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IMMIGRATION NEWSFLASH!

2011 DIVERSITY VISA LOTTERY

Each year, the U.S. government makes available 55,000 permanent resident (“green card”) visas to individuals from countries with low rates of immigration to the U.S. (see below) and who have a high school diploma or its equivalent, or two years of work experience in an occupation requiring at least two years of training or experience. Eligible applicants are entered into a computer-generated lottery drawing, and the randomly selected winners will be notified between May and June 2010.

The registration period for the 2011 Diversity Visa Lottery will run from 12pm (EDT) on **October 2, 2009** through 12pm (EST) on **November 30, 2009**. Applications must be submitted electronically at <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov> (paper entries will not be accepted).

Application instructions and related information for this year’s lottery also can be found at <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov>. Please pay special attention to the digital photograph requirements.

Please note that for this year’s lottery, natives of the following countries are **not** eligible to apply (because these countries sent a total of more than 50,000 immigrants to the U.S. in the previous five years): Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, South Korea, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and Vietnam. Individuals born in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), Macau SAR and Taiwan are eligible. [Note that the list is the same as it was last year.]

While we recognize that some recipients of this e-mail may not be eligible for the visa lottery, we nevertheless wanted to include you in our “e-mailing list” in the event that you have family members, friends or colleagues who can benefit from the lottery. Please feel free to forward this e-mail to individuals who may be interested.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of us at the following e-mail addresses:

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