



FOREIGN AFFAIRS MANUAL

VOLUME 9 – Visas

Transmittal Letter: VISA-595

Date: November 12, 2003

9 FAM 41.86 NOTES

CHANGES

1. **9 FAM 41.86 N1, Background:** This section has been changed to reflect that although V status is available only to those whose petitions were filed on or before December 21, 2000, there is no requirement that the visa itself be issued by a certain date.

2. **9 FAM 41.86 Notes throughout:** All references to the Immigration and Nationalization Service (INS) have been changed to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

3. Revisions since the last update appear in italics. Other than formal titles, the italics will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italics. Italics provide a historical record of changes.

4. Under the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277, the functions of the U.S. Information Agency related to international broadcasting are transferred to the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG). Accordingly, all provisions of the FAM previously applicable to USIA continue in effect with respect to the BBG until further notice.

5. Officers are reminded that Department-issued materials not codified in the *Foreign Affairs Manual* or its supplemental *Foreign Affairs Handbook* series generally have no regulatory validity (see 2 FAM 1115.2).

FILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAPER COPIES

1. Remove and discard old 9 FAM 41.86 Notes (issued under TL:VISA-465, 09-25-2002; 5 pages) and replace it with revised 9 FAM 41.86 Notes (4 pages).

2. After inserting the material in the binder, insert this transmittal letter immediately following the TL Checklist, then fill in the entry line for TL:VISA-595, and initial.

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(CA/VO/L/R)