

# Employer Immigration *Alert*

► This Alert will highlight the opening of a NEXUS Enrollment Center in Western New York

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## ► NEXUS ENROLLMENT CENTER OPENS IN NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

On September 2, 2008, United States Customs and Border Protection announced the opening of a new NEXUS Enrollment Center next to the Whirlpool Bridge port-of-entry in Niagara Falls, New York. This is the second "Trusted Traveler" enrollment center in the region, with the other being located right across the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie, Ontario. The opening of the new center is designed to make it easier for U.S. citizens to enroll in the NEXUS program.

The NEXUS program is a joint effort between the United States Department of Homeland Security and the Canada Border Services Agency. The program is aimed at increasing border security, while at the same time allowing for a simplified border crossing procedure for pre-screened, low-risk travelers. National statistics indicate that approximately 225,000 U.S. and Canadian citizens are registered participants in the NEXUS program. Locally, more than 38,000 individuals are enrolled in the NEXUS program.



A NEXUS card is significant because it is an acceptable border crossing document under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative ("WHTI"). Under WHTI, oral declarations of citizenship are no longer acceptable. U.S. citizens wishing to return to the United States must present acceptable documentation to prove citizenship. Presently, state-issued identification along with a birth certificate is an acceptable combination of documents for border crossing purposes. **However, on June 1, 2009, WHTI will require U.S. citizens to present a passport, passport card, a new state issued enhanced driver's license, or a "Trusted Traveler" document such as a NEXUS card.**

The NEXUS card can be presented at various airports and selected ports-of-entry along the U.S./Canada border. There are currently 18 land ports-of-entry that accept NEXUS cards as part of the border crossing process. These include the Peace Bridge and Rainbow Bridge. The Whirlpool Bridge only accepts NEXUS cards.

Travelers can submit NEXUS applications online at [www.nexus.gov](http://www.nexus.gov) (NEXUS Program). Additionally, NEXUS information is available toll-free at **1-866-NEXUS 26 (1-866-639-8726)**. The new enrollment center is located at 615 Mill Street (off Whirlpool Street adjacent the Whirlpool Bridge) Niagara Falls, New York, 14305. The hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Fort Erie Enrollment Center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is located at 10 Central Avenue, Ft. Erie, Ontario, Canada, L2A6G6

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## The Authors



**Michael E. Marszalkowski** is Special Counsel and Chair of the firm's Immigration Practice Group. He advises clients on matters involving business immigration matters, immigrant visas, labor certification, physician waivers, national interest cases, and family unification. He offers counseling to professionals in the information technology industry, physicians and medical professionals, multi national executives, professional athletes and coaches and entertainers.



**Jill A. Apa** is an Immigration Associate in the firm's Labor & Employment Department. Ms. Apa has written numerous legal articles and edited treatise chapters on various immigration issues for local and national publications, including AILA, the *Buffalo Law Journal*, *The Daily Record*, and *The Homeland Security Deskbook* and *The Immigration Law and Procedure Desk Edition*. Additionally, Ms. Apa serves each week as a moderator on an immigration law internet chat hosted by Lawyers.com and provides frequent guidance on the Lawyers.com Immigration Community Message Board.

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**Damon & Morey**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW LLP

Publications Department  
298 Main Street, 1000 Cathedral Place  
Buffalo, New York 14202