



## GLOBAL IMMIGRATION

To remain competitive on the field, sports teams must ensure players' immigration and visa processes are handled properly. In the post-9/11 immigration environment, teams must operate under a U.S. immigration and visa system that has made it more challenging to bring to the United States key players, prospects, and team officials. Even more challenging is doing so quickly. In addition, security clearance requirements and changes in the immigration consequences of past immigration and criminal violations must be addressed even for those players who qualify for a visa.

Immigration attorneys in the Jackson Lewis Collegiate and Professional Sports Industry Group draw upon more than 100 years of combined experience in both the federal government and the private sector to effectively guide athletic entities through today's complex regulatory and statutory immigration process. We have developed a national practice representing professional athletes, amateur athletes, and teams in a variety of sports, including basketball, baseball, hockey, soccer, women's volleyball, golf, tennis, boxing, and auto racing. In addition, we advise a number of major universities concerning the recruitment, retention, and immigration compliance of foreign born student-athletes.

We provide support in the following areas:

- Representing teams and players for O-visas, P-visas, and green card process. (Past representations have included teams and players in the National Hockey League, the American Hockey League, the Western Hockey League, the Women's Professional Soccer League, and professional golfers.)
- Counseling universities and colleges concerning recruitment and visa issues for student-athletes.
- Scheduling emergency visa interviews for professional athletes, coaches, staff, and student athletes and preparing them for the consulate interview.
- Identifying potential legal bars to visa issuance, including drug and criminal issues, and developing strategies to waive such issues.

**For more information on Jackson Lewis' Collegiate and Professional Sports Group, please contact Paul Kelly at [Paul.Kelly@JacksonLewis.com](mailto:Paul.Kelly@JacksonLewis.com) or Gregg Clifton at [Gregg.Clifton@JacksonLewis.com](mailto:Gregg.Clifton@JacksonLewis.com).**