

IMMIGRATION UPDATE®

May 31, 2011



This Immigration Update[©] from FosterQuan, LLP contains important information regarding the following:

TPS EXTENDED FOR HAITIAN NATIONALS

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) has announced the extension and re-designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian nationals. The extension will become effective on July 23, 2011, and will remain in place for an additional 18 months, allowing TPS beneficiaries to remain in the U.S. through January 22, 2013. Haitians who were issued employment authorization pursuant to TPS will benefit from a six-month, automatic extension of their employment authorization until January 22, 2012. Thereafter, employment authorization requires a new Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card. The deadline for re-registration is August 22, 2011.

In addition to extending TPS to allow Haitian TPS holders to re-register, Secretary Napolitano has re-designated Haiti for TPS, meaning Haitians who do not already hold TPS in the United States may apply for initial grant of TPS. To be eligible, Haitian nationals must have continuously resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2011. Prior to this announcement, TPS was granted only to Haitian individuals who had continuously resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2010. First time applicants must file their applications for registration by November 15, 2011.

This re-designation does not benefit Haitians who are not currently in the U.S, who arrived after January 12, 2011, who have been "convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors" in the U.S., or who are subject to "security or criminal-related bars of admission" or "bars to asylum."

For more information on registration or re-registration for TPS, or for information regarding the Form I-9 reverification process for TPS registrants benefiting from an automatic extension of employment authorization, contact your FosterQuan immigration attorney. As always, FosterQuan will continue to monitor developments on this issue and will provide additional information via our firm's website and future Immigration Updates[©].