



Minsky, McCormick & Hallagan, P.C.

**A Full-Service Law Firm Dedicated To All Aspects of U.S. Immigration & Nationality Law**

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# NEWSLETTER

## **1.) U.S. Department of State (DOS) Releases the October 2010 Visa Bulletin**

On September 9, 2010, the U.S. Department of State (DOS) issued the Visa Bulletin for October 2010. Both the China EB-3 category and the India EB-3 category moved forward by two weeks, compared to last month's bulletin. Priority dates for the India, EB-2 category held constant compared to last month. [http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin/bulletin\\_5145.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin/bulletin_5145.html)

## **2.) U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Announces Latest FY2011 H-1B Filing Numbers**

USCIS updated its count of FY2011 cap-subject H-1B petitions and advanced degree cap-exempt receipted petitions. As of September 24, 2010, approximately 33,100 H-1B cap-subject numbers are still available. USCIS further indicates that there are approximately 5,600 H-1B Master's exemption H-1B numbers also available.

<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=4b7cdd1d5fd37210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=73566811264a3210VgnVCM100000b92ca60aRCRD>

## **3.) U.S. Department of State (DOS) Reciprocity Schedule for China Now Allows for 12 Month, Multiple Entry H Visas**

The U.S. Department of State's reciprocity schedule for China was recently amended to allow for a 12 month, multiple entry visa for H visa applicants. Previously, Chinese nationals only received H-1B visas valid for three months and two entries. However, the new amended reciprocity schedule with China will allow for a more convenient 12-month multiple entry visa for H visa applicants.

## **4.) U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Announces USCIS Fees Hike Effective November 23, 2010**

On September 24, 2010, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced a final rule adjusting fees for immigration applications and petitions. The final rule follows a period of public comment on a proposed version of the rule, which USCIS published in the Federal Register on June 11, 2010. After encouraging stakeholders to share their input, USCIS considered all 225 comments received. The final rule will increase overall fees by a weighted average of about 10 percent but will not increase the fee for the naturalization application. The rule will also reduce fees for six individual applications and petitions. The new fees schedule will apply to all petitions and applications filed on or after November 23, 2010.

<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=5be73dc5cb93b210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=68439c7755cb9010VgnVCM10000045f3d6a1RCRD>

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