



IMMIGRATION ALERT

USCIS INCREASES FILING FEES

On April 14, 2004, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) announced that filing fees for many immigration benefit applications will be increased by an average of \$55.00. The new fee schedule will take effect on April 30, 2004. The increase, says USCIS Director Eduardo Aguirre, “will allow us to enhance service without compromising our commitment to national security.”

Applications subject to the change which are frequently used in the business immigration context include Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker, used for E, H, L, O, P, Q, R, and TN visa petitions or extensions (fee increased from \$130 to \$185); Form I-131, Application for Travel Document (fee increased from \$110 to \$165); Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker (fee increased from \$135 to \$190); Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (fee increased from \$255 to \$315); Form I-539 Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (fee increased from \$140 to \$195); and Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization (fee increased from \$120 to \$175). For a complete listing of USCIS forms and fees, visit www.uscis.gov.

Applications postmarked April 30, 2004 and later must include the increased filing fees; otherwise, the applications will be returned.

Seyfarth Shaw's Business Immigration Group provides periodic information alerts about noteworthy developments in the business immigration field. The information that we provide is of a general nature and should not be interpreted as legal advice applicable to a specific factual situation. If you have questions about the information contained in this Immigration Alert or would like to know more about

Seyfarth Shaw's Business Immigration Group and our inbound and outbound visa processing capabilities, please visit our website, www.immstar.com, or contact one of the Business Immigration Group Partners: Jim King (jking@seyfarth.com) in Atlanta; Russell Swapp(rswapp@seyfarth.com) or Dyann DelVecchio (ddelvecchio@seyfarth.com) in Boston; Ric Fischer (Ffischer@seyfarth.com) in Chicago; or Cris Weals (cweals@dc.seyfarth.com) in DC. If you would like to receive our Immigration Alerts, please contact Nicole Kersey via e-mail at (nkersey@seyfarth.com). Thank you.



Seyfarth Shaw LLP
55 East Monroe Street
Suite 4200
Chicago, IL 60603
Attention: Client Relations
Seyfarthshaw@seyfarth.com