

Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc.

Department	Phone Number	Fax Number
Adolescent Parenting & Pregnancy, Adoption, APP	210-222-1294	210-475-0436
Caregiver's Day Out Program	210-222-8027	210-293-0799
Catholic Counseling & Consultation Center	210-377-1133	210-377-1230
Children's Health Insurance Program	210-475-9011	210-475-0436
Crisis Intervention Program	210-433-3256	210-433-0851
Earned Income Tax Credit Program	210-222-2931	210-293-0799
Finance Department	210-222-1294	210-293-0799
Foster Grandparent Program	210-271-3743	210-222-9983
Guadalupe Home	210-476-0707	210-224-7388
Guardianship Services Program	210-293-0799	210-293-0799
Immigration Program	210-433-3256	210-433-0851
Money Management Program	210-293-0799	210-293-0799
President	210-222-1294	210-227-0217
Refugee Resettlement Program	210-222-1294	210-242-3174
Retired & Senior Volunteer Program	210-222-0301	210-222-9983
Senior Employment Program	210-222-1294	210-222-9326

FAX COVER SHEETPAGES INCLUDING COVER 2

TO: Director, Regulatory Management Divisions USCIS
COMPANY: USCIS and DHS
FAX #: 866-466-5370
FROM: Catholic Charities, Kathleen Smith
DATE: 03/30/07
SUBJ: DHS Docket No. USCIS-2006-0044

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Message: _____

March 29, 2007

In regards to: DHS Docket No. USCIS-2006-0044

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

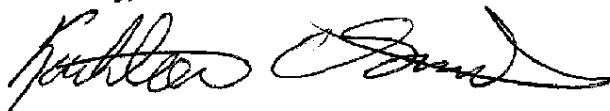
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the exorbitant increase in application fees for immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers entering the U.S. The fee increase, which is in some cases is triple the current rate, is said to cover the cost of background checks performed by the FBI. There are two most notable objections to this added expense.

First, individuals entering the U.S. for any purpose other than a vacation are already required and receiving background checks for clearance to enter and remain in the United States. This seems to beg the question "why would the government allow individuals to enter the country for more than a holiday if their background is of such a nature as to prevent them from attaining U.S. citizenship?" If individuals are deemed safe to remain within U.S. borders for months, even years, why then would they need yet another background check?

Second and lastly, the majority of individuals immigrating or seeking refuge within the U.S. do not possess the extra funds to cover such an increase in application costs. Refugees in particular, often have larger families to care for and those arriving from the third world generally have a longer and more difficult financial road to travel. I therefore urge USCIS and the Department of Homeland Security to amend the increase in naturalization application costs in consideration of those who will be future Americans.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Smith
Educator/Case Manager Assistant
Refugee Resettlement Services
Catholic Charities of San Antonio