
From: Laura Colby [mailto:laurac@elsieman.org]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2007 10:56 AM
To: OSComments
Subject: USCIS-2006-0044

Director
Regulatory Management Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20529

Dear Director,

I object to the proposed increase of the filing fees for non-immigrant worker petitions. The proposed increase in the Form I-129 and Form I-824 filing fees will be financially burdensome. Before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) contemplates any price increase, regular processing procedures must be improved.

We are a small artist management, representing approximately fifteen different performing arts touring companies. We represent artists from three continents: North America, Europe & Australia. We typically file three to four applications for visas on an annual basis for our international clientele to tour to the United States. These cultural exchanges are vital to the United State's ongoing diplomacy efforts. Delays and unpredictably in the current visa process have made it increasingly difficult for us to bring these artists in the country.

The USCIS shld not consider any fee increases without first improving regular processing procedures. I am especially concerned about how long it takes to be notified right now; waiting for a response is totally unpredictable. We honestly never know which way an application is going to go!

Thank you for your time and attention to these comments.

Sincerely, Laura Colby

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