

## **Immigration Law Alert**

June 29, 2017

## Trump Travel Ban Takes Effect at 8:00 PM Today. Confusion Expected.

Following a Supreme Court ruling allowing parts of President Trump's travel ban to take effect, the Administration has issued guidelines to United States embassies, consulates, and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), on how to enforce the new restrictions on travel to the United States from six countries: Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

According to a Department of State diplomatic cable, the travel ban is set to take effect today, Thursday, June 29, 2017, at 8:00 PM Eastern Time. Be prepared as much uncertainty exists on the travel ban's enforcement. Travelers to the United States that may be affected include doctors, researchers, nurses, professional and skilled employees, students, athletes, and entertainers, as well as hospitals, research institutes, universities, colleges, global corporations conducting business in the United States, foreign employees of American businesses, visitors for business or pleasure, journalists, lecturers, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, brothers-in-laws, sisters-in-law, fiancés, all extended family members, and others.

Individuals may be exempt from the ban if they can prove a "bona fide relationship" with a United States person or entity. What is a bona fide relationship? What persons or entities are sufficient to satisfy the exemption requirement? These two questions remain open to broad interpretation and will likely cause extreme chaos at airports and other ports of entry into the United States. Further complicating the Travel Ban is that all CBP officers have unreviewable discretionary authority to admit non-Citizens into the United States when seeking entry. You must be proactive. You must be prepared.

To ensure all Norris McLaughlin & Marcus clients and friends have access to immigration attorneys should any immigration issues arise as a result of the Travel Ban, NMM's Immigration Group has established a tollfree number to assist individuals detained at airports or other ports of entry, as well as any organizations, businesses, universities, or families that have an emergent Travel Ban issue. For those affected, please contact the NMM Immigration Group **toll-free**, **emergency travel line (833) 4-NMM-LAW** or **1-833-466-6529**. Access to attorneys will be available **24/7** throughout the period of the Travel Ban's implementation.

This *Immigration Law Alert* was written by Attorney <u>Raymond G. Lahoud</u>, Chair of the <u>NMM Immigration</u> <u>Practice Group</u>. If you have further questions or concerns in regards to this topic or any other immigration law issues, e-mail <u>rglahoud@nmmlaw.com</u>.

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