

**January 5, 2011** 

## **Special Immigration Alert:**

## December 31, 2010, H-1B Cap Count

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As of December 31, 2010, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service ("USCIS") has confirmed the filing of approximately 57,300 H-1B cap-subject petitions for fiscal year 2011. USCIS also reported the filing of approximately 20,000 of the additional 20,000 H-1B cases reserved for holders of advanced U.S. degrees. This leaves room for approximately 7,700 new H-1B approvals under the 2011 "Regular" cap quota, and none under the 2011 "Masters" cap quota.

USCIS will continue to accept all eligible H-1B cases until a sufficient number of H-1B and H-1B1 petitions have been received to reach the statutory limits. Employers considering an H-1B petition for an existing or potential employee should prepare and file the petition as soon as possible.

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