19/2024 USCIS approval: 01/14/2025

We are thrilled to share another impactful victory: the approval of a J-1 waiver for a dedicated medical resident. This case involved a committed couple facing unique personal and professional hardships, and we are proud to have helped them remain together in the United States.

The J-1 applicant, a medical doctor, has been serving the U.S. healthcare system through various training programs since 2021. She is currently completing her medical residency. Her U.S. citizen spouse, also a medical resident at the same hospital, faced serious emotional, financial, and professional hardship should his wife be required to depart the country to fulfill the two-year foreign residency requirement.

The couple's relationship has already endured significant stress and sacrifice. The American spouse comes from a conservative background and was disowned by his family due to cultural and religious differences with the J-1 applicant. As a result, he now relies entirely on her for emotional support and companionship. Losing her presence would not only devastate him personally but also leave him without any familial support system.

Professionally, the hardship was equally clear. Both individuals are pursuing highly demanding careers in medicine. Requiring the couple to relocate would mean a complete interruption to both of their career trajectories. The American spouse is not licensed to practice medicine in the applicant's home country, nor does he have work authorization there. Even temporary relocation would derail his residency, jeopardize years of progress, sever critical professional ties, and significantly set back his medical career. Additionally, student debt and cost of living in two separate countries would place overwhelming financial strain on the couple.

If separated, the emotional and financial burden would be even greater. The American spouse would be left without support while continuing an intense residency program. The applicant, meanwhile, would be unable to work abroad, creating a situation where they could not sustain two households on a single income.

After USCIS issued a Request for Evidence, our team quickly mobilized to provide a strong supplemental response. We submitted compelling documentation outlining the exceptional hardship in both scenarios—relocation, and separation—including letters from supervisors, financial statements, personal declarations, and expert opinions. We clearly demonstrated that the American spouse would face emotional isolation, financial instability, and career disruption should the waiver be denied.

Thanks to the thorough preparation and careful legal strategy in response to the RFE, USCIS approved the J-1 waiver, allowing this hardworking couple to remain united and continue their valuable contributions to the U.S. healthcare system. Another life-changing outcome, another family protected.