



September 30, 2004

Press Release

USCIS Extends Validity of Certain Liberian Employment Authorization Documents Until October 24, 2004

Termination Effective October 24, 2004; Effective Date of Redesignation Remains October 1, 2004

WASHINGTON – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced a correction to a notice that was published in the Federal Register on August 25, 2004 at 69 FR 52297 which announced the termination and re-designation of Liberia for Temporary Protected Status (TPS). In the supplemental information to the August notice, it was inadvertently misstated that the termination would be effective and benefits obtained through the TPS designation for Liberia will expire on October 1, 2004. However, section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes termination of a TPS designation no earlier than 60-days after publication of a notice in the Federal Register. Persons granted TPS retain that status and employment authorization until the effective date of termination.

Therefore, USCIS is notifying eligible nationals of Liberia who have TPS and their employers that termination of the TPS designation for Liberia is effective October 24, 2004, sixty (60) days after the August 25, 2004 termination notice. Accordingly, USCIS is extending until October 24, 2004 the validity of Form I-688B employment authorization documents issued to Liberian TPS beneficiaries that bear an expiration date of October 1, 2004 and a notation of “274a.12(a)(12)” or “274a.12(c)(19).” The effective date of the re-designation remains October 1, 2004.

For information regarding the automatic extension of employment authorization documents, employers may call the toll-free USCIS Office of Business Liaison Employer Hotline at 1-800-357-2099. Employers may also call the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) Employer Hotline at 1-800-255-8155 or 1-800-362-2735 (TDD). Employees or applicants may call the OSC Employee Hotline at 1-800-255-7688 or 1-800-237-2515 (TDD) for information regarding the automatic extension. Additional information is available on the OSC Web site at <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc/index.html>.

For general information regarding TPS, please call the USCIS National Customer Service Center toll-free number: 1-800-375-5283. TPS forms are available from the toll-free USCIS Forms line, 1-800-870-3676, or from the USCIS Web site: www.uscis.gov.

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