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

1. H-1B Quota Soon to be Reached – Act Now to File New H-1B Petitions
2. Expect Delays for Brazilian Work Visas

1. H-1B QUOTA SOON TO BE REACHED—ACT NOW TO FILE NEW H-1B PETITIONS

On November 18, 2009, the CIS released statistics indicating that, as of November 13, 2009, only approximately 4,000 numbers remained available. Today this number is likely closer to 3,000. The comparative award of over 100 H-1B numbers per day, as opposed to about 100 per week during the summer months, indicates the H-1B quota could be exhausted by mid-December.

In order to maximize the opportunity to obtain one of the limited H-1B numbers that remain available for Fiscal Year 2010, and to avoid a potential gap in employment authorization, contact your Foster Quan immigration attorney immediately for assistance in evaluating candidate eligibility, developing an appropriate case strategy, and preparing the necessary documents for filing an H-1B petition before the H-1B numbers run out.

2. EXPECT DELAYS FOR BRAZILIAN WORK VISAS

On November 16, 2009, employees of the Brazilian Ministry of Labor and Employment, the organization responsible for adjudicating applications for work authorization in Brazil, went on strike. In anticipation of this eventuality, Foster Quan has been advising clients to expect delays in issuance of Brazilian work visas. Because the strike may last for days, weeks, or even months, delays could be considerable. While applications previously were adjudicated within 30 to 60 days, adjudication time frames could double or triple.

As always, Foster Quan will continue to monitor breaking events impacting the time frames for international transfers, and will make future information available via our web site and future Immigration Updates[©].