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Via Facsimile

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Director, Regulatory Management Division
US Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 3rd floor
Washington DC 20529

Re: DHS Docket # USCIS-20060044

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am a solo attorney in Los Angeles. My practice is devoted solely to immigration law.

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed fee increases.

Based upon my experience, the practical effect of the increases will be to prevent many applicants who are otherwise eligible from applying for their legal permanent residence and/or citizenship and to do nothing to improve the quality of the USCIS. It sends the wrong message to the immigrant community. In effect, the proposed fee increases will price the public right out of the market.

As it stands currently, it costs almost \$1,000 for a prima facie eligible spouse of a U.S. citizen to apply for adjustment of status. This is a very large sum to the average worker in the United States, much less a new immigrant. It is not reasonable to continue to raise these fees so disproportionately within such a short time span. There was a fee increase not too long ago.

With regard to the ever present complaint by the USCIS that they need more money, I would like to let you know what I see on a day to day basis at the USCIS after the last fee increase.

Where is the USCIS spending the money they received from the last fee increase?

Hiring operators for the 800 customer service number - operators who will readily admit that they have no information on what is really going on.

Flat screen tvs for the waiting rooms filled because people cannot get answers from the officers and are forced to return again and again because no one is working on their case.

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Changing procedures for the public to inquire about their cases so that thousands of square feet are going unutilized and qualified officers are stuck handing out tickets rather than doing the work. Room 1001 in Los Angeles where the INFOPASS inquiries used to be handled is sitting empty. You enter now at the doors adjacent to be routed by qualified USCIS officers who could be answering substantive questions, to the 6th floor, where you wait in line again to collect a ticket from another USCIS officer who could be answering substantive questions to go down the hall to wait again to have the ticket called to a window manned by a USCIS officer so that hopefully, if the stars are aligned just so, you *might* just get a referral to go to the unit so that you can talk to another SDAO who probably won't have your file anyway because the last officer who handled it left and the file was never re-assigned or worked on since.


Updated computer systems that do not have the same information on the multiple databases.

Instituting the Chicago Lockbox system so that a basic adjustment of status out of Los Angeles must go to Chicago, then to Missouri, where you will receive a pointless request for evidence asking for documents that you already sent and then back to Los Angeles and finally to the card processing center in the Orange County - assuming of course, that the mystery background checks are actually completed.

Throwing more money at the USCIS will not solve these problems. History has shown that the more money given to the USCIS the more bureaucratic inefficiencies seem to multiply. The increased fees will only have the effect of financially crippling qualified individuals and potentially preventing them from applying for and receiving the legal benefits to which they are entitled.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter.

Sincerely,



Angela Y. Suh