

THE TKD

IMMIGRATION ALERT

Is Your Company Planning to File H1-B Petitions This Year? It's Time to Prepare Petitions for Fiscal Year 2014!

On April 1, 2013, the filing period will begin for new H-1B petitions to be counted against the annual H-1B quota (H-1B cap) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2013. We strongly encourage employers to begin determining which of their current or future employees will require H-1B status.

In years past, annual limits on H-1B visas have created a surge of petitions filed on the first day they become available. There are 65,000 visas available per fiscal year, with an additional 20,000 set aside for those who have graduated from master's degree programs in the United States. Previously, the annual limit was exceeded within the first days of filing. This resulted in a computer-generated lottery for available visa numbers.

We anticipate that the H1-B Cap will be reached the first week of April 2013, if not the first day for this coming filing season.

If you are contemplating sponsorship of a foreign national for an H-1B visa for fiscal year 2014, it is in your best interest to begin preparing immediately since the visas may not be available for very long. To begin the application process, please contact the attorney at Tarter Krinsky & Drogin with whom you work most closely.

The Immigration Practice Group counsels individuals, small business owners and large multinational corporations and banks in all aspects of immigration law, with a focus on employment-based immigration, non-immigrant visas, family-based immigration and citizenship.

For more information on the Immigration Group, [click here](#).

Andrew S. Koerner
212.216.8097
akoerner@tarterkrinsky.com

Roxanne H. Levine
212.216.1122
rlevine@tarterkrinsky.com

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