

# Microsoft Veteran's Visa Struggles Lead to AI Innovation in Immigration Tech

From Tech Leader to Founder: How Personal Experience Shaped a New Approach to Immigration



**Seattle, Washington Jan 17, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com))** - When Priyanka Kulkarni received an opportunity to join the prestigious AI2 Incubator, she faced a familiar challenge for international tech workers: navigating the complex U.S. immigration system. Despite a decorated decade-long career at Microsoft, Kulkarni found herself waiting over three months for visa processing—a delay that threatened to derail her entrepreneurial aspirations. "After building my career in tech, I was excited to take on this new challenge at AI2," said Kulkarni. "But the visa process nearly brought everything to a halt. That's when I realized: if this is difficult for someone with my background and resources, imagine how challenging it is for others."

Kulkarni's journey through the U.S. immigration system mirrors that of many skilled professionals. Starting with an L1 visa, transitioning to H1-B, and finally pursuing the prestigious EB-1 "Einstein visa" for individuals with extraordinary abilities, she experienced firsthand the complexity of each step, even with support from top legal firms.

This frustration became the catalyst for founding Casium, an AI-powered immigration platform launched in April 2024. The company's name, combining "case" and "premium," reflects Kulkarni's vision of elevating the immigration experience through technology.

**"Every visa application tells a human story**—careers, families, and dreams hanging in the balance," Kulkarni explained. "By July, we were already helping clients transform their months-long waiting periods into days. The technology we've built does more than process paperwork; it opens doors for talented individuals to pursue their American dream."

Drawing from her engineering background at Microsoft and deep understanding of artificial intelligence, Kulkarni developed Casium's proprietary AI system to work alongside immigration attorneys. The platform analyzes applicant profiles, determines optimal visa pathways, and automates documentation while maintaining the crucial element of expert legal oversight.

**"The American dream is very strong,"** said Kulkarni. "What keeps me motivated is knowing that every case we handle represents someone's opportunity to contribute their talents to this country, just as I've been fortunate enough to do."

**About Casium:** Based in Seattle, Casium is modernizing U.S. immigration through artificial intelligence. The company combines proprietary AI technology with legal expertise to streamline visa applications for skilled workers and enterprises. Founded in 2024, Casium is backed by the Allen Institute for AI (AI2) Incubator.

**For more information about Casium's immigration solutions:**

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