



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Immigration and Naturalization Service

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425 I Street NW  
Washington, DC 20536

MAR 19 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR OVERSEAS DISTRICT DIRECTORS

FROM:

*Joseph D. Cuddy*  
Renee J. Harris  
Acting Director, International Affairs

SUBJECT: Clarification of February 14, 2003 Memorandum Concerning Fingerprint Check Integrity When Adjudicating Orphan Petitions

On February 14, 2003, the Office of Field Operations issued a memorandum (attached) regarding the expiration of Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint checks and the adjudication of Forms I-600A, Application for Advance Processing of Orphan Petition, and Forms I-600, Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative. While every effort is being made to ensure that prospective adoptive parents are re-fingerprinted prior to traveling abroad to file a Form I-600, there will be some individuals who could not complete the process before departing the United States. For those families who depart the United States on or before May 31, 2003, without obtaining new fingerprint checks, overseas personnel may waive the requirements imposed by that memorandum.

If you have questions regarding this issue, please go through appropriate supervisory channels and contact Elizabeth N. Lee via cc:Mail.

Attachment