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January 2004

## Immigration Newsflash

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### REMINDER: U.S. VISIT – Biometric Entry/Exit System Implemented January 5, 2004

As reported in our June 2003 Client Alert, U.S. VISIT (United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology) is a new technology-based entry and exit system that is designed to use scanning equipment to collect biometric identifiers, such as fingerprints and digital photographs, to gather information from a foreign national about his or her identity and travel activities. The Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) implemented this system January 5, 2004.

U.S. VISIT provides that aliens applying for admission pursuant to a nonimmigrant visa may be required to provide biometric information at the time of application for admission to or departure from the United States. Specifically, upon arrival at designated air and seaports, designated aliens must submit fingerprints and photographs as requested by an immigration officer. (The departure confirmation procedure is still in the pilot program phase, and will be fully implemented at a later date.)

Additional information regarding U.S. VISIT, including FAQs, may be found at [http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/FINALRevised\\_FAQs\\_12-31-2003.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/FINALRevised_FAQs_12-31-2003.pdf).

### Analysis of L-1 Visa Legislation: Issues and Prospects

In an article published in the New York Law Journal, Bo Cooper, former General Counsel of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, who is now resident in Paul Hastings’ Washington, D.C. office, and Zachary Fasman, a labor and employment lawyer resident in Paul Hastings’ New York office, analyze the issues surrounding the L-1 (intracompany transferee) visa debate and the prospects for legislation in the new year. The article is attached.

*The information in this Newsflash is not intended to be legal advice. However, if you require legal assistance or would like additional information about immigration matters, please contact your local Paul Hastings representative or Daryl Buffenstein at 404-815-2232 or via email at [darylbuffenstein@paulhastings.com](mailto:darylbuffenstein@paulhastings.com).*