



Tuesday, November 27, 2007

U.S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SERVICES (CIS) ANNOUNCES IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW CUBAN FAMILY REUNIFICATION PAROLE PROGRAM

On November 21, 2007, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services announced implementation of the Cuban Family Reunification Parole Program, which will permit discretionary issuance of Parole documents for entry of certain Cuban nationals into the United States in advance of approval for lawful permanent residence.

Cuban nationals residing in Cuba who are the beneficiaries of an approved Form I-130 Petition for Alien Relative are now eligible to seek parole into the United States in order to join family members prior to the availability of an immigrant visa number under the annual quota system for family-based immigration. The Parole program will not permit applicants to be approved for permanent residency faster and will not make additional immigrant visa numbers available. Rather, the program will allow reunification of family members who are currently awaiting visa availability in Cuba.

CIS intends to notify petitioners who filed I-130 Petitions on behalf of qualifying family members that their family members may be eligible to participate in the program. Should you receive such a notification letter from the CIS and require assistance in applying for this benefit on behalf of your family member, please contact your Tindall & Foster immigration attorney. As always, Tindall & Foster will continue to monitor the availability of new immigration benefits and will make future updates available via the Tindall & Foster web site at www.tindallfoster.com, and in future Email Bulletins as appropriate.