



SISKIND SUSSER

IMMIGRATION LAWYERS



Siskind's Immigration Bulletin



Openers



Dear Readers:

This newsletter is now in its 28th year making it the oldest law firm email newsletter (and as far as we know it's the oldest emailed newsletter in the world).

We've chronicled immigration law developments in the US over all this time. But you would have to go back 18 years to find the last time we covered a bill making substantial changes to immigration law. A lot of people, your editor included, were optimistic 2021 was going to be the year that change would happen. President Biden introduced the *US Citizenship Act* in the spring. Then the *Build Back Better*



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reconciliation bill was introduced. The House passed a *Dream Act* bill early in the year. But as time has passed and none of these bills have gone anywhere, it's becoming increasingly clear that we're not going to see major immigration legislation anytime soon.

The Senate shows no inclination to reform the filibuster that requires, if invoked, 60 votes to pass a bill. Republicans hold half the seats in the Senate and there seems to be little prospect of getting ten votes for any major legislative changes.

The Obama Administration was faced with a similar problem in 2013 when Congress ended a two year attempt to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation. The Administration leaned in on implementing executive policies to try and fix many of the immigration problems being addressed in the legislation. And it appears that the Biden Administration may be following suit with a number of reforms of its own. As an example, just as we were going to press, the Administration made a number of positive announcements regarding STEM workers. Hopefully, 2022 will bring many more of these types of announcements.

Of course, the courts can have their say. Whether the *DACA* program survives is not clear because of a federal district court in Texas. And a court has held up the Biden Administration's prosecutorial discretion policy. On the opposite side, pro-immigration groups have challenged the Administration on visa and benefits processing delays. Whatever policies the Biden Administration releases could be challenged by any number of groups. Which is why the Administration will need to be extremely diligent in complying with the *Administration Procedures Act*.

We welcome readers to contact us if they're in need of a consultation. Just go to www.visalaw.com/consultation.

Sincerely,

Greg Siskind



Siskind Susser News

Who's Who Legal Thought Leaders



Attorneys **Lynn Susser**, **Greg Siskind**, **Ari Sauer**, and **Jason Susser** have all been named as *Who's Who Legal Thought Leaders in Corporate Immigration*. We are so proud of all our attorneys and what they've accomplished in this year!

[Read more](#)

- [Learn more about our latest lawsuit: DV 2022 Delays](#)
- [Marketing Content Strategies For App Building](#)

News Bytes

How to Make an Expedite Request

You may ask USCIS to expedite adjudication of a benefit request (such as an application or petition) for an immigration benefit.

USCIS:

- Considers all expedite requests on a case-by-case basis;
- May require additional documentation to support a request; and
- Has the sole discretion to decide whether to accommodate a request.

[Read more](#)

More News:

- [Extension of Temporary Measure Allowing Return Travel to the United States on Expired U.S. Passport](#)
- [USCIS Clarifies Guidance on O-1 Nonimmigrants in Arts vs. Motion Pictures and Television](#)
- [February Visa Bulletin Warns of High Demand in Employment Fourth Category, Notes Upcoming Expiration of SR Religious Workers Category](#)

Border & Enforcement News

- [Adjustment of Status Filing Charts from the Visa Bulletin](#)
- [Schedule of Fees for Consular Services-Nonimmigrant and Special Visa Fees](#)
- [Pershing Hope for Afghan asylum-seekers](#)

In the News From ABIL

Immigration Help Available to Those Affected by Natural Disasters and Other Unforeseen Circumstances

USCIS is reminding the public that we offer immigration services that may help people affected by unforeseen circumstances such as natural disasters. Examples of unforeseen circumstances include, but are not limited to, the Marshall fire in Colorado.

The following measures may be available on a case-by-case basis upon request:

- Changing a nonimmigrant status or extending a nonimmigrant stay for an individual currently in the United States. Failure to apply for the extension or change before expiration of your authorized period of admission may be excused if the delay was due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control;
- Re-parole of individuals previously granted parole by USCIS;
- Expedited processing of advance parole requests;
- Expedited adjudication of requests for off-campus employment authorization for F-1 students experiencing severe economic hardship;
- Expedited adjudication of employment authorization applications, where appropriate;
- Consideration of fee waiver requests due to an inability to pay;
- Flexibility for those who received a Request for Evidence or a Notice of Intent to Deny but were unable to submit evidence or otherwise respond in a timely manner;
- Flexibility if you were unable to appear for a scheduled interview with USCIS;
- Expedited replacement of lost or damaged immigration or travel documents issued by USCIS, such as a Permanent Resident Card (Green Card), Employment Authorization Documents, and Arrival/Departure Record (Form I-94); and
- Rescheduling a biometric services appointment.

[Learn more here](#)

More News:

- [Justice Dept. Settles Immigration-Related Discrimination Claims With Frozen Food Company](#)
- [USCIS To Hold Listening Session on L Petition Adjudications](#)
- [GAO report on DACA](#)
- [Immigrant and employee rights webinars](#)
- [For First Time, DHS to Supplement H-2B Cap With Additional Visas in First Half of Fiscal Year](#)
- [OFLC Reminds Employers That H-2B Filing Window Starts January 1](#)
- [State Dept. Updates Guidance on F-1, M-1 Student Intent to Depart and Residence Abroad Requirements](#)



On the Blog

[Siskind Susser COVID-19 Blog](#)
[Greg Siskind's Blog](#)
[Weekly Immigration Law Calls](#)

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State Department Visa Bulletin



Visa Bulletin

To view the February 2022 Visa Bulletin from the State Department: [click here](#)

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