

## **INS HALT ON I-485 PROCESSING LIFTED**

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**10 January 2003**

INS Headquarters advises that the previous problems with the FBI checks that have caused nearly two months of delay in I-485 processing have been resolved. Approvals of adjustment of status and naturalization applications are now proceeding.

On November 22, 2002, INS Immigration Services Division confirmed that rumors of a halt to adjudications were not true, but that some naturalization and adjustment of status cases would encounter delays. These delays would likely result from additional security check procedures recently instituted. These include a requirement that, when an FBI name check results in an indication that a record may exist, INS must receive a definitive response from the FBI before it can approve an adjustment of status or naturalization application. To facilitate this process, some computer system enhancements were being installed. During the installation process, adjudications were to continue but final determinations would not be issued until the upgrade is completed.

Experience showed, however, that the result of this new security check was a virtual halt to I-485 processing which is only now being resolved to allow for progress in application adjudication.