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Press Release

USCIS and Department of State Launch Joint Effort to Promote USCIS Immigrant Guide Overseas

WASHINGTON- To celebrate National Customer Service Week, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has launched a joint effort with the Department of State to distribute the USCIS publication *Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants* to immigrant visa recipients overseas. This USCIS immigrant guide contains practical information on finding a place to live, getting involved in the community, learning English, looking for a job, the rights and responsibilities of permanent residents, and becoming a U.S. citizen.

Initially, immigrant visa recipients will receive a brochure from the Department of State providing instructions to call the USCIS forms line (1-800-870-3676) to request English or Spanish hard copy of *Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants*. Beginning in late 2007, immigrant visa recipients will receive a hard copy of *Welcome to the United States* in one of eleven languages, including Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Arabic, English, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Portuguese, Haitian Creole and French.

“This effective inter-agency partnership between USCIS and the Department of State ensures that immigrants will receive settlement and integration information at the earliest opportunity. Providing new immigrants with information on their rights and responsibilities, as well as important practical information on the United States, is a critical function of USCIS,” remarked USCIS Director Emilio T. Gonzalez.

The partnership between USCIS and the Department of State is a prime example of federal coordination encouraged by the President’s *Task Force on New Americans*.

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