



EMAIL BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) WILL LAUNCH TRAVELER REDRESS INQUIRY PROGRAM (TRIP) TO ASSIST TRAVELERS IN CORRECTING ERRONEOUS INFORMATION IN DATABASES (LOOKOUT SYSTEMS) USED BY U.S. CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) TO DENY ADMISSION TO, OR JUSTIFY ADDITIONAL SCRUTINY OF, TRAVELERS AT U.S. PORTS OF ENTRY

30 January 2007

Potential relief for individuals erroneously placed on travel “watch lists” may soon be available. On January 17, 2007, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced plans to implement a Traveler Redress Inquiry Program to assist travelers in correcting or removing erroneous information about them in databases queried by U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) at U.S. Ports of Entry. Data accessed in these databases have resulted in denials of admission as well as lengthy delays in a traveler’s clearance through customs. Beginning February 20, 2007, travelers who frequently experience travel delays due to unknown or erroneous information connected with their names in CBP-accessed databases will be able to electronically complete and file a Traveler Inquiry Form. Information collected in the Form will be retained by DHS and will also be used in an effort to correct inaccuracies in data, and possibly to remove inaccurate data, thereby facilitating the traveler’s future admission into the United States.

Travelers who are concerned by delays experienced upon entry into the United States and who would like to explore the option of filing a Traveler Inquiry Form with the DHS should contact their Tindall & Foster immigration attorney on or after February 20, 2007 to initiate filing.