

Executive Actions on Immigration



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Intro:

Mr. Andrew Cuevas, Esq., is the President of Cuevas & Associates, P.A., and Vantage Property Title Company. Mr. Cuevas has been practicing law since 1993 in the area of Business Immigration Law and Commercial transactions, including commercial and residential real estate transactions and business acquisitions for foreign investors. If you have any questions regarding this article or any other questions, you can contact Mr. Cuevas at (305) 461-9500 or at acuevas@cuevaslaw.com. If you are interested in reading previous newsletters, please visit www.cuevaslaw.com, select the icon for **Newsletters**, and then choose the area of law you are interested in.

Executive Actions on Immigration

On November 20, 2014, the President announced a series of executive actions to crack down on illegal immigration at the border, prioritize the deportation of felons and not families, require certain undocumented immigrants to pass a criminal background check and pay taxes in order to temporarily stay in the U.S. without fear of deportation.

The changes will include the following:

- Expanding the population eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to allow young individual born prior June 15, 1981 to apply for DACA (removing the upper age restriction) and requires continuous residence in the United States since January 1, 2010 rather than the prior requirements of June 15, 2007;
- Extend the period of DACA and work authorization from two years to three years;
- Allowing parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who have been in the country since January 1, 2010, to request deferred action and employment authorization for three years, in a new Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) program, provided they pass required background checks.

- Expand the use of provisional waivers of unlawful presence to include the spouses and sons and daughters of lawful permanent residents and the sons and daughters of U.S. citizens.
- Modernize, improve and clarify immigrant and nonimmigrant programs to grow our economy and create jobs.
- Promote citizenship education and public awareness for lawful permanent residents and provide an option for naturalization applicants to use credit cards to pay the application fee.

Important notice: These initiatives have not yet been implemented, and USCIS is not accepting any requests or applications at this time. Beware of anyone who offers to help you submit an application or a request for any of these actions before they are available. Our office will inform you once the new executive action becomes effective. You may also contact our office for any clarification on the new executive order.

This article is solely a partial explanation of all the issues related to the topic of this newsletter, and is not to be considered legal advice. Persons interested in obtaining more information should consult with their legal counsel to obtain explanations of all issues addressed herein.