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New Interview Requirement for Certain Permanent Residency Cases

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Further U.S. immigration restriction is taking place. On August 28, 2017, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that, starting from October 1, 2017, it will begin in-person interviews of certain lawful permanent residence applications, as outlined below. Previously, in-person interviews were not necessary for USCIS adjudication under these categories. Also, USCIS is working on additional incremental expansion of interviews to other types of cases.

1. Employment-based adjustment of status applications (I-485).
2. Refugee/asylee relative petitions (Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition) for beneficiaries who are in the United States and are petitioning to join a principal asylee/refugee applicant.

The phase-in of these in-person interviews is for compliance of Executive Order 13780, “Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States,” as part of larger screening procedure to further improve the detection and prevention of fraud in the immigration system.

USCIS will use the in-person interviews to verify information on an application to discover new, relevant information, and to determine the credibility of the individual applying for U.S. permanent residency.

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This article is intended for informational purposes only, and should not be relied on as legal advice or attorney-client relationship. By **Aik Wan Kok, Lawyer USA Immigration Services, at Tiya;** Tel: seven zero three – 772-8224 & info at tiyaimmigration dot com; Direct dial from abroad: 001-703-772-8224;

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