



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

AUG 28 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Field Operations
Boston Field Office
Buffalo Field Office
Detroit Field Office
Seattle Field Office
Preclearance Operations

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FROM: Acting Executive Director
Admissibility and Passenger

SUBJECT: TN and L-1 Optimized Processing Implementation

In response to the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General report titled: OIG-13-107 *Implementation of L-1 Visa Regulations*, the Office of Field Operations has taken positive steps to address the recommendations outlined in the report and achieve greater consistency in processing first time adjudication Trade NAFTA (TN) and Intra Company Transferees (L-1) applicants at ports seeking entry under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

On September 15, 2014, Canadian citizens seeking the TN and L-1 classification under NAFTA at a United States port of entry will receive optimized processing at certain designated ports of entry. A designated port of entry is a port that has been selected because of the high volume of TN and L applicants it normally handles. CBP is optimizing the adjudicative process for first time TN and L applicants to achieve consistency and enhance quality in processing.

Optimized processing does not affect TN and L requirements, status and does not prevent a Canadian citizen from applying at non-designated ports of entry. Fourteen of the highest processing ports of entry on the Canadian Border and Pre-clearance stations that have met the criteria to be designated ports of entry will offer optimized processing within their established hours of operations. Furthermore, the designated ports of entry are encouraged to utilize the (b) (7)(E) to identify TN and L-1 trends for internal discussion, and assist with resolving complex cases at the designated ports of entry.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Director, Enforcement Programs Division at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) or (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Branch Chief at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Attachments

~~Law Enforcement Sensitive~~
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