



## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Media Services  
Office of Public Affairs  
(202) 514-2648 Fax: (202) 514-1776

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### **TPS Re-registration Opens for Salvadorans Today** *Employers Reminded of EAD Extension Until March 9, 2003*

WASHINGTON – The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) reminds eligible Salvadorans to immediately re-register for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to maintain TPS and employment authorization for the 12-month period beginning on September 9, 2002 and ending on September 9, 2003. Since this is a two-month re-registration period, INS urges applicants not to delay in mailing their applications well in advance of the November 12, 2002 deadline. INS forms are available, free of charge, from the toll-free INS Forms line, 1-800-870-3676, or from the INS Web site, [www.ins.gov](http://www.ins.gov).

On July 11, 2002, the Attorney General published a notice in the Federal Register that provides for:

- a one-year extension for the El Salvador TPS designation, from September 9, 2002 until September 9, 2003, and
- an automatic, 6-month extension of existing, TPS-related employment authorization documents (EADs) from September 9, 2002, to March 9, 2003.

The automatic EAD extension is designed only to prevent gaps in employment authorization while re-registration applications are processed, but it does not relieve TPS beneficiaries of the responsibility to re-register for TPS benefits. This extension of TPS covers an estimated 280,000 Salvadorans who have already applied for TPS.

For more information, please visit the INS web site for the Salvadoran TPS Fact Sheet: <http://www.ins.gov/graphics/publicaffairs/factsheets/elsalfts.htm> or call the INS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283.

#### **Important reminder to all employers:**

INS reminds employers that the laws prohibiting unfair immigration-related employment practices remain in full force. For questions, employers may call the Service's Office of Business Liaison Employer Hotline at 1-800-357-2099 to speak to a Service representative. Also, employers may call the office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) Employer Hotline at 1-800-255-8155. Employees or applicants may call the OSC Employee Hotline at 1-800-255-7688 for information regarding the automatic extension.

