

CONGRESSWOMAN SPEIER CONSTITUENT SERVICES

IMMIGRATION & HOMELAND SECURITY

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Caseworker & Field Representative



FEDERAL AGENCIES



Bureau of Population,
Refugees, and Migration

National Passport Center

National Visa Center

U.S. Embassies &
Consulates Abroad



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

HOW WE CAN HELP...

- Liaise with federal agencies and U.S. Embassies and Consulates Abroad
- There are congressional liaisons at all federal agencies who can often provide faster and more detailed information to Congressional staff than an applicant or an attorney can obtain on their own.
- Common requests for assistance: EAD & AP cards, green cards, naturalization applications, extended processing times, immigrant visas impacted by the travel ban, family separation & reunification, emergency passport renewals, U.S. citizen services abroad.

WHAT WE NEED

- **Privacy release forms-** with handwritten signatures. We have versions for beneficiaries and petitioners as well as passports and general requests.
- **Supporting evidence-** to request expedited processing we need evidence of financial loss or an urgent humanitarian need to support the request.
- Documents can include: medical documents with a diagnosis, a signed letter from an employer or a physician, eviction notices or unpaid utility bills.

*A letter from the applicant explaining their situation does not meet the standard

COMMON QUESTIONS

- **Q:** “I applied for my green card over a year ago but haven’t heard anything.”
- **A:** We can send an inquiry to USCIS to request a status update as long as the application is current with estimated processing times.

- **Q:** “My current EAD card will expire before my new one is processed.”
- **A:** Some applicants are eligible for an automatic 180 extension (not OPT). We can also help you submit a request for an expedite with evidence.

- **Q:** “I have a child or family member abroad that requires my immediate care, but their I-130 application is still under administrative processing.”
- **A:** We can submit an inquiry to the Embassy or Consulate handling the case to explain the humanitarian need for an expeditious review or interview appointment.

OUR OFFICE CANNOT...

- Assist constituents to complete or submit an immigration application
- Approve visas or overturn a USCIS or State Department decision
- Override or expedite the travel ban (PP9645) waiver process
- Release individuals from detention facilities or ICE custody
- Provide legal advice (but we can refer to local resources and often do)
- Assist with Real ID or any DMV-related issues- that's under State jurisdiction

USEFUL RESOURCES

- USCIS- Check my Case Status: <https://egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do>
- USCIS- Expedite Criteria: <https://www.uscis.gov/forms/how-make-expedite-request>
- USCIS- Processing times: <https://egov.uscis.gov/processing-times/>
- State Dept- Visa Bulletin: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin.html>
- State Dept- Appointment Wait Times: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/wait-times.html?post=Manila&x=65&y=11>
- ICE- Detainee Locator: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/#/index>
- Our website: <https://speier.house.gov/> > Constituent Services > Help with a Federal Agency

RECENT LEGISLATION & ACTIONS

- Long-time supporter of DACA and co-sponsor of **H.R. 6** *American Dream and Promise Act of 2019* which would prevent deportation of DACA-eligible individuals and TPS recipients. - Passed in the House in June 2019 and sent to the Senate for consideration.
- **H.R. 2415**- *Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act of 2019*. Co-sponsor and supporter of reforming the immigration detention system and for-profit contract industry.
- **H.R.2662**- *Asylum Seeker Protection Act*. Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce Trump's Migrant Protection Protocols (Remain in Mexico policy). Co-sponsor.
- Led two congressional delegations to South Texas to conduct oversight of DHS facilities.
- Signed onto a letter from Rep. DelBene to CBP raising concerns about reports of Iranian Americans being detained for secondary inspection at U.S. airports.