

OLSEN LAW FIRM

IMMIGRATION LAW, INTERNATIONAL LAW, BUSINESS LAW

IMMIGRATION LAW REPORT

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Introducing the Immis, your personal guides to the world of US immigration. Look to Immi, Jr. to give you the latest blurbs on NONIMMIGRANT statuses such as students. Look to Immi for the latest blurbs on IMMIGRANT STATUSES, such as green card holders. Look to Citizen Immi for information on US CITIZENSHIP issues.



Immi, Jr.



Immi



Citizen Immi

IMMEDIATE PRESS AND NEWS RELEASES

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY LAUNCHES
OPERATION "ICE STORM"
ICE to Lead Landmark Crackdown on Human Smuggling

Source: Phoenix Times, AILA

Top law enforcement and government officials have joined with the Department of Homeland Security to announce Operation ICE Storm, an unprecedented multi-agency initiative led by the Department's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to combat human smuggling and the violence it has generated in Arizona and nationwide.

ICE agents will combine immigration, smuggling, and financial investigative powers to attack the criminal rings from a variety of levels. ICE's financial investigations expertise will allow the task force to follow the money trail in ways not previously possible

Prosecuting smugglers identified as part of ICE Storm is a top priority. New federal sentencing enhancements will ensure that smugglers who engage in hostage taking will be given stiff sentences, up to life in prison. The United States Attorney's Office is pledging to use this and every other tool at its disposal to deter smuggling activity. In those instances where federal charges are not appropriate, the U.S. Attorney and ICE will collaborate with state and county authorities to explore the possibility for local prosecution.

In support of the operation, ICE is deploying 50 additional Special Agents to the Phoenix area. These resources enhance ICE's investigational capabilities and its ability to respond to local law enforcement. The number of permanent ICE agents available to combat organized smuggling in Phoenix effectively doubled with the establishment of the Phoenix ICE field office.

In addition to ICE, there are 12 federal, state, and local agencies participating in ICE Storm. Those entities include the United States Attorney's Office; U.S. Customs and Border Protection; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Arizona Attorney General's Office; the Maricopa County Attorney's Office; the Arizona Department of Public Safety; the Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, and Scottsdale Police Departments; and the Maricopa and Pinal County Sheriff's Offices.

QUICK NEWS BYTES AND REMINDERS

NCSC (800#) Planning to Restore Some Live Assistance Back to the Service Centers

Source: AILA

The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is planning to shift certain live assistance back to the USCIS Service Centers. The extent of the shift will be determined in the next several weeks based on feedback from the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and other organizations, and on USCIS analysis, including cost considerations. Changes are not expected until January.



Immi says: Hey, Canadian PRs! Check out this important information provided below:

Canadian Permanent Residents Without Visas Cannot Use Automatic Revalidation

Source: AILA

Landed Immigrants Without Visas Cannot Be Readmitted on I-94 Card

Canadian permanent residents in the U.S. who have not obtained nonimmigrant visas (as they now must do) and who subsequently return to Canada CANNOT take advantage of the automatic revalidation provisions of 22 CFR Section 41.112(d) in seeking readmission to the U.S. Therefore, even if they meet all the requirements of subsection 41.112(d)(2) (I-94 with continued validity, seeking readmission within 30 days, valid passport, etc.), because they do not have a visa, there is nothing to revalidate. As a practical matter, this means they must anticipate applying for, and obtaining, a visa before seeking readmission.



Immi, Jr. says: Are you applying for a nonimmigrant visa, such as a student visa? Then beware! There may be new fees soon. Better check out the news byte below:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) Proposes Rule for Collection of Fees on F, J, and M Nonimmigrants

Source: AILA, Federal Register

This rule proposes to amend the regulations of DHS to provide for the collection of a fee to be paid by certain aliens who are applying for F-1, F-3, M-1, or M-3 student visas or for a J-1 visa as an exchange visitor.

Generally, the rule proposes a fee of \$100, although applicants for certain J-1 exchange programs will pay a reduced fee of \$35, and certain other aliens will be exempt from the fee altogether.

This fee is levied on students applying for F, J, or M nonimmigrant visas to cover the costs of administering and maintaining the SEVIS system and ensuring compliance by individuals, schools, and organizations with the system's requirements. The fee imposed under this proposed rule will pay for the continued operation of the SEVIS program and will also include the funds to hire SEVIS Liaison Officers and other ICE officers to ensure compliance with the SEVIS requirements.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Explanation: If you have questions concerning immigration related issues or concerns and are of a non-advice and pure general interest nature, please e-mail them to tolsen@tlolaw.com.

IMPORTANT IMMIGRATION RELATED WEB SITES

<http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/index.htm>

- US Citizenship and Immigration Services Web Link

<http://www.dol.gov/>

- Dept. of Labor Web Link

<http://www.state.gov/>

- Dept. of State Web Link

<http://www.embassy.org/>

- Embassies in Washington D.C. Web Link

<http://www.aviso.net/government/embassies/>

- Embassies Located Inside and Outside U.S. Web Link

CONTACT INFO

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