

CLIENT BULLETIN

TO: All Cohen & Grigsby, P.C. Immigration Clients
FROM: Cohen & Grigsby, P.C. Immigration Group
DATE: June 18, 2007
RE: Immigration Bulletin

Processing of Applications for Adjustment of Status (Forms I-485)

As announced late last week, and in an extremely surprising development, the Department of State announced that all employment-based visa categories (other than the "Other Worker" category) will be "current" as of July 1, 2007. As a result, anyone on whose behalf an immigrant visa petition either was or will be filed under the EB-1, EB-2, or EB-3 "professional/skilled worker" categories will, as of that date, be eligible to file Form I-485, Application for Adjustment of Status.

As you can imagine, and based on this development, we will in all likelihood be filing several hundred such applications during the month of July. We will also be doing so prior to July 30, 2007 (and, in fact, no later than July 26, 2007) so as to be able to file the applications using the current (and less expensive) USCIS filing fees.

To enable us to do so, we are making a few changes to our normal I-485 process. First, and instead of providing this information via "direct" correspondence, we are instead setting forth below a list of all the documents required for us to prepare these applications for both the foreign national employee as well as his/her spouse and minor (under the age of 21) unmarried children:

- a. Copy of current passport (every page, including the blank pages) and any previously issued passports that contain U.S. visas.
- b. Color copy of the biographic information page from the passport (this is the page that contains the photograph).
- c. Copy of current Form I-94 card.
- d. Birth and marriage records, including divorce decrees from any previous marriages.
- e. Six color passport photographs, 2 inches x 2 inches and with a white background.

In this same regard, a list of the civil surgeons authorized by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to administer the required medical examination can be found on the USCIS's web page at the following link: https://egov.uscis.gov/crisgwi/go?action=offices.type&OfficeLocator.office_type=CIV. We strongly recommend that you make the necessary appointment as soon as possible because, again because of the demand, a significant delay could be experienced.

Please remember, though, that you are not limited to having the medical taken in the area where you live. Instead, the medical examination can be conducted by any physician on the list regardless of your residence. You are required to take the following documents to the medical appointment:

- a. Form I-693, which can be downloaded at:
<http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/I-693.pdf>
- b. Vaccination supplement, which can be downloaded at:
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/pdf/ti-03/appdx-a_693vacc.pdf

Next, and again only because of our need to file so many applications so quickly, we are directing all of our clients to prepare first drafts of the following documents:

- a. Form I-485.
- b. Form G-325A.
- c. Form I-131.
- d. Form I-765.

You can access these documents via the USCIS website at <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis> (click on "Immigration Forms"). Simply download them, fill them out in draft (to the best of your ability) and send them to the member of the Cohen & Grigsby Immigration Group who has been working on your matters. We will then carefully review all of the documents, obtain any necessary additional information/documentation and, then, proceed to finalize and file the applications with the USCIS. Rest assured that, despite this change in process (which, as I am sure you can understand, is driven by our need to file the applications on the earliest possible date), each application will be prepared in a thorough and careful manner.

Please contact any member of the Cohen & Grigsby Immigration Department if you or your foreign national employees have any questions regarding the above. If not, we look forward to receiving the "packages" of I-485 applications from your employees and appreciate your cooperation.

To receive future bulletins by e-mail, please send an e-mail to info@cohenlaw.com.