

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

## Immigration Update: Reminder: April 1st H-1B Filing Deadline Fast Approaching

Once again, we remind you that April 1st is the first day on which initial H-1B petitions can be filed for H-1B work authorization for foreign national workers. If you have prospective or current employees who will need initial H-1B status in U.S. Fiscal Year 2011, which begins October 1, 2010, please notify us as soon as possible. As in past years there will be only 65,000 slots for new H-1Bs and 20,000 extra slots for new H-1Bs with advanced degrees from U.S. universities. Like last year, economic pressures may result in lower demand for new H-1B applications, but because demand is unpredictable we suggest that you plan to file all initial H-1B petitions for April 1 delivery. This year April 1 falls on a Thursday, so mark your calendars; it could be the only open filing day.

*Nancy-Jo Merritt focuses her practice in immigration law and has nearly three decades of experience representing domestic and international companies with issues concerning foreign national employees and business immigration matters. She provides strategic counseling to clients and assists employers in developing compliance programs. She earned her B.A. (1964) M.A. (1974) J.D. (1978) from Arizona State University.*

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