



March 23, 2004

Press Release

FEDERAL COURTS APPROVE SETTLEMENTS IN CSS AND LULAC (Newman) LEGALIZATION CASES

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On January 23, 2004 and February 18, 2004, federal courts approved settlement agreements in the Catholic Social Services (CSS) and LULAC (or Newman) legalization cases. This brings an end to the litigation that began in 1987.

The CSS and LULAC cases are class action lawsuits that involved certain claims by individuals who did not apply for legalization under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 signed by then President Ronald Reagan.

The settlement agreements allow for those who meet certain requirements to apply or reapply for Temporary Resident status under the 1986 amnesty program of Section 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act. This is not a new amnesty program.

The application period is open for one year for individuals who were living in the United States in an unlawful status prior to 1982 and who were eligible to apply for legalization during the 1986 legalization program, but did not apply for certain specific reasons. Application instructions are available at the USCIS web site: www.uscis.gov. The application period will commence on May 24, 2004 and end on May 23, 2005.

Eligible individuals are entitled to apply by filling out an application for class membership and application for legalization on Form I-687 (Application for Status as a Temporary Resident).

More information on the application process may be found at local USCIS offices or online at www.uscis.gov under “USCIS Settlement Notices and Agreements.”

– USCIS –

On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services became one of three legacy INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.