

Fidelity Investments
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05/23/2025

Dear USCIS Officer,

I am writing this letter in enthusiastic support of Nigel Dsouza's petition for an O-1A visa, which is granted to individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary ability in science and technology.

My name is Yesenia Koppa, and I serve as a Vice President within the Alternative Investments Product Area at Fidelity Investments. In this role, I lead initiatives that are critical to the firm's strategic expansion into private placements and alternative asset offerings. I have over a decade of experience managing complex financial platforms and working with top engineering talent.

Nigel has been an invaluable member of Fidelity Investments for the past four years, significantly contributing to the Alternative Investments (Alts) Product Area that I lead. This area is responsible for launching and enabling Fidelity Investments to create a marketplace for our private placements, one of the top six strategic initiatives for the firm aimed at fostering growth and helping our clients diversify their financial portfolios.

Nigel has been with us since the inception of Fidelity's alternative investments, private placement funds and platform. His contributions have been pivotal to our success, particularly in launching our automated capital call workflow and the ongoing project of building out the secondary liquidity bulletin. Nigel's impact is most evident when he assists teams within the Alts area and other business units outside of our area by sharing his expertise in AWS. Below is a list of his accomplishments and contributions:

- Creating Innovative Pipelines: Nigel independently developed utility pipelines that have reduced manual setup efforts from 20 minutes to just 5 minutes, now adopted by multiple teams at Fidelity.
- Developed Disaster Recovery Automation: He created a solution that eliminated manual intervention during production installs when the Control M infrastructure failed. This solution automatically recovers from failures, making the system self-reliant and eliminating the need for support teams to manually redeploy code.

- Terraform Refactoring: Nigel took the lead for our Alts teams when the enterprise shifted to standardize Terraform, a complex undertaking that took a year to accomplish. He established a process for safely transitioning state resources to avoid production deployment issues.
- Exceptional Troubleshooting Skills: Nigel possesses outstanding skills in researching errors and tracing logs to identify root causes. Whenever there is a production or deployment issue, or teams cannot find a solution to address a change, Nigel is always called in to help and resolve the issue efficiently.

Nigel's eagerness to learn new technologies, troubleshoot issues, and implement solutions quickly sets him apart from others. Many of the initiatives mentioned above were self-initiated by Nigel because he identified process improvement opportunities. He has been invaluable to Fidelity and my team, and his continued presence is vital for the success of launching Fidelity's Alternative Investments platform.

Based on Nigel's unique expertise, technical contributions, and sustained leadership, I strongly recommend that USCIS approve his O-1A visa petition so he may continue to contribute significantly to our industry and the advancement of financial technology in the United States.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information.

Sincerely,

Yesenia Koppa

Vice President, Alternative Investments

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