Weekly Muster

Date: As soon as received

Topic: B1 or B1/B2 visas with "TWIC Letter Received" annotation

Headquarters POC: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]

Office: Admissibility and Passenger Programs/Passenger Programs Division

On February 1, 2011, DOS began issuing B1 and B1/B2 visas with the annotation "TWIC Letter Received". This annotation indicates that the traveler intends to perform services in a secure port area, which would normally require a Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). Additionally, CBP may encounter Canadian travelers who would also qualify for a TWIC under similar circumstances.

CBP, in coordination with TSA, has identified the following procedures for processing these two types of business travelers.

Business Travelers in possession of a B1 or B1/B2 visa with TWIC annotation

- Such a traveler should be inspected as a temporary visitor for business (B1).
- If admissible, traveler should be granted admission for 6 months, or time required, not to exceed one year.
- No additional actions are required.

Canadian Business Travelers without a visa, but in possession of TWIC letter

- A Canadian national presenting himself with a "TWIC Letter" should be inspected as a temporary visitor for business (B1).
- If admissible, traveler must be issued a CBP Form I-94 indicating "B1" as the class of admission.
- Traveler should be granted admission for 6 months, or time required, not to exceed one year.
- CBP Form I-94 must be annotated "TWIC Letter presented" in the comments section on the back of the form.

CBPOs will not be required to make determinations for TWIC eligibility. TSA will still conduct a full security threat assessment on each individual TWIC applicant, adjudicate the results, and make an informed decision to grant or deny a TWIC.

The "TWIC Letter Received" annotation on the B1 or B1/B2 visa does not create a special visa classification or bring restrictions which would limit the traveler's period of stay and/or activities. The traveler may continue to use the B1 or B1/B2 visa for activities not specifically related to services in secure port areas.

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