

CONGRESSWOMAN DEMANDS ANSWERS IN THE JULY 2007 VISA DEBACLE



by

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July 11, 2007: Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-San Jose, CA), a former immigration attorney and Chairwoman of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security & International Law, demanded information from the Secretary of Homeland Security (Michael Chertoff) with respect to the circumstances surrounding the issuance of the updated July 2007 Visa Bulletin and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) decision to reject all employment-based adjustment of status applications filed under the original July 2007 Visa Bulletin.

In a [letter dated July 11, 2007](#), Rep. Lofgren demanded that Secretary Chertoff release (within 3 days of her letter) all correspondence and documentation relating to the Department of Homeland Security's and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services's role in the July 2007 Visa Bulletin fiasco. Rep. Lofgren's demand letter comes at a time when more questions than answers are coming to light in what is being labeled as "VisaGate". Specifically, it is becoming more and more apparent that visa numbers were being requested by USCIS officials on Sunday, July 1 and early Monday, July 2 (even though the Visa Bulletin update indicated that visa numbers were not available for the entire month of July), and that visa numbers were actually being returned to the Department of State as early as Thursday, July 5. Rep. Lofgren's letter even intimated that USCIS was pre-requesting visa numbers (requesting visa numbers before required security checks were completed and thus before cases actually were approvable).

For Long, Chang & Associates, LLP's recent article summarizing the July 2007 Visa Bulletin, click [here](#) or visit www.longchangonline.com.

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