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Immigration News Update

April 23, 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](#).

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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Free Webinar April 28: Tired of PERM and Visa Backlogs? Self Sponsorship Options for Obtaining Permanent Residency

SIGN UP NOW! Click [HERE](#) to register.

Are you tired of waiting for years to have your employer-sponsored 'green card' case processed?

If the cumbersome PERM labor certification process and seemingly infinite visa backlogs are getting you down, there may be other options available to help you obtain permanent residency quickly.

Bashyam Spiro Immigration Attorneys Murali Bashyam and Ame Coats will discuss two ways in which a foreign national can bypass the lengthy employer-sponsored permanent residency process:

1. The EB-1 category for Aliens of Extraordinary Ability
2. The exceptional worker EB-2 National Interest Waiver (NIW) category.

Both employment-based (EB) categories are based on self-sponsorship, and both have very stringent requirements.

Presenters will discuss the requirements to qualify as a person of Extraordinary Ability or National Interest, and the benefits of applying in these categories if you qualified.

Presenters will also provide LIVE answers to attendees questions.

Title: *Tired of PERM and VISA Backlogs? Self Sponsorship Options For Obtaining Permanent Residency*

Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EDT

USCIS Updates H-1B Cap Count

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Service updated its H-1B cap count

yesterday. Here are the numbers:

Regular H-1B Cap: 13,600

U.S. Masters H-1B Cap: 5,800

These filings were as of **April 15, 2010**.

These numbers are low compared to the past few years. We are sure it is a result of our economy and challenges in the H-1B program.

We will provide additional updates on www.bashyamspiro.com.

USCIS Announces Revised Forms I-600 and I-600A



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that it has published new versions of the *Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative*, Form I-600 and the *Application for Advance Processing of Orphan Petition*, Form I-600A . The new date on the bottom of both forms is "**12/30/09 N.**"

Due to the changes on the forms, previous versions will no longer be accepted after a ***60 day transition period.***

Beginning April 1, 2010 and continuing until June 2, 2010, USCIS will provide a transition period during which previous versions of the forms will continue to be accepted. **After June 2, 2010**, only the 12/30/09 version of these forms may be used.

Please note: If someone attempts to file any previous version of either form ***after June 2, 2010***, USCIS will ***reject*** the filing. The rejected form, supporting evidence, and any filing fee will be returned with a copy of the 12/30/09 version so that the person can file using the correct form.

Prospective adoptive parents residing in the United States must continue to submit Forms I 600, I 600A, and all supporting documents to the USCIS Dallas Lockbox facility for initial processing, using one of the following addresses:

USCIS

P.O. Box 660088
Dallas, TX 75266

Courier and Express Mail Deliveries:

USCIS

ATTN: Adoption

2501 S. State Hwy. 121 Business

Suite 400

Lewisville, TX 75067

After Forms I-600 and I-600A are received at the USCIS Dallas Lockbox facility, they will be routed to and adjudicated at the USCIS National Benefits Center, in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Prospective adoptive parents residing abroad can also file the Form I-600A or Form I-600 through the Dallas Lockbox facility.

Prospective adoptive parents residing abroad can also file the Form I-600A and Form I-600 as follows:

- Form I-600A can still be filed at the overseas USCIS office having jurisdiction over the overseas place of residence.
- Form I-600 can still be filed at the overseas U.S. Embassy, consulate or USCIS office having jurisdiction to accept the petition.

Please note: In order to file a Form I-600 petition abroad, the petitioner must have an approved and valid Form I-600A and must be physically present at the time of filing in the adoptive child's country.

We will provide more information at www.bashyamspiro.com as it becomes available.

USCIS Issues Q/A on H-1B 'Cap Gap' for F-1 Students

[The United States Citizenship and Immigration Service \(USCIS\)](#) issued an excellent Question and Answer on the H-1B Cap Gap. This Q & A addresses the automatic extension of F-1 student status in the United States for certain students with pending or approved H-1B petitions (indicating a request for change of status from F-1 to H-1B) for an **employment start date of Oct. 1, 2010** under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 H-1B cap.

To read the USCIS Q/A, please click [HERE](#).

Latest Blog: Trail of Dreams Stops in Raleigh



A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to meet with a group of inspirational immigrant students who made a stop in North Carolina on their 1,500 mile trip from Miami, FL to Washington, D.C. by foot as part of the “[Trail of Dreams](#)” initiative to demand just and smart immigration reform. The event was sponsored by [UnitingNC](#), an organization with a mission to foster rational dialogue between immigrants and others in the community.

North Carolina, like other southern states, has seen a significant increase in deportations, workplace raids, and barriers to higher education for immigrant students. Furthermore, [Section 287\(g\) of the Immigration and Nationality Act](#), which authorizes the Federal Government to enter into agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies to perform immigration law enforcement functions, has created fear amongst aliens who lack a valid immigration status. This often causes illegal aliens to fail to report crimes to local law enforcement for fear of deportation.

These students spoke openly and candidly to me, public safety representatives and others interested community members about the challenges that these students and the 12 million undocumented aliens in the United States face each day and the hope that they have for the future. These students, some of whom are undocumented, are no different than any of us. They are good, hard-working, and kind people. The only difference is a status based on law. In the history of our great country, there have been bad laws related to women’s voting rights and segregation, to name a few, and those laws have been changed. Gaby, one of the students, pointed out that we need to do the same thing with our immigration laws.

During their visit they showed an inspirational video that I feel is certainly worth sharing. To view the video, please click [HERE](#).

For more information and biographies on the *Dream Walkers* visit: www.trail2010.org

[The Immigration Minute \(in Spanish\): The Relationship Between an Attorney and a Client](#)

Our office recently released our latest video in our [The Immigration Minute](#) video series. This informative video is in Spanish and focuses on the attorney-client relationship.

If you would like to view this video, please click [HERE](#).

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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