MEMORANDUM FOR SERVICE CENTER DIRECTORS

FROM: Fujie O. Ohata  
   Associate Commissioner  
   Service Center Operations  
   Immigration Services Division

SUBJECT: Service Center Guidance for Expedite Requests on Petitions and Applications

Effective June 1, 2001, there are only two ways that a case may be worked out of date order  
Premium Processing, and the traditional expedite process.

Petitioners requesting expeditious processing whose Form I-129 classification is available for  
Premium Processing will not be considered for expedite processing. The sole exception to this  
guideline would be nonprofit organizations.

Service Centers will consider expedite requests for all applications and petitions  
based upon the following seven criteria:

1. Severe financial loss to company or individual  
2. Extreme emergent situation  
3. Humanitarian situation  
4. Nonprofit status of requesting organization in furtherance of the cultural and  
social interests of the United States  
5. Department of Defense or National Interest Situation (Note: Request must  
come from official United States Government entity and state that delay will  
be detrimental to our government.)  
6. Service error  
7. Compelling interest of the Service
Requests for expedited processing/handling are generally received directly from the applicant or through a Congressional Office. Other requests often come from the Courts, Law Enforcement Agencies and other Government entities.

The general public will request expeditious handling by sending a written request to the Center handling the application/petition. Applicants can also send a request for expedite along with the application/petition. The request must state the reason(s) why the applicant feels the case should be expedited. The request must be supported by adequate and relevant documentation. The following is the list of addresses to which requests for expedite can be mailed:

For the California Service Center:

USINS
California Service Center
2400 Avila Road, 2nd Floor
Laguna Niguel, CA  92656

For the Nebraska Service Center:

USINS
Nebraska Service Center
850 S Street
Lincoln, NE  68501-2521

For the Texas Service Center:

USINS
Texas Service Center
4141 St. Augustine Road
Dallas, TX  75222

For the Vermont Service Center:

USINS
Vermont Service Center
75 Lower Welden Street
St. Albans, VT  05479-0001

This memorandum is intended as the minimum standard procedure for handling expedite requests for petitions and applications. Service Centers, where possible, should explore additional methods to meet the Service’s mandate to provide the best possible customer service.