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Immigration News Update

October 14, 2010

Welcome to Immigration News Update, your resource for the latest developments in U.S. immigration laws, procedures, and breaking news. Immigration News Update is published bi-monthly by [Bashyam Spiro](#), a firm committed solely to the practice of Immigration and Nationality Law. To further explore what is happening in immigration across our nation and the world follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

[Immigration Minute How To Videos, Webinars and Podcasts](#) on subjects like the I-601 Hardship Waiver, K-3 Visa application process, and the Pros and Cons of Fiance & Spouse Sponsorship.

Have an immigration question? Direct message your questions to us on [Twitter](#). Your answers may be featured in our next *Immigration News Update!*

To hear what our clients and staff say about our firm, please click [here](#).

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Bashyam Spiro LLP handles U.S. immigration cases in all 50 states and around the world. We are located at The Summit Building, 4101 Lake Boone Trail, Suite 200, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607. Telephone: 919-833-0840. Web Site: www.bashyamspiro.com.

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NEWS STORIES

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Sign Up For Our FREE Webinars

In 2010, Bashyam Spiro LLP – Immigration Law Group launched a powerful series of public immigration [educational seminars online](#).

These free, live and interactive webinars are aimed at informing clients, news media and the public at large about important immigration-related topics, news, legislation and policies. These web events are easy to participate in. Participants only need a telephone and a computer with an Internet connection.

Please visit our [Media Library](#) to watch archived Web events. You may also browse and download Webinar PowerPoint slides on our [Slideshare page](#).

We're closing this year's web event series with a discussion on the most compelling US Immigration trends of 2010, we will answer common immigration-related questions and will provide our predictions of what we expect on the immigration front for 2011.

[Join us!](#)

Who: Murali Bashyam & Ame Coats, Bashyam Spiro LLP

What: The Year In Review: Our Thoughts on Immigration in 2010

When: Thursday, November 11, 2010 (12 pm - 1 pm EST.)

Where: To sign up, click [here](#).

Webinar Topic Suggestions for 2011? [Talk to us](#).

USCIS Updates H-1B Cap Count

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) updated its H-1B cap count on October 8, 2010.

Here are the [most recent cap numbers](#):

Regular H-1B Cap: 41,900

U.S. Masters H-1B Cap: 15,400

The H-1B numbers continue to move slowly but the pace has picked up in recent weeks. Employers who plan to use the H-1B program to hire foreign professional workers should monitor the H-1B cap count closely.

We will update our web site at www.bashyamspiro.com when more information becomes available.

DOS Releases November Visa Bulletin

U.S. Department of State Releases November 2010 Visa Bulletin.

To view the Visa Bulletin, please [click here](#).

November 2010 Visa Bulletin Contents

Employment-Based Category Two (EB-2):

- China – advanced 1 month
- India – did not advance

Employment-Based Category Three (EB-3)

- All Other Chargeability Areas – advanced 14 days
- China – advanced 14 days
- India – advanced 7 days
- Philippines – advanced 14 days
- Mexico – advanced approximately 1 month

We would like to point out the family 2A category, which has advanced quite a bit in recent months. It is currently showing visa availability at June 1, 2010 for nationals of most countries. The family 2A category is for spouses and minor children of U.S. permanent residents (green card holders).

Diversity Visa Lottery Program Now Open

The [Diversity Immigrant Visa \(DV\) program](#) is a U.S. Congressionally-mandated lottery program for receiving U.S. Permanent Resident Status (green card). It is administered on an annual basis, and makes available 50,000 permanent residency visas to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Currently, Africa and Europe receive about 80% of the visas in the lottery.

The registration process is done online at the U.S. Department of State web site. The entry period to apply for the DV-2012 program is from **October 5, 2010 to November 3, 2010**. To see if you qualify and to register for the program, please [click here](#).

USCIS Announces Final Rule Adjusting Immigration Filing Fees

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced a final rule adjusting fees for immigration applications and petitions. This 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 and will expand the availability of fee waivers to new categories. The adjusted fees will go into effect on **November 23, 2010**.

To view the list of new filing fees for immigration applications and petitions, please [click here](#).

To read a USCIS question and answer on this final rule, please [click here](#).

Stay tuned to [Bashyam Spiro's Immigration News](#) for the latest USCIS Bulletins, updates and immigration-related information.

New Video: Changing Your Address with USCIS

If you have filed an application with USCIS and you move to a new address, it is important to notify them of the change. The law requires that most non-U.S. citizens report a change of address within 10 days of moving by completing a Form AR-11, Change of Address.

This new [instructional video](#) produced by Bashyam Spiro, we will show you how you can complete Form AR-11 to notify USCIS of your new address on a pending case online at the USCIS website www.uscis.gov.

[To view the video, click here](#).

Immigration Meditation Staff Blogger: Murali Bashyam

Our weekly blog entitled [Immigration Meditation](#), Immigration Meditation WAS created as an outlet for staff to share their creativity, along with personal moments and *musings of everyday life, love and the law*. deals with current immigration issues, and you can sign-on as a follower of our blog. We welcome your comments!

In our latest [Immigration Meditation](#) blog post, our Managing Partner, Murali Bashyam, responds to a question posed on LinkedIn about illegal immigration, breaks down what is wrong with our immigration system today, and provides advice on what we need to do deal with both legal and illegal immigration.

To read this and other blog posts, visit www.immigrationmeditation.com

HELPFUL LINKS

To access some helpful immigration related web sites, please click [here](#).

To schedule a consultation, please send an email info@bashyamspiro.com or click [here](#).

To learn more about Bashyam Spiro LLP, please visit www.bashyamspiro.com.

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