

January 2003

ALERT!

IF YOU ARE *INDONESIAN*, YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE NEW INS REGISTRATION PROGRAM:

It is very important for you to know that the U.S. Government's new Registration Program now affects Indonesian citizens or nationals. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is now requiring some (but not all) Indonesian men and boys to go to an INS office to register-to be fingerprinted, photographed, and questioned. If you fail to do so, you may be arrested, detained, deported, and/or have future problems with legal entry into the U.S. However, several hundred people have already been detained because they have gone into an INS office for registration, so it is very important for you to know whether this new rule affects you and how you should respond to it. Registration for Indonesians begins 2/24/03.

You Are Required to Register by 3/28/03 if:

- You are male
- You are a citizen or national of Indonesia
- You were born *on or before* February 24, 1987
- You entered the United States on or before September 30, 2002
- You will be in the United States after March 28, 2003

You are NOT Required to Register if:

- You are a citizen of the United States
- You are female
- You have a green card
- You have been granted asylum
- You applied for asylum on or before January 16, 2003 and your application is pending.
- You have been granted refugee status
- You entered the U.S. without inspection (i.e. without a visa)
- You were admitted into the United States under advance parole
- You are an ambassador, public minister, diplomat or consular official

What Should You Do If You Are Required to Register?

If you believe that this new registration rule applies to you, the first thing you should do is consult with an attorney or immigration expert. For referral to an immigration attorney for free, confidential advice call one of the numbers at the end of this alert. *If you go into an INS office without first speaking to an attorney, you may be placing yourself in danger of detention or deportation. Several*

hundred people have already been detained through this program. Registration for Indonesians begins on February 24, 2003. **The deadline for registration is March 28, 2003.**

What Will Happen If You Go To Register at an INS Office?

People who are required to register must go in person to a designated INS office. The INS web site (www.ins.gov) has a list of INS offices. You can also get this information from the INS hotline (1-800-375-5283). If you live in the San Francisco area, you can go to 444 Washington Street (at Sansome), downtown San Francisco; or in the San Jose area, 1887 Monterey Road, San Jose.

If you can, you should take an attorney with you. This is why:

At the Registration, you will have to answer questions under oath. You will also be photographed and fingerprinted, and you will be required to present the following documents:

- Your travel documents, including your passport and the Form I-94 that was issued when you were admitted, and any other form of government-issued identification;
 - Proof of your residence (such as a lease or rental agreement);
 - Proof of employment, if you are here on a work visa; and
 - Proof of your enrollment in an educational institution, if you are here on a school visa.
- political and religious beliefs.

What Else Do You Need to Know?

- (1) If you must report for the Registration, you will also have to register again within 10 days of the one-year anniversary of your registration (e.g., if you register on Mar. 20, 2003, you will have to register again between Mar. 10 and Mar. 30, 2004, if you remain in the U.S. for one year or longer after your initial registration.
- (2) A change of address, employment, or educational institution must be reported to the INS within 10 days. You may be deportable if you fail to file a change of address form.
- (3) People who must register must report to an inspecting officer at a *port of entry* before leaving the United States. Ports of entry include airports and the Canadian border. (See www.ins.gov.)
- (4) People (including men and women from other countries) who have been entering the U.S. since September 11, 2002, may have other registration requirements.

Should You Register If You Are Out of Status?

If you are out of status and choose to register, you may be risking arrest, detention and deportation. You should definitely consult with an attorney first.

Where Can You Get Legal Help Before Going in to Register— or If You Are

Detained?

In Northern California

National Lawyers Guild (NLG), SF Bay Area Legal Hotline: 415-285-1041

National numbers

Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund: 212-966-5932 x13

NLG National Immigration Project: 617.227.9727, www.nationalimmigrationproject.org

American Immigration Lawyers Association: 1-800-954-0254,

Other helpful organizations

American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) S.F.: 415-861-7444

S.F. Bay Area Arab/ Muslim Toll Free Community Hotline: 877-282-2288

ADC national office: 202-244-2990,

ASATA (Alliance of South Asians Taking Action) (415) 274-6760 x310 www.asata.org

Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) - Santa Clara: 408-986-9874

United Response Collaborative: S.F. Bay Area hate violence victim assistance, training and advocacy: 415-564-9410