For This Child, Inc.
International Adoption Agency
1920 Abrams Parkway #185
Dallas, Texas 75214
www.forthischild.org
(214) 370-8436
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April 2, 2007

Re: Proposed increase in CIS fees for citizenship forms

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the General Counsel of For This Child, Inc. (FTC), a Dallas-Texas based child placing agency. I write to request that, in light of the proposed fee increases for citizenship applications, USCIS take appropriate steps to protect American citizens traveling abroad against criminal activity.

Specifically, I request that USCIS require the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala to accept, as payment for processing of applications for orphans' visas for adopted children, non-cash payments. The Embassy currently has capacity to accept credit card payments but often is unable to process credit card payments. Adopting parents are therefore instructed, by FTC and other child placing agencies, to carry cash sufficient to pay the visa application when they travel to Guatemala for pickup trips.

Such parents are targets for criminal activity.

If, however, parents could be assured that they may make credit card or check payments, they would not be forced to carry large sums of money when traveling to Guatemala.

On behalf of FTC, I urge you to make it a priority to protect U.S. citizens traveling to Guatemala to pick up their adopted children by ensuring that they can make non-cash payments for visa application fees at the U.S. Embassy.

10. 1005

Charles G. Orr General Counsel, For This Child, Inc.