



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

DEC 31 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Directors, Field Operations  
Director, Preclearance Operations  
Office of Field Operations

Director, Field Operations Academy  
Director, Advanced Training Center  
Office of Training (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FROM: Executive Director  
Admissibility and Passenger Programs

SUBJECT: Processing of Refugee Applicants

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers are reminded of the proper admission procedures concerning the admission of refugees, including accompanying and following to join spouses and children. This guidance clarifies the January 21, 2011 memo and muster on Refugee Processing (b) (7)(E). CBP processes refugees for initial admission into the United States at the following ports of entry: (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E) and, non-designated ports-of-entry may, on occasion, process newly arriving refugees and refugee following-to-join beneficiaries.

All refugee applicants will present a travel authorization and a travel packet to CBP at a port of entry. The travel authorization will be a machine-readable Boarding Foil affixed in the individual's passport or on a Form DS-232, *Unrecognized Passport or Waiver Cases*, or a Transportation Letter. Refugee travel packets should contain a Form I-590, *Registration for Classification as Refugee*, in addition to other case-related and medical documentation. Refugees and refugee follow-to-join beneficiaries are not issued an Immigrant Visa (IV) by DOS and are not required to have a passport to attain refugee status.

(b) (7)(E). Detailed processing instructions for Refugee admissions are in the attached reference guide.

Please ensure that this memorandum, muster, and reference guide are disseminated to all ports of entry. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact (b) (6), (b) (7) Director, Enforcement Programs Division, Admissibility and Passenger Programs at (202) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Attachments

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Week of:

When Received

Topic:

Processing of Refugee Applicants

References:

Sections 101 and 207 of the INA

Headquarters POC:

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

Office:

Admissibility and Passenger Programs

(b) (7) (E)

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(b) (7)(E)

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**U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office of Field Operations  
Admissibility & Passenger Programs  
Enforcement Programs**



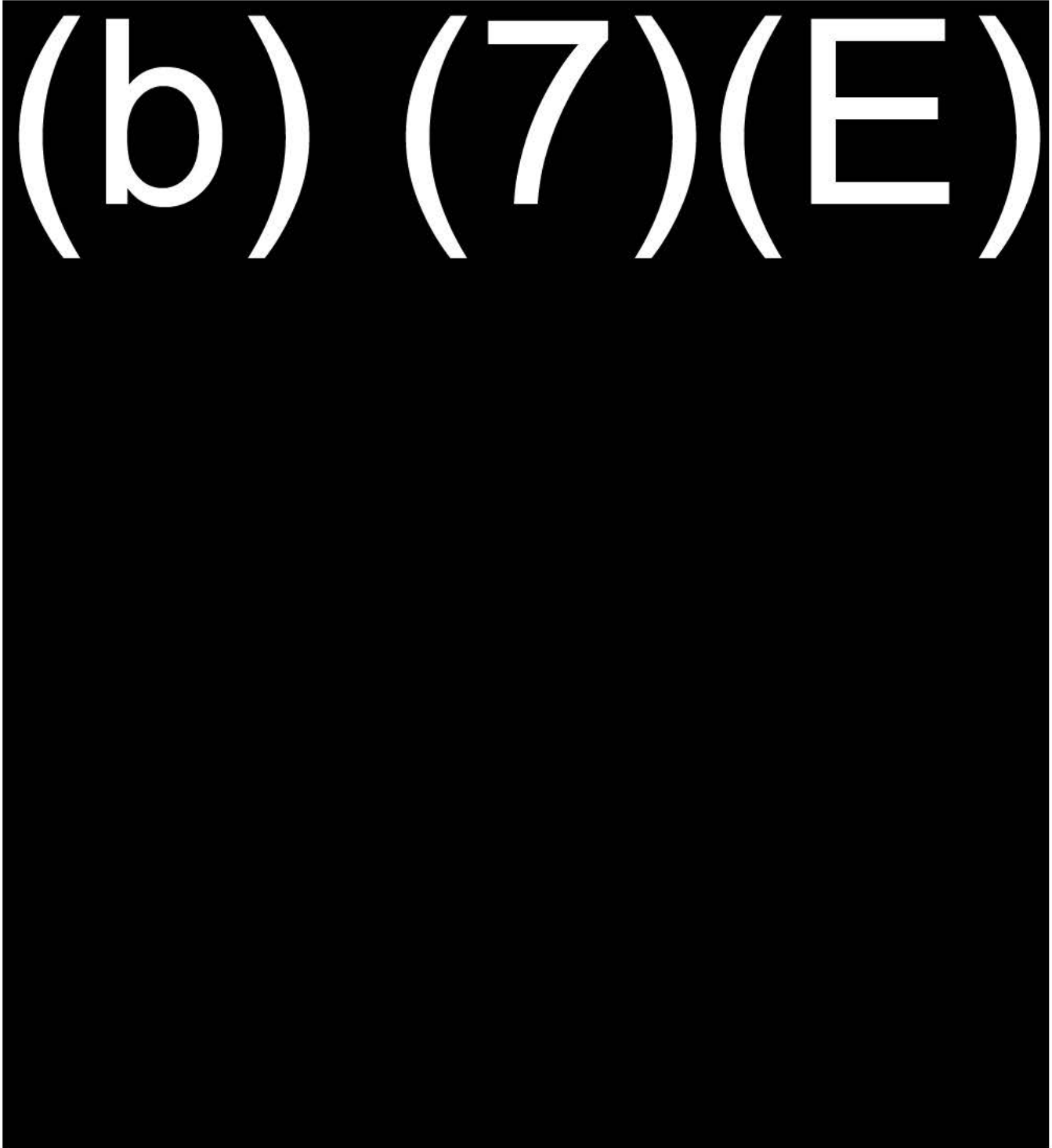
***REFUGEE REFERENCE GUIDE***

***January 2013***

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**REFERENCE GUIDE**  
**DETAILED ADMISSION PROCEDURES FOR REFUGEE CASES**

When refugee (including accompanying or following to join spouse and children) beneficiaries apply for admission at a POE with the requisite travel documentation and accompanying travel packet, the CBP officer will follow the admission procedures below:



(b) (7)(E)

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(b) (7)(E)

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

(b) (7)(E)

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