



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

July 13, 2016

Memorandum

TO: United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

FROM: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Chief
Refugee Affairs Division

SUBJECT: **Registration for Classification as a Refugee, Form I-590, Digital Approval Notification**

This notice is to alert those handling the Registration for Classification as a Refugee, Form I-590, that both the traditional ink on paper approval stamp and the newly created Digital Approval Report for Form I-590 may be accepted as proof of approval on and after June 24, 2016.

On June 24, 2016, USCIS implemented a digital approval capability for select refugee applications. As of June 24, 2016, refugee status may be granted digitally in the Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System (WRAPS). If a case is digitally-approved, the case does not need to be stamped approved physically with a traditional stamp. Instead, reports will be automatically generated that will accompany the case to signify approval. This memo provides a copy of this report for your information and notes other procedural changes for you to be aware of for these cases. Please note that the traditional ink on paper approval process currently in place for the I-590 will also remain in place.

Cases that are approved digitally in WRAPS will have a Digital Approval Report accompanying the paper I-590 in lieu of the traditional ink on paper stamp. The Digital Approval Report confirms that the I-590 has been approved by USCIS. The Digital Approval Report includes the date, time, and name of the USCIS officer who approved the application. Please see Attachment A.

For digitally-approved cases, certain sections of the adjudication forms may not contain the standard handwritten annotations and signatures. These sections include: Section IV (Bars and

Inadmissibilities) and Section VI (Decision) of the Refugee Application Assessment¹, as well as the 212(a)(3)(B) Terrorist Related Inadmissibility Ground (TRIG) Exemption Worksheet (when applicable). Please see Attachments C through F for explanations of these changes.

Any questions regarding this notification should be directed to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Attachments

Attachment A: Examples of USCIS Traditional and Digital I-590 Approvals

Attachment B: Corresponding Changes to Annotations in Section VI (Decision) of the Refugee Application Assessment

Attachment C: Digital Stamp Event Report accompanying the Refugee Adjudication Assessment of Digitally Approved Cases

Attachment D: Corresponding Changes to Annotations in Section IV (Bars and Admissibilities) of the Refugee Application Assessment and 212(a)(3)(B) TRIG Exemption Worksheet

¹ The Refugee Application Assessment is the worksheet used by USCIS adjudicators to document the refugee interview and the adjudicator and reviewer findings.

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