

## U.S. Department of State Privacy Impact Assessment Summary

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**TITLE: Non-immigrant Visa System**  
**April 26, 2007**

- I. Describe the information to be collected (e.g., nature and source). Be sure to include any information in an identifiable form, e.g., name, address, social security number or other identifying number or code, telephone number, email address, etc).**

Data records are principally obtained directly from the applicant who is applying for a visa. The information collected includes applicant name, date of birth, place of birth, telephone numbers, address, gender, occupation, employment information, employer information, aliases, biometric data, such as applicant photo and applicant fingerprints, nationality, passport number and other passport issuance information, national ID, arrival date, duration of stay information, U.S. contact person, and U.S. contact person information.

- II. Why is the information being collected (e.g., to determine eligibility)?**

The information is collected to determine the eligibility of foreign nationals who have applied or are applying for a visa to visit the United States.

- III. How will the information be used (e.g., to verify existing data)?**

The information will be used to supply information for namechecks, fingerprint matching, and other searches to verify the identity of the applicant and to help determine if the applicant is eligible for travel to the United States. In combination with in-person interviews, the information will be used by consular officers to make a decision to either issue or refuse a visa.

- IV. Will you share the information with others (e.g., another agency for a programmatic purpose)? If yes, list the entities.**

No direct access to this applications data is shared with, or available to, agencies outside of the DoS.

- V. Describe what opportunities individuals have been given to decline to provide information or to consent to particular use of the information (e.g., whether individual may withhold permission for a particular use).**

Information is given voluntarily by the applicants and with their consent, by family members and other designated agents (including attorneys) for the purpose of applying for a visa.

**VI. How will the information be secured (e.g., administrative and technological controls)?**

- Windows and application level identification and authentication mechanisms
- Windows and Oracle level access control lists
- Application level authentication and levels of privilege.
- End-user training
- Security training, including annual refresher courses
- Operating system, database, and application level security scanning

**VII. How will the data be retrieved (e.g., will it be retrieved by a personal identifier such as name, social security number, address, telephone number or some other identifier that is unique to an individual)?**

Data can be retrieved by key word searches such as applicant name, visa case number, date of birth, passport number and various other search criteria. The application also provides the capability to retrieve data by scanning a barcode number that has been associated with the visa application.