

Obama Administration Quietly Authorizes Immigration Policy Change For Visa Waiver Program

By ALICIA A. CALDWELL 11/27/13 11:00 AM ET EST **AP**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some immigrants who have stayed in the United States longer than they were allowed can soon apply to keep living in the U.S. under another immigration policy change quietly authorized by the Obama administration.

According to a Nov. 14 policy memorandum from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, some immigrants from 37 Visa Waiver Program countries who are immediate relatives of U.S. citizens may be allowed to stay.

People from visa waiver countries don't have to get a visa before coming to the U.S., but they can only stay for up to 90 days. The program covers mostly European countries.

The new policy was issued in mid-November, a day before the administration announced plans to let some immigrant parents, children and spouses of U.S. military personnel stay in the United States.

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