



Summer 2010

USCIS Proposed Substantial Fee Increase – Again!

Less than three years ago the USCIS substantially raised the fees charged for filing petitions and applications. Now, the USCIS has less work to do because of the drop in the number of filings so it has proposed another substantial fee increase of approximately ten percent for most applications. This is despite USCIS' admission that it is retaining 2,000 extra employees in case Comprehensive Immigration Reform is passed. The comment period ends on July 26, 2010, so please comment now by visiting the regulations site and make your voice heard!

June 18, 2010 H-1B Cap Count

As of June 18, 2010, approximately 22,900 H-1B cap-subject petitions were received. Additionally, USCIS has received 9,700 H-1B petitions for aliens with advanced degrees.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Those of us located in Seattle witnessed the frustration of people wishing to legalize their status by a demonstration during rush hour on Wednesday, June 23, 2010. We hope Congress and the President will place immigration reform high on their agenda so there is not a need for more demonstrations or states enacting their own legislation concerning illegal immigration.

There will be a Northwest Summit hosted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and ImmigrationWorks on August 12, 2010 at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel. Consider attending with us in order to speak and be heard in a positive forum on immigration reform.

Washington Law & Politics' Super Lawyers®

Immigration attorneys Janet Cheetham and Joel Paget are among ten Ryan Swanson attorneys recently named as "2010 Super Lawyers®" in the Washington legal community. Super Lawyers® are selected based on peer recognition and professional achievement. Only five percent of the lawyers in the state are named to the list. Janet Cheetham was also named among the Top 50 Women. Congratulations to Janet and Joel!

Independence Day

This weekend, as we celebrate the birth of our great nation with our friends and neighbors, remember to take a moment to reflect on those before us who helped define the meaning of freedom and democracy as we know it today.

Did You Know?

- July 1st was known as "Dominion Day" in Canada until 1982, when it was changed to Canada Day. Canada Day celebrates the anniversary of the confederation in 1867.
- During the July 4th weekend in the United States, over 150 million hot dogs will be consumed.

Your friends in the Immigration Group at Ryan Swanson would like to wish you a wonderful Fourth of July holiday.



Immigration Group photo taken at annual retreat in May. This year the retreat focused on ways to continue to provide clients with excellent service in today's economic environment.

(L to R): Janet Cheetham, Brenda Ferderer, Liz Krueger, Jenny Batenhorst, Joel Paget, Hiromi Peltonen, Allison Wilder, and Kathryn Heacock.

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