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LL.M. Law Group
Immigration News
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H-1B visa update

As of April 1, 2007, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will accept H-1B filings for employment starting October 1, 2007. Employers should act quickly to secure H-1B numbers for their employees due to the fact that the H-1B numbers have been exhausted in a very short period of time every year.

New Passport Rule

A new rule requires Americans flying to Mexico, Canada and the Caribbean to present a valid U.S. passport to re-enter the country. Most U.S. citizens are used to traveling to neighboring countries with only a driver's license or birth certificate. These documents are no longer sufficient to pass through airport customs on the trip home. Canadian, Mexican and Bermudan citizens must also present their passports when entering in the United States. Starting January 2008, land and sea travelers will also have to show their passports.

Address Change

Those who have a pending application or petition are now able to change their address online. All non-citizens must inform the USCIS of their new address within 10 days of their move.

Guide to Naturalization

The USCIS has released a Guide to Naturalization. The Guide provides all the necessary information regarding the eligibility and naturalization process, the benefits and responsibilities of the citizenship, as well as an overview of the entire process.

Labor Certification Substitutions

New regulations have been proposed that would dramatically alter employers' current

rights to substitute employees into approved labor certification, applications which currently do not expire. The new regulations will limit the validity period of an approved labor certification to 45 days. If a labor certification is not used, it will have no value after the expiry date.

DHS Launches Traveler Redress Inquiry Program

On February 21, 2007, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the launch of the Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (TRIP). Travelers can use the online inquiry program to seek resolution of misidentification issues at ports of entry, or if they have been unfairly delayed or denied boarding for additional screening when traveling. More information on the program is available at www.dhs.gov.

USCIS Update: I-130s Filed at Consulates Should Not Be Re-filed

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has released an update on changes to processing of family petition Form I-130. According to the USCIS, anyone who filed a Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, with a U.S. embassy or consulate since July 2006 does not need to re-file the petition. USCIS is working with the Department of State to process those petitions.

USCIS Releases Updated Form I-765

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has released a revised Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. The form and instructions remove two options as reasons for filing: 1) Replacement of an employment authorization document (EAD) which was never received, and 2) replacement of an EAD with incorrect information caused by USCIS administrative error.