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Director, Regulatory Management Division USCIS, Dept. of Homeland Security 111 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, D. C. 20529

February 1, 2007

Dear Sir or Madam:

RE: DHS Docket No. USCIS-2006-004
66% increase of citizenship & green card fees

PLEASE, PLEASE -- REJECT this huge increase in fees!

Such an increase would be a very cruel blow to refugees and immigrants wishing to become American citizens!

I have taught English to ADULT refugees and immigrants for 21 years. I know well how hard my clients struggle to become Americans. Most of my clients are struggling to support families on \$7.00 - \$10.00 per hour.

Although GREEN CARD-eligible after 1 year, the present fees are very difficult for low-income refugees. It would then take <u>several</u> years to save enough for a citizenship application, especially for multi-person families.

This proposed fee increase would effectively eliminate the possibility of U. S. citizenship for thousands of hard-working, tax-paying LEGAL immigrants and refugees - many of whom are former U. S. allies from the Vietnam era.

Also, senior citizen immigrants and refugees, who usually survive on SSI, would have an extremely difficult time paying \$595.00 to become citizens. The alternative, not naturalizing, is a worse choice: under current laws, senior immigrants and refugees must naturalize within 7 years or face losing all SSI benefits.

PLEASE reject the huge increase!

Darothy Shallick

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