HONIGMAN

Business Immigration Alert

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If you have questions regarding the information in this alert or would like to receive further information regarding our Business Immigration practice, please contact:

Carol A. Friend
313.465.7374
cfriend@honigman.com

Jamie Tedlock McCoy
313.465.7458
jmccoy@honigman.com

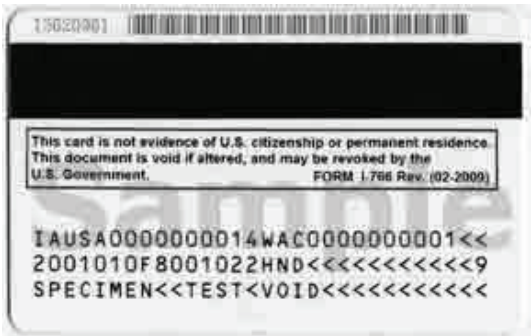
Meghan N. Covino
313.465.7406
mcovino@honigman.com

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES ISSUING COMBINED EAD/AP CARDS

Employees and their dependents who file Form I-485, Application to Adjust Status may seek an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) to pursue employment in the United States and Advance Parole (AP) to travel abroad while the I-485 is pending. Historically, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has issued separate EAD cards and AP documents to foreign nationals. On February 11, 2011, USCIS announced that in some cases, it will begin issuing one card that will serve as both an EAD and AP document.

WHAT DOES THE NEW CARD LOOK LIKE?

The new card resembles the current EAD, but includes text stating "Serves as I-512 Advance Parole." USCIS has provided the following example of the new card:



WILL ALL EAD AND AP APPLICANTS RECEIVE THE NEW CARD?

Applicants who are eligible for the EAD and AP may receive the new card when they apply for the EAD and AP at the same time. When applications are filed separately, USCIS will continue to issue separate EAD cards and AP documents.

HOW LONG IS THE NEW CARD VALID?

USCIS will issue the card for one or two years, depending on whether an immigrant visa is immediately available to the foreign national.

HOW DOES THE NEW CARD IMPACT FORM I-9 COMPLETIONS?

Employers may accept the new card as a List A document when completing Form I-9.

WHERE CAN I FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW CARD?

Additional information regarding the new card is available at www.uscis.gov. If you have questions regarding the information in this alert or other business immigration matters, please contact Carol A. Friend at cfriend@honigman.com (313.465.7374), Jamie T. McCoy at jmccoy@honigman.com (313.465.7458), or Meghan N. Covino at mcovino@honigman.com (313.465.7406).

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