
PIPS - Partners Office for International Professionals and Students

Memorandum

To: Hospital Staff
From: Claire Ayer, Director
Date: 1/27/2017

Anticipated “Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals” Executive Order

As you may be aware, the new administration is currently issuing a number of Executive Actions with implications for foreign nationals entering the United States; interpreted broadly this could include those who have lawful permanent resident (green card) status. There remains uncertainty regarding the details and the enforcement of these actions, but we advise you to read the text below. If you believe you could be impacted by this action, we advise against international travel at this time.

It is anticipated that an Executive Order will be signed imminently relating to visa issuance, screening procedures, and refugees. The **draft** Executive Order is titled "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals." Among other provisions, Section 3 of the draft Executive Order, if implemented as written, would "suspend" the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry of nationals from certain designated countries for 30 days from the date of the order. Designated countries are tied to the Visa Waiver provisions of the 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act and if implemented without change, would include:

- Iran
- Iraq
- Libya
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Syria
- Yemen

Additional countries could be included. Note that the 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act included restrictions on people who travel to designated countries, as well. It is unclear whether the draft Executive Order is meant to encompass these individuals.

The order also does not define what it means to be "from" a designated country. **Until this issue has been clarified, we advise interpreting this in the broadest possible manner** to include passport holders, citizens, nationals, dual nationals, and individuals born in these countries.

For this reason, we advise those individuals who could be affected against traveling outside of the United States. If you are already abroad, we recommend trying to return to the United States as soon as possible.

We will continue to monitor this situation closely and provide updates as more information becomes available. Please contact us if you have additional queries or concerns.