



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

December 15, 2005

# Press Release

## **USCIS TO REMAIN OPEN DURING TRANSIT STRIKE** ***Missed Appointments Will be Rescheduled***

NEW YORK – All New York area offices of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will remain open in the event public transportation is disrupted by a strike or other labor dispute. This includes the USCIS District office at 26 Federal Plaza in New York City, the USCIS office in Garden City, N.Y., the USCIS Asylum office in Rosedale, N.Y., and all USCIS Application Support Centers in the New York area.

We encourage customers with interview appointments to make every reasonable effort to appear as scheduled. However, USCIS understands a disruption in public transportation will limit our customer's ability to reach USCIS offices. Those who miss an appointment or interview because of difficulties traveling while a transit strike or other labor dispute is in effect will be accommodated.

- For customers with a scheduled interview, while we recommend that they make every reasonable effort to appear as scheduled, those who miss a scheduled interview or appointment at the USCIS District office at 26 Federal Plaza will automatically be rescheduled for a future date and will receive a new appointment notice by mail. While failing to appear for a scheduled interview on a pending case will be excused due to the circumstances, rescheduling will, however, result in a potentially significant delay in case processing. Our offices will be open, and our employees will make every effort to be at work precisely because we do not want this to happen to customers even in difficult commuting situations such as a transit strike may cause.
- Those who miss a scheduled InfoPass appointment with a USCIS Information officer should go to [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) to reschedule another InfoPass appointment for a time and date of their choosing.
- Those who miss a scheduled appointment at a USCIS Application Support Center should wait until public transportation is restored and bring their original appointment letter to a USCIS Application Support Center to be accommodated.

-USCIS-

On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) became one of three former INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.