On September 24, 2017, the White House unveiled a new proclamation, "Presidential Proclamation Enhancing Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats." This proclamation serves to update and expand the pre-existing immigration order that was signed in March 2017 and expired on September 24, 2017.

The new proclamation will impose travel restrictions on certain nationals/citizens of Chad, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen. The new rules will go into effect immediately for foreign nationals who were the subject of the prior travel ban and lacked a credible claim of a bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the U.S.; and they are effective as of October 18, 2017 for all other persons subject to the Proclamation. Officials stressed that valid visas would not be revoked as a result of the proclamation.

Additionally, the new restrictions on travel vary by country and allow consular officers (embassy visa officers) to use discretion to waive the new restrictions on a case-by-case basis if the foreign national can demonstrate "undue hardship" if not allowed into the U.S., and that he/she does not pose a national security threat.

Here is a breakdown of the new restrictions by country:

**Chad, Libya and Yemen:** entry as immigrants and nonimmigrants on certain business and tourist visas will be suspended.

**Iran:** entry of immigrants and all nonimmigrants is suspended except F and M students and J-1 exchange visitors. F, M and J nonimmigrant applicants will be subject to enhanced screening and vetting requirements.

**North Korea and Syria:** entry as nonimmigrants and immigrants will be suspended.

**Somalia:** entry as immigrants will be suspended; nonimmigrants will face enhanced screening and vetting requirements.

**Venezuela:** suspension of entry of certain Venezuelan government officials and their immediate family members as nonimmigrants on certain business and tourist visas.

More information can be found at the following websites:

The White House
NAFSA (Association of International Educators)
Siskind Susser, PC - Immigration Lawyers