BASIC INFORMATION REGARDING NEW DEFERRED ACTION POLICY

On June 15th, 2012, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security announcement that individuals who meet certain criteria will be permitted to request deferred action. Only individuals who meet the following criteria should apply:

1) Came to the United States before your 16th birthday;
2) Have continuously resided in the United States for at least 5 years preceding June 15th, 2012 and is physically present in the United States on June 15th, 2012 and at the time of applying;
3) Currently in school, have graduated from High School, have obtained a GED, or is an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or the Armed Forces of the United States;
4) Has not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor, or more than 3 misdemeanors, and does not otherwise pose a threat to United States security or public safety;
5) Under the age of 31 years old on June 15, 2012

What is Deferred Action?
- Deferred Action is administrative relief from deportation. Deferred action is not amnesty; not immunity; not a permanent legal status; and not a pathway to a green card or citizenship; it may be revoked; information provided to the government could be used in removal or other administrative proceedings
- The Department of Homeland Security will review applications on a case by case basis
- Those who qualify will be granted deferred action for two years subject to renewal
- Deferred action allows you to request work authorization for the length of deferred action if you can show economic necessity

When Can I Apply?
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will release the application on August 15th, 2012. You can apply only after the application is released. Filing fees will be required, along with supporting documentation to show that you qualify. A fee exemption may be requested if certain criteria are met. Please be advised that background checks will be administered to every applicant, and submission of fraudulent documents may result in your being placed in removal proceedings and/or possible criminal charges.

SEEK THE ADVICE OF A COMPETENT IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY; DO NOT USE A NOTARIO OR OTHER NON-ATTORNEY WHO IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE IMMIGRATION LAW

Go to www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals for more information.