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Press Release

USCIS Reveals a New Look for Travel Booklets *Enhanced Security Features Are Counterfeit Resistant*

WASHINGTON – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today issued a redesigned travel booklet as part of ongoing security improvements to update agency documents. The fraud resistant identification booklets include digital photographs and signatures and other enhanced security features to deter potential counterfeiting schemes.

Additional improvements include a new teal blue cover and color images of patriotic symbols of the United States, such as the Statue of Liberty and the American flag.

“We intend to periodically update our documents to capitalize on advances in security technology and to stay ahead of efforts to circumvent our legal immigration system,” said USCIS Director Emilio Gonzalez.

The personalized passport-style booklets contain either a *Permit to Reenter the United States* (Form I-327); or a *Refugee Travel Document* (Form I-571). The reentry permit establishes that permanent or conditional residents do not abandon their legal status when they travel outside the United States for more than one year. A person with refugee or asylum status who wishes to travel abroad should carry the *Refugee Travel Document* to return and maintain their status. In most cases, a refugee or asylee may use the document for travel purposes in place of a passport.

Travel documents currently in circulation are valid until the expiration date in the booklet. USCIS issues approximately 200,000 travel booklets each year.

USCIS has notified federal and international law enforcement and homeland security agencies of enhanced forensic security features included in the booklet so that agents and inspectors may recognize and validate the redesigned documents.

Permanent and conditional legal residents may find more information on the reentry permit on the USCIS web site at: <http://www.uscis.gov/files/article/B5.pdf>. Details on how to apply for a refugee travel document is available online at: http://www.uscis.gov/files/article/d4_english.pdf.

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