



EMAIL BULLETIN

**U.S. CIS PUBLISHES REGULATION PROVIDING FOR PREMIUM PROCESSING OF MOST IMMIGRANT VISA PETITIONS, A SERVICE PREVIOUSLY AVAILABLE ONLY FOR CERTAIN NONIMMIGRANT PETITIONS**

**The Premium Processing Service Will Cost an Additional \$1,000 and Will Guarantee Action on the Petition within 15 Calendar Days**

*26 May 2006*

On May 23, 2006, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services published a regulation providing for premium processing of most Immigrant Visa Petitions. While the CIS has yet to announce procedures and start dates for filing such requests, the regulation confirms that premium processing will be permitted for the following classifications of Immigrant Visa Petitions:

- Aliens of Extraordinary Ability
- Outstanding Researchers or Professors
- Multinational Managers or Executives
- Members of professions who hold advanced degrees or have exceptional ability not seeking a National Interest Waiver
- Professionals
- Other workers

Additionally, the new regulation will also permit premium processing request for many types of Applications to Change or Extend Nonimmigrant Status. All requests for premium processing must be accompanied by the additional \$1,000 filing fee.

As with all developments in immigration law and procedure, Tindall & Foster will continue to monitor CIS progress in announcing procedures and start dates for accepting requests for premium processing for the above-listed petitions and applications. We will provide future updates via Email Bulletins or on the Tindall & Foster web site as they are announced by the CIS. As procedures are implemented, your Tindall & Foster immigration attorney will be able to assist you evaluating the advantages and disadvantages of premium processing in particular cases and in preparing and filing premium processing requests.