

July 27, 2007

## **USCIS** Update

## USCIS RESCINDS PRIOR UPDATE REGARDING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF "PREPAID MAILERS" FOR ISSUING NOTICES AND DOCUMENTS

WASHINGTON —USCIS is retracting its recent "USCIS Update" regarding the discontinuance of "prepaid mailers" for issuing notices and documents, dated July 23, 2007. Prior to the July 23rd announcement, USCIS allowed the public to enclose "prepaid mailers" in connection with applications or petitions filed with USCIS. A prepaid mailer is essentially a self-addressed envelope, where postage is paid by the addressee, that USCIS may use for mailing a document to the petitioner/applicant or their authorized representative. USCIS is aware that the July 23rd announcement caused anxiety for several of its customers and USCIS is committed to finding an alternative that will allow the public the continued convenience of using "prepaid mailers" while not unduly impacting its operations. Thus, USCIS is reinstating the practice of utilizing prepaid mailers as an alternate method of delivering notices and documents to the public.

USCIS reminds the public that prepaid mailers are not required. If an applicant/petitioner nonetheless wishes to submit one, it should meet the following criteria: Express and Priority mail (including Fed Ex, DHL, or UPS) with appropriate postage with prepaid shipping label on the package, already paid by person who sends it, e.g., Fed Ex "Expanded Billable Stamp", or DHL "Easy Return Label", among others.

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