

USCIS Update

November 9, 2007

USCIS CENTRALIZES FILING FOR H-2A PETITIONS

Streamlines Process and Improves Services for Agricultural Employers

WASHINGTON – In a <u>Federal Register notice</u> published today, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that, effective December 10, 2007, it will only accept H-2A (temporary/seasonal agricultural worker) petitions mailed or delivered to its California Service Center. The notice informs the public to use the following addresses:

Direct mail:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services California Service Center ATTN: H-2A Processing Unit P.O. BOX 10140
Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-1040

Non-United States Postal Service deliveries (e.g. private couriers):

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services California Service Center ATTN: H-2A Processing Unit 24000 Avila Road, Room 2312 Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

The notice also states that USCIS will return to the petitioner any H-2A petition received on or after December 10, 2007 at a different Service Center, and will instruct the petitioner to file at the correct location. Previously, H-2A petitioners could file with either the USCIS California or Vermont Service Center.

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