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# international travel alert: change in policy regarding advance parole travel document applications

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*MSK Client Alert*

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The U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services has recently changed its policy regarding the adjudication of Advance Parole Travel Document applications (Form I-131).

The Advance Parole Travel Document ("Advance Parole") is a travel authorization granted to qualified applicants of pending Form I-485 Adjustment of Status Applications. With the exception of H, K, L, and V visa holders, beneficiaries of pending Adjustment of Status Applications are prohibited from traveling internationally until they are issued an Advance Parole by the USCIS. An adjustment applicant who departs the United States before the Advance Parole is issued will have his or her adjustment of status application denied based on abandonment.

## **New Policy**

The new USCIS policy regarding the adjudication of Advance Parole applications is that if an individual departs the United States while their Advance Parole application is pending, then the Advance Parole application will be considered abandoned and subsequently denied. This new policy affects ALL Advance Parole Travel Document applications regardless of the applicant's underlying nonimmigrant status or whether it is an initial application or an extension.

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