



## **USCIS REDESIGNS PERMANENT RESIDENT CARDS (A.K.A. “GREEN CARDS”)**

Effective May 11, 2010, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) began issuing redesigned Permanent Resident Cards (a.k.a. “Green Cards”) as part of its ongoing efforts to deter immigration fraud. The redesigned Permanent Resident Cards, which will now be colored green, contain several main new security features that include state-of-the-art technology which prevents counterfeiting, obstructs tampering and facilitates quick and accurate authentication. According to USCIS, the following are some of the benefits of the redesigned Permanent Resident Cards: “Secure optical media will store biometrics for rapid and reliable identification of the card holder. Holographic images, laser engraved fingerprints, and high resolution micro-images will make the card nearly impossible to reproduce. Tighter integration of the card design with personalized elements will make it difficult to alter the card if stolen. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) capability will allow Customs and Border Protection officers at ports of entry to read the card from a distance and compare it immediately to file data. Finally, a preprinted return address will enable the easy return of a lost card to USCIS.” The redesigned Permanent Resident Cards will be issued to new lawful permanent residents, and to individuals who apply for renewal or replacement of their current Permanent Resident Cards. Older versions of Permanent Resident Cards that bear an expiration date will remain valid until they expire. Older versions of Permanent Resident Cards that have no expiration date will also remain valid. However, USCIS recommends that lawful permanent residents that have a Permanent Resident Card without an expiration date apply to replace their cards with the redesigned version.

For more information, please click on the following link:

[USCIS Press Release](#)

[USCIS Fact Sheet](#)

[USCIS Questions and Answers](#)

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