

UNCLASSIFIED (U)

U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual Volume 9
Visas

**9 FAM 42.73 EXHIBIT III
LETTER TO ALL IMMIGRANTS AND
REFUGEES REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY
NUMBERS**

*(CT:VISA-1840; 06-12-2012)
(Office of Origin: CA/VO/L/R)*

LETTER TO ALL IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

TO: All Immigrants and Refugees
FROM: Social Security Administration
SUBJECT: Social Security Numbers for All Family Members

We are pleased to welcome you to the United States. By law, each immigrant or refugee admitted to the U.S.A. must obtain a Social Security number. You will need a Social Security number to work in the United States, to open a bank account, to pay taxes, and for many other purposes.

If you have already requested a Social Security number on your Form DS-230, you can expect to receive your Social Security card at your new address. If you do not receive a card at your U.S. address within three weeks of being admitted into the United States, have not already requested a Social Security Number, or are arriving as a refugee, please call the nearest Social Security office. The telephone number is listed at www.ssa.gov/locator and in the local telephone directory under "United States Government."

Take the passport or travel document, "Alien Registration Receipt Card" (Form I-551) if any, and the birth certificate (if you have one) for each family member to the Social Security office. A Social Security representative will help you complete the Social Security number application form. (A Social Security card will be mailed to your home approximately 2 weeks after the Social Security Office has everything it needs. If the Social Security Office needs to verify documents with the issuing agency, it may take longer.)

NOTE: This letter should be reproduced locally and provided to all persons issued immigrant visas or refugee documentation. Where appropriate, posts may arrange for translation and printing in the local language on the reverse of the English version. Department approval of translations is not required.