



Wednesday, April 9, 2008

As expected, USCIS announced yesterday that it has already received a sufficient number of H1B petitions to meet the congressionally mandated cap for fiscal year 2009. Furthermore, USCIS has also received more than 20,000 H1B petitions filed on behalf of persons exempt from the cap under the "advanced degree" exemption. USCIS will now carry out a computer-generated random

selection process for all cap-subject petitions received. We don't know yet when this "H1B lottery" will take place. USCIS has also not released the exact number of petitions received over the 5 day filing period so we are unable to predict the likelihood of being chosen in the H1B lottery.

USCIS has clarified that they will conduct the selection process for the "advanced degree" exempt petitions first.

All "advanced degree" petitions not selected will now become part of the random selection process regular 65,000 pool.

We will update you once we know how many petitions were received and when the selections will take place. We wish all our clients good luck!