The Informed Immigrant







Spring 2009

Citizenship Shortcut

Individuals in a continuing marital relationship with their sponsoring spouse can apply for citizenship three years after receiving their green card instead of five.

245(i): Green Cards for People Without Status

If your visa has expired, or you came to the United States without a visa, or you worked without permission, you may still be able to apply for a green card without leaving the country. Section 245(i) of the immigration law allows beneficiaries of visa

petitions or labor certifications filed before April 30, 2001 to apply for a green card in the United States despite falling out of status or having none at all. This provision has also been applied to cover the spouse and children of the beneficiary of the visa petition or labor certification. If you, your parent or your spouse submitted a visa petition or a labor certification before April 30, 2001, it may be possible to apply for a green card under section 245(i) today.

New US-Ireland Intern Work and Travel Program

On October 31, 2008, the U.S. and Ireland implemented a new work and travel program for Irish citizens. This five year pilot program permits participants to work as interns or travel independently for up to 12 months.

Eligible participants of this expanded J-1 visa program include currently enrolled post-secondary college/university students, recent graduates, and certain vocational students pursuing a Higher Certificate /Level VI degreed program.

Participants must be Irish citizens, and furnish proof of sufficient financial resources for the duration of the program. The program may not be extended beyond 12 month maximum.

What to Do if You Lose the H-1B Lottery

Each year, a total of 65,000 H-1B visas are available. Due to the large number of applicants, USCIS has instituted a random selection process to allocate the visas. Although very limited, some professional jobs do not need one of these 65,000 visas and are considered cap-exempted. Some of them include jobs with institutions of higher education and their related or affiliated nonprofit entities, or nonprofit or governmental research organizations. Capexempted jobs also include new jobs offered to persons who have received an H-1B position with another

employer within the last six

years. If you do not qualify for a cap-exempted position, and you are a national of Australia, Chile, and Singapore, you have an extra reserve of H-1B visas to draw from. Canadians may be able to benefit from the recently extended three year TN visa. Similarly, nationals of countries having certain trade agreements with the United States can benefit from the E investor visa. Artists or scholars who are able to demonstrate extraordinary ability in their field may qualify for an O visa. Athletes and entertainers who have been recognized internationally may be eligible

for the P visa. The Q visa may be an option for someone whose job involves sharing the culture, history or traditions of her country with the American public. The cultural exchange could include lectures, seminars, and courses.

Jobs that involve aspects of training may fit the criteria for the J-1 trainee visa. Other jobs offered for the purpose of providing individuals with training unavailable in their home country, and not for the purpose of productive employment in the United States meet may the requirements of the H-3 visa.



1212 Hancock Street Suite 300 Quincy, MA 02169 Tel: 617-471-5800 Fax: 617-479-8256 contact@sednalaw.com www.sednalaw.com

Inside Story Headline

The purpose of a newsletter is to provide specialized information to a targeted audience. Newsletters can be a great way to market your product or service, and also to create credibility and build your organization's identity among peers, members, employees, or vendors.

First, determine the audience of the newsletter. This could be anyone who might benefit from the information it contains, for example, employees or people interested in purchasing a product or in

requesting your services.

You can compile a mailing list from business reply cards, customer information sheets, business cards collected at trade shows, or membership lists. You might consider purchasing a mailing list from a company.

Next, establish how much time and money you can spend on your newsletter. These factors will help determine how frequently you publish your newsletter and its length. You should publish your newsletter at least quarterly so that it's considered a consistent source of information. Your customers or employees will look forward to its arrival.

Your headlines are an important part of the newsletter and should be considered carefully.



"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Inside Story Headline

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics, but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Word offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

The subject matter that

appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content.



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Inside Story Headline

In a few words, a headline should accurately represent the contents of the story and draw readers into the story. Develop the headline before you write the story. This way, the headline will help you keep the story focused.

Examples of possible

headlines include Product Wins Industry Award, New Product Can Save You Time, Membership Drive Exceeds Goals, and New Office Opens Near You.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases and market studies.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or services, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your reader.

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Company Name

Street Address Address 2 City, ST ZIP Code

Phone

(503) 555-0167

Fax

(503) 555-0168

E-mail

someone@example.com

Your Tagline here.

Back Page Story Headline

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About Our Organization

Sedna is a planet-like body discovered in 2004 by a team of U.S. researchers. Sedna is the most distant confirmed planetary object located in our solar system to date – more than 84

billion miles from the sun.
Sedna is slowly traveling
towards Earth and will reach
its closest point in
approximately 70 years.
Sedna is named for the Inuit
goddess of the ocean, who

Inuit hunters must appease if they are to travel safely across the seas. Inspired by this namesake, Sedna Law strives to ease the journey of travelers from afar

Microsoft includes thousands

COMPANY NAME

STREET ADDRESS ADDRESS 2 CITY, ST ZIP CODE



CUSTOMER NAME

STREET ADDRESS ADDRESS 2 CITY, ST ZIP CODE

We're on the Web! *See us at:*www.contoso.com