



## **IMMIGRATION ALERT**

### **All Visa Waiver Program Users Required to have Machine Readable Passport as of June 26, 2005**

Starting June 26, 2005, all foreign nationals who wish to enter the U.S. via the Visa Waiver Program (“VWP”) must possess a Machine Readable Passport (“MRP”). There will be no exceptions to this rule.

The VWP is frequently used by foreign nationals who wish to enter the U.S. to conduct business or visit as a tourist. The VWP allows entry under the B “Visitor Visa” category without possession of an actual B Visa stamp in a passport. Only foreign nationals of twenty-seven designated countries may participate in the VWP:



Andorra	Iceland	Norway
Australia	Ireland	Portugal
Austria	Italy	San Marino
Belgium	Japan	Singapore
Brunei	Liechtenstein	Slovenia
Denmark	Luxembourg	Spain
Finland	Monaco	Sweden
France	the Netherlands	Switzerland
Germany	New Zealand	United Kingdom

Currently, VWP participants are allowed a one-time exemption from the MRP rule. This exemption will no longer be available as of June 26, 2005. If a foreign national cannot obtain an MRP by June 26, 2005, he or she must obtain a B Visitor Visa from a U.S. consular post in order to enter the U.S. to conduct business or to visit as a tourist.



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