

---

## Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Mystique - 2006/04/10 06:54

---

Ok I have a question for a canadian citizen that came to the US to marry and reside here. If you know personally or have info based on people you know that have done this I have a huge favor to ask!

What is the best way to go about this??? So far they know they have to have spent time together here within 2 years of the intended marriage, they need birth certificates, divorce papers and photo id. Is the best way to get a work visa, marry.. then the Canadian spouse go back to Canada and apply for spousal visa OR go with the K1 (K3) fiance visa where they have 3 mo. in order to have the wedding and then apply for citizenship? Or is there another way where the Canadian party can enter the US, work and marry without being sent back for a period of time and where Canada won't deny them entry into the US for 3 or more years?

Also is it best to do it through a US immigration attorney or file on their own?

A lot of questions I know but any assistance in the matter would be greatly appreciated! (and as much detail as possible) Thank you!

---

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Mystique - 2006/04/12 22:07

---

\*bump\*

Anyone have any advise at all to offer??????

Anything would be helpful.. They don't even know when they have their interview with a consulat if that interview takes place in the 1 of 5 or 6 states where they are or if someone in their own state can conduct the interview.

---

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by ymimad - 2006/04/13 00:33

---

i am canadian and I just dont know, wish I did. i always have thoughts of, "if only i could meet a rich american guy...i too could live in the USA..." maybe if they talked to an immigration lawyer they could get advice on how to go about it.

---

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by TigerRose - 2006/04/13 02:58

---

I know a Canadian that married a Texan (not rich either) about a year ago. They met online and visited each other during thier relationship. It took her several months. I believe she went through immigration itself and didn't get married til she got here. If I speak to her again I will ask her how she went about it and let you know.

---

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Mystique - 2006/04/13 06:08

---

Thanks for the replies ladies! Neither of these people are rich btw ;)

TR I'd so appreciate it if you happen to talk to them and can get any info at all for me! I hope they are happy and doing well! Please send them my best.

---

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

---

Posted by Debby - 2006/04/13 12:34

---

Mystic, I wish I could help your friends. I am an attorney, but I don't specialize in immigration law. It is a very particular field. I have attended a few seminars on the subject, but always refer my criminal and civil clients to a specialist if there is any question about it that could affect their status.

If your friend takes someone's advice who is not an attorney, and it turns out to be incorrect, they could end up spending more money to correct the situation. I would try to contact a legal aid agency or just seek an initial consultation with an immigration attorney. That usually ranges from \$100-\$350. They might get some good basic advice that way.

Good luck.

=====

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Debby - 2006/04/13 12:40

---

Mystic, I forgot to add that most firms, especially large ones, take pro bono cases for those who cannot afford legal representation. This means they may perform services either free of charge or at a reduced rate for low income individuals. They should ask up front if that is possible.

=====

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Debby - 2006/04/13 12:40

---

Mystic, I forgot to add that most firms, especially large ones, take pro bono cases for those who cannot afford legal representation. This means they may perform services either free of charge or at a reduced rate for low income individuals. They should ask up front if that is possible.

=====

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Mystique - 2006/04/14 04:33

---

Debby thank you so much for your response.. you answered one big question and that was whether or not any lawyer would know the ins and outs or if only immigration lawyers are the way to go. There is one in the area that does a free consultation.. we were just under the impression that we needed all the information possible so that we didn't leave any option or stone unturned in that one freebie so that a course of action could be put into place without much waste of time for them or the attorney. Such as whether the work visa should come first then while he's here them get married and he ends up having to be sent back for a length of time then canada not allowing him to return for like 3 years knowing his plans of residing in the states or if K1 is the best and quickest route going through all of the extensive waiting periods for the processing of papers etc.

Oh my goodness! As you can imagine there are just numerous questions and from researching the net so many have had obstacles to cross that cost them money and years trying to get to one another... they're strong and very committed though and that's probably what it takes and why so many things are put into place to test that commitment.. If it were up to me (lol) I'd say let two people get married and have them on probation and if it wasn't what they claim it to be as in a real marriage and not for a green card or whatever other reason people use .. THEN send them back to their country.. no harm no foul.. but then again I am a hopeless romantic so I guess they wouldn't let me write those laws eh? hehe

I do thank you for your time and info it's very much appreciated.

\*hugs\*

=====

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Debby - 2006/04/14 14:56

---

Mystic, you are welcome. I wish your friends much luck. They are lucky to have you on their side.

=====

### Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Debby - 2006/04/14 14:56

---

Mystic, you are welcome. I wish your friends much luck. They are lucky to have you on their side.

=====

### Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Vinesa - 2006/04/14 15:23

---

I know someone going through the same thing and there lawyer told them they could do it 2 ways. Get a K1 visa where takes about 3 months then the Canadian can come to the US and they can get married with in three months and then file for a green card or the Canadian can come here and do nothing for three months they can then get married and file for a spousal visa... I am not sure how accurate this is. I know from experience most imigration attornies will give a little free advice if you just call there is also a service that canbe use to find one. AILA's Immigration Lawyer Referral Service (ILRS) they have a website i believe.

I hope this helps

=====

### Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Mystique - 2006/04/14 18:39

---

Thanks Vinesa! I'll definately ck into that website.

LOL one thing I really don't understand is on a K1 he comes here and they have 90 days in which to get married and he is NOT allowed to work in those 90 days.. so for 3 months, even if he has a job lined up here.. he isn't allowed to start caring for his new family or support himself while he's here waiting, it's on the petitioner to be able to support him so they must rely on her income alone (and one site said she must make X amount of money annually so that he has someone to support him while he waits the time period) Then after he's married he files other papers.. looks like if someone is willing to come down, get a job, set up residency etc that they would like that! It's not like he would be trying to draw welfare or anything! lol He's doing it right though he's getting the money needed for the visas and staying in Canada to work extra to have enough to live on so he feels he is not counting on her to pay his way he doesn't like the fact that he isn't allowed to work, he wanted to come here and try to get a small piece of land so he could get started on their new life but his hands are tied for at least 3 months as far as I've learned so far. Crazy stuff!

=====

### Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Vinesa - 2006/04/14 19:16

---

once they get married he can get a temp work permit. They do not have to wait three months to get married with the K1 visa. He has to wait in Canada three months before he moves here and from what I have heard the amount that the supporter had to make is over 16,000 a year.

=====

### Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Mystique - 2006/04/14 19:26

---

Oh my goodness.. there are so many do's and don'ts it can have a person's head spinning! lol

---

## Re:Canadian Americans! need your help!

Posted by Vinesa - 2006/04/14 19:34

---

No kiding it's nuts...woohoo: :silly:

=====