



REMINDER: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 12, 2009, VISA WAIVER TRAVELERS MUST OBTAIN ADVANCE TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION VIA THE ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (ESTA) BEFORE TRAVELING TO THE UNITED STATES

As previously reported in our [November 14, 2008 Immigration Update®](#), beginning January 12, 2009, travelers seeking admission into the United States under the Visa Waiver Program must present a valid travel authorization obtained via the new Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) program. Applications for travel authorization must be filed [online](#) via the U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) website, and are generally valid for up to two years. Travelers should plan ahead and apply online well in advance of their desired travel dates in order to avoid potential disruption of international travel plans.