

US IMMIGRATION CLIENT ALERT

If you have any questions about this announcement, please contact the legal professional with whom you usually work at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP.

April 10, 2007

USCIS Issues Updated Statistics on FY 2008 H-1B Filings

Advanced Degree Cap Remains Open

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today provided updated statistics concerning the number of Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 H-1B filings received on April 2 and 3, 2007. As of April 9, 2007, the agency had received approximately 119,193 cases against the standard H-1B cap. In addition, approximately 12,989 cases were received against the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 pool of 20,000 H-1B numbers for holders of advanced degrees from U.S. universities. Therefore, the cap of 20,000 for these exempt cases remains open. In a related development, our firm has begun to receive approvals on advanced-degree cases that were filed using the premium processing service.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today provided updated statistics concerning the number of Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 H-1B filings received on April 2 and April 3, 2007. As of April 9, 2007, the agency determined that approximately 119,193 cases counting against the standard H-1B cap had been received. The agency continues to process these filings in preparation for the computerized lottery in which cases will be selected for award of a standard H-1B cap number.

In addition, approximately 12,989 cases were received against the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 pool of 20,000 H-1B numbers for holders of advanced degrees from U.S. universities. As such, the cap of 20,000 for exempt cases remains open. Though advanced-degree H-1B numbers remain for the 2008 fiscal year, usage is expected to increase at a rapid pace as the academic year comes to a close. Employers are thus urged to submit petitions seeking advanced-degree H-1B numbers as soon as possible. In a related development, our firm has begun to receive approvals on advanced-degree cases that were filed using the premium processing service.

We will continue to monitor H-1B processing and will issue additional Client Alerts as developments occur. If you have any questions about this Client Alert, please contact your designated FRAGOMEN professional.

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