



Homeland  
Security

# Press Release

April 29, 2005

## NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

CHICAGO – Today, the Department of Homeland Security announced that a settlement has been reached in the case *Ramos v. Chertoff* (02 C 8266, Northern District, Illinois). This lawsuit involved individuals who filed applications for adjustment of status under Section 245(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act between January 29, 1997, and April 30, 2001, with the Chicago Office of the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Individuals who filed their applications during this period of time, which were processed and denied because their applications were either premature, or defective because an approvable visa petition had not been filed for them, may be eligible for a credit for their filing fees and other relief under the settlement announced today.

Individuals who filed 245(i) applications between January 29, 1997, and April 30, 2001, who believe they might be eligible for relief, should contact class representatives at (312) 660-1898.

**THIS IS NOT AN ANMESTY.** This settlement creates no new rights or means for obtaining residency status in the United States.

The Court has preliminarily approved the settlement in this case and has scheduled a hearing on the fairness of this settlement for June 10, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. Class members who object to any of the terms of the settlement must file their written objections with the Office of the Clerk, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Everett McKinley Dirksen Building, 219 South Dearborn Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, Illinois, 60604, by May 27, 2005. Class members may hire their own attorney to represent them or contact the class representatives at (312) 660-1898. Class counsel advises that immigration authorities should not be directly contacted at this time.