

January 17, 2003

Immigration Newsflash

INS Adds Five More Countries Whose Nationals Or Citizens Will Be Subject To Call-In Special Registration; INS Extends Period Of Registration; Paul Hastings' Immigration Seminar

INS Adds Five More Countries Whose Nationals Or Citizens Will Be Subject To Call-In Special Registration

The INS has, in the Federal Register, advised that certain male nonimmigrants from **Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan and Kuwait** must report to the INS to enroll in the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS).

As of **February 24, 2003**, certain male nonimmigrants (except those with A or G classification) from Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan and Kuwait must report to the INS if they were:

- a) born on or before February 24, 1987;
- b) were last admitted to the U.S. on or before September 30, 2002; and
- c) will remain in the U.S. after March 28, 2003.

Affected nonimmigrants must report to the INS **between February 24, 2003 and March 28, 2003**.

The notice specifies that special registration is applicable to any affected nonimmigrant who is a national or citizen of a designated country, notwithstanding any dual nationality or citizenship.

Importantly, the notice specifically provides, however, that applicants for asylum whose applications are pending on January 16, 2003, or who have been granted asylum, are excluded from the special registration program since the Attorney General has determined that these individuals have provided sufficient information in their applications, along with fingerprints, to warrant this exclusion.

The notice further reiterates that a willful failure to comply with the special registration requirements constitutes a failure to maintain nonimmigrant status, and that an affected nonimmigrant who fails to comply with the special registration process is, therefore, deportable. The notice also again specifies that an affected nonimmigrant who fails to comply with the requirement to report to an inspecting officer when departing the U.S. shall be deemed inadmissible.

INS Extends Period Of Registration

The Attorney General has by notice in the Federal Register extended the period of registration of certain male nonimmigrants who are citizens or nationals of Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates or Yemen.

These nonimmigrants who were required to register under previous notices published in the Federal Register, but who did not register, have been afforded the opportunity to report to an INS office between **January 27, 2003 and February 7, 2003**. Registration during this period shall be considered timely under the original notices.

Paul Hastings' Immigration Seminar

The Paul Hastings' immigration seminar entitled "Is there life after the INS?" will be held on March 13, 2003. The seminar will focus on the continuing fall-out from 9/11 and what to expect now that INS is being abolished and replaced by the Department of Homeland Security. The particular emphasis will be on obtaining visas and structuring immigration compliance in this new political and regulatory environment. For more information, please contact Jennifer Kim at jenniferkim@paulhastings.com.

*The information in this Alert 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.*

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