



**United States Department of State
Portsmouth Consular Center**

*National Visa Center
32 Rochester Avenue
Portsmouth, NH 03801-2909*

March 31, 2015

Ms. Leslie Holman
American Immigration Lawyers Association
1331 G Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Holman,

The National Visa Center (NVC) would like to update the American Immigration Lawyers Association on immigrant visa processing for Yemeni citizens. Since the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a, Yemen has suspended operations, petition-based immigrant visa cases for Yemeni citizens will be transferred to the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt until our embassy in Sana'a resumes consular operations.

The NVC is working closely with the embassy to schedule visa interview appointments. Cases that were already previously scheduled for interviews at the embassy in Sana'a, along with cases that the NVC found documentarily qualified and have non-expired documents will be among the first cases transferred. These will be processed in date order.

In many instances, cases that were previously documentarily qualified by the NVC and awaiting an appointment date have expired documents that need to be updated before we can schedule an appointment. These cases will also be processed in date order to ensure fairness. Petitioners will receive instructions from the NVC that are specific to their situation. These will be sent in the coming weeks via mail and email. The above information will be posted on the websites of Embassies Cairo and Sana'a.

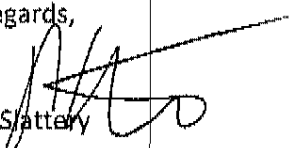
Applicants can request that their case be put on hold until the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a resumes operations. Because of events in Yemen, the Department cannot provide an estimate as to when that might occur.

At this time, we also cannot estimate when a particular category of applicants will be scheduled for an interview. Cases will be processed in the order in which they were received. The instructions that we send to the petitioners will let them know the next steps and where to find updated information.

If there are any major changes in the processing described above, we will announce those on the websites of Embassies Cairo and Sana'a, and via outreach to petitioners and offices such as yours.

Thanks for your continued partnership and work in the immigrant visa process.

Kind regards,


Phillip Slattery
Director
National Visa Center