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September 2011 Immigration Update

September 2011 Issue

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USICS Launches Spanish-Language Version of E-Verify Self Check

Self Check  The USICS announced that Self Check, a program

connected with E-Verify is now available in Spanish. Self Check allows workers, the ability to verify their employment eligibility information on-line prior to applying to jobs and to correct government database errors. The online service is currently available to residents in 21 states. USICS plans to roll out the program nationwide by Spring 2012. To read more, please [click here](#)

Immigration-Related Employment Discrimination Costs Farmland Foods, Inc. nearly \$300,000 in fines

Missouri based pork producer, Farmland Foods Inc., was penalized \$290,400 for imposing unnecessary and excessive documentation requirements on non-US citizens when establishing their authority to be employed in the U.S. This is the highest penalty paid to date since INA's anti-discriminatory provision in 1986. To read more on this story, please [click here](#).

Border Crossing Made Easy for Non-Risk Travelers!

The International Law Quarterly, Summer 2011 issue, published an article in which I described various trusted traveler programs that are being enacted by the DHS, TSA and private agencies to decrease the inconveniences for low-risk travelers traveling internationally. Learn the ins and outs of the programs and how they can save low-risk international travelers time and improve airport experience. To read the entire article, [click here](#) and go to page 46.



DHS and ICE Encourage International Students to Study in the U.S. with 'Study in the States'



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced a new initiative to encourage international students to study in the U.S. and streamline international student visa processing. *Study in the States* is a government-wide initiative to entice international students to attend U.S. colleges and universities. The initiative will review regulatory changes, expand public engagement between government and academia and provide a central on-line information hub for DHS and its agency partners. For more information, click [here](#).

An Immigration Success Story: *Canadian Businessman Get Engines Revving in Florida with E-2 Visa*

In these tough economic times, one would hope that foreign investors and businesspeople would be welcomed and encouraged to stir job creation in the U.S. However, the process of coming to the U.S. to create or acquire a business is not so easy. It requires strong attention to detail, organization, and quite a bit of patience. But those traits which an applicant demonstrates when applying for an E-2 are the same ones essential to operating a successful business in our country.

Marc, a Marks Gray client, was operating a VW/Audi/Porsche specialty shop in Canada and contacted us for assistance when he decided to acquire a similar business in Florida. To read on, [click here](#).

Calling NCSC Might Be Easier!

You should no longer have to decide between ten main menu options when calling the National Customer Service Center (NCSC) for information. The USICS has simplified the NCSC 1-800 automated call system to offer three options. The modification was made to make calling the NCSC a better experience for consumers and decrease the number of misdirected calls. The NCSC main phone number is 1-800-375-5283. [Click here](#) for more information.



Happy Hispanic Heritage Month!

September 15 - October 15

<http://hispanicheritagemonth.gov/>

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If you need assistance with any immigration-related issues, please contact Giselle Carson or Thyra Reveron at (904) 398-0900.

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