



Beach-Oswald Immigration Law Associates Newsletter

Washington, DC
Immigration Lawyers

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Beach-Oswald is a full-service law firm, concentrating on immigration law. We have special expertise in work visas, family based visas, visa waivers, green cards through family and employment and asylum. We have staff members who speak many different languages to assist you.

We succeed when others don't!

New Initiatives To Prevent Immigration Related Job Discrimination

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has awarded more than \$700,000 in grants to 11 community service groups so that they may educate the public about immigration-related job discrimination and inform workers and employees about their rights and responsibilities. The recipient organizations will assist discrimination victims, conduct seminars for workers, employers, and immigration service providers. For more information, please visit <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc>.



USCIS Changes Vaccination Requirements

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has published a list of vaccines that are required for applicants seeking to adjust their status to that of permanent resident. The required immunizations are:

- Rotavirus
- Hepatitis A
- Meningococcal
- Human papillomavirus
- Zoster



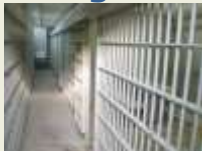
Immigrants

Check the Status of Your FOIA Request Online



USCIS has recently announced that applicants will now be able to check the status of their Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) online at www.uscis.gov by entering their assigned control number.

Make a Difference! Support the Humane Treatment of Detained Immigrants!



The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) is urging everyone to write to their senators, telling them to them to

The revised Technical Instructions to Civil Surgeons for Vaccination Requirements can be found online at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dg/civil.htm>. To read the "Frequently Asked Questions" about vaccination requirements, please visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.

HIV No Longer a Barrier To Immigration



Prior to July 30, 2008 the U.S. was one of only 12 countries in the world that banned travel for individuals who are HIV positive. The ban was enacted in 1987, and HIV remained a ground for inadmissibility for years. However, all this changed on July 30, 2008, when President Bush signed into law a bill that authorizes \$48 billion over the next five years to fight AIDS and other diseases overseas. This bill also includes a provision that repeals the HIV travel and immigration ban by amending the health-related ground of inadmissibility to exclude any reference to HIV. Now that the bill is in effect, it will be up to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to determine whether individuals infected with HIV will be allowed to travel the U.S.

Virginia Stricter Than Ever on Illegal Immigrants

The Washington Post recently reported that the state of Virginia has implemented a law that requires jails to report all foreign born inmates to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), regardless of their immigration status and regardless whether or not they are documented immigrants. Del. David B. Albo, who helped write the law, was quoted saying, "with our new law, these people who are here illegally should be afraid of living anywhere in Virginia right now." All immigrants, regardless of status, that are arrested anywhere in Virginia, will now be reported to federal authorities, and anyone that is here illegally faces being turned over to ICE, and possible deportation. To read the full Washington Post article, log onto



http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/27/AR2008072701973.html?nav=rss_email/components.

sponsor the "Secure and Safe Detention and Asylum Act" (S.3114). There have been many reports recently of the appalling conditions that detained immigrants have had to endure, including medical neglect, suicides, and forced sedation of detainees. AILA has made it easy for you to take a stand and send a personalized message to your Senators, by [going to the following website:](http://capwiz.com/aila/2/issues/alert/?alertid=11504346)
<http://capwiz.com/aila/2/issues/alert/?alertid=11504346>

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Controversial Hiring of Immigration Judges



After a thorough investigation, a report released by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Offices of Professional Responsibility has confirmed that the Justice Department used illegal hiring practices when hiring Immigration Judges and members of the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). According to the report, former White House liaison Monica Goodling and chief of staff Kyle Sampson broke the law by taking political beliefs into consideration when selecting candidates, oftentimes relying on candidates' political views rather than their qualifications. After doing extensive research on the candidates' political affiliations and beliefs, Ms. Goodling favored Republicans and conservatives when hiring. To read more on this topic, check out the articles in the Associated Press:

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/J/JUSTICE_POLITICS?SITE=NYONI&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

or in The New York Times:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/29/washington/29justice.html?scp=1&q=immigration%20DOJ&st=cse>

New U.S. Passport Card



The Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security recently announced that U.S. citizens traveling between the U.S. and Mexico, Canada, the Caribbean, and Bermuda by either land or sea will not need to bring their U.S. passports as long as they obtain the new U.S. Passport Card. The Passport Card, which is now being distributed, is a convenient, wallet sized identification document. It is only valid for travel by land or sea, and cannot be used when traveling internationally by air. To find out how you can apply for a U.S. passport card, go to http://travel.state.gov/passport/ppt_card/ppt_card_3926.html.

ICE's New Program for Immigrants To Turn Themselves In



From August 5 to August 22, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will be implementing a pilot program called the Scheduled Departure Program, which encourages immigrants that have overstayed their visa or have been ordered deported by an immigration judge to report to ICE to have the agency arrange for their departure. The idea behind the program is to have immigrants that have been ordered deported avoid arrest, and instead arrange for a peaceful departure from the U.S. This program addresses the concerns that many immigrants have raised about ICE disrupting families by detaining immigrants prior to deporting them. By turning themselves in, immigrants that have been ordered removed from the country will not only avoid being arrested, and will allow eligible aliens to arrange for their families to depart together with them, if they wish. According to Julie Myers, the Homeland Security Assistant Secretary for ICE, "by participating in the Scheduled Departure Program, those who have had their day in court and have been ordered to leave the country have an opportunity to comply with the law and gain control of how their families are affected by their removal." **This pilot program will only be in effect from August 5 until August 22, and it will only apply to aliens living in or around Santa Ana, CA, San Diego, CA, Phoenix, AZ, Chicago, IL, and Charlotte, NC.** ICE will then evaluate the effectiveness of the program and will decide whether it is something they wish to continue.

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