



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 September 2010 Visa Bulletin

On August 11, 2010, the U.S. Department of State (DOS) issued the U.S. Visa Bulletin for September 2010. The China EB-3 category moved forward by a month, compared to last month's bulletin. Cut-off dates for the India EB-3 category held constant with last month's cut-off dates. http://travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin/bulletin_5113.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 August 20, 2010, approximately 33,900 H-1B cap-subject petitions were receipted. USCIS has also receipted 12,600 H-1B petitions for foreign nationals with advanced degrees.

<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnnextoid=27eac9514bb8a210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=68439c7755cb9010VgnVCM10000045f3d6a1RCRD>

3.) U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Implements Fee Hike for Select H-1B & L-1 Nonimmigrant Petitions

On August 13, 2010, President Obama signed Public Law 111-230, which contains provisions to increase certain H-1B and L-1 petition fees for Petitioners who employ 50 or more employees in the U.S. and more than 50% of its employees in the U.S. possess H-1B or L nonimmigrant status. This USCIS fee increase for H-1B and L-1 petitions will not apply to Employers who don't fall into this category of Petitioners. Effective immediately, this law requires the submission of an additional fee of \$2,000 for these H-1B petitions and \$2,250 for L-1A and L-1B petitions, postmarked on or after August 14, 2010. These additional fees will remain in effect through September 30, 2014.

4.) U.S. Department of State (DOS) Verifying Information Contained in Randomly Selected Nonimmigrant Petitions

The DOS Visa Office's nonimmigrant receiving center, known as the Kentucky Consular Center (KCC), is the primary source of information used by Consular Officers to determine whether or not to issue a foreign national a nonimmigrant visa. KCC culls this information from I-129 petitions filed by employers and makes it available to the Consulates via a computer database. KCC also manages information from DOS' Fraud Prevention Unit (FPU). As part of a pilot program, the FPU performs research on Petitioners and it verifies factual aspects related to the Beneficiaries and their proposed U.S. employment. These random checks are primarily completed through telephonic contact with Petitioners. If your company receives a phone call or e-mail from the Kentucky Consular Center (KCC) regarding any temporary worker, please contact your designated MMH Attorney immediately, prior to responding to the inquiry.

This MMH Newsletter has been created to provide you with information on the most recent and relevant developments in U.S. immigration-related law, regulations and policy. An MMH Newsletter is never a substitute for fact specific immigration related legal analysis and guidance. If you have any questions about this MMH Newsletter and how the information provided might affect your specific circumstances, please contact an MMH Immigration Attorney at www.mmhpc.com or (312) 427-6163. If you wish to unsubscribe from this Newsletter, please respond to this e-mail with the subject line "Unsubscribe".

Minsky, McCormick & Hallagan, P.C.
210 S. Clark Street, Suite 2025
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Tel: 312-427-6163 Fax: 312-427-6513
www.mmhpc.com