

THE FARRELL LAW GROUP, P.C.
IMMIGRATION REPORT-NOVEMBER 2009

Dear Immigration Client:

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano gave her first major speech on immigration reform, on November 13, 2009. Secretary Napolitano emphasized that **the Obama administration will insist on immigration reform that will give the opportunity to obtain legal status to an estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants.** Following up on what President Obama said in August, Secretary Napolitano pointed out that the Administration is hoping for **an early 2010 timeline for beginning the process of tackling immigration reform.** In addition, in early October of this year President Obama instructed the **United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to begin preparing to expand rapidly** to handle the expected enormous increase in applications should legislation pass Congress. Joining the President, several top key Republican lawmakers have also called for sensible immigration reform.

What does this mean for someone who is undocumented? 2010 is the best opportunity for real Comprehensive Immigration Reform in many years. For the first time there is a President and a majority Congress, including members of the Republican Party, intent on changing the current immigration laws USCIS, the agency in charge of implementing immigration reform, has been instructed begin preparing now for the certain dramatic increase in applications.

USCIS and Secretary Napolitano have given some clues about how Comprehensive Immigration Reform will be implemented. Secretary Napolitano has clearly stated that illegal immigrants who hope to gain status would be required to; **1). Register 2). Pay fines 3). Pay any taxes they owe 4). Pass a criminal background check and 5). Learn English.**

These will be the bare minimum requirements for submitting an application under Comprehensive Immigration Reform. USCIS is getting prepared-are you?

Contact the Farrell law Group to learn what you can do to prepare for Immigration Reform. As discussed in our last report, The Farrell Law Group has devised a preparation plan to help you submit an application as soon as any reform passes. **Preparation now will make sure you are not waiting in the future to make sure you become eligible. Any prior criminal matters or encounters with immigration could seriously affect your application.** An initial consultation with our immigration attorney, Jim Melo will help you determine what actions you could take now to **ensure you are prepared to submit an application as quickly as possible, should immigration reform pass. Read about our FOIA/FBI program in the additional material enclosed with this letter.**

Most Sincerely,

Jim Melo, Esq. Jessica Lopez, Immigration Assistant Augusto Pasco, Immigration Assistant

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