Designation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status

August 3, 2021

Today, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officially announced a new 18-month designation for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in Haiti. This designation allows eligible Haitian nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Haiti) who have continuously resided in the United States since July 29, 2021 to apply for TPS. The registration period will be open for eighteen months through February 3, 2023.

What is TPS? A temporary immigration status provided to nationals of specifically designated countries that are confronting an ongoing armed conflict, environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions. It provides a work permit and stay of deportation to foreign nationals from those countries who are in the United States at the time the U.S. government makes the designation. There were approximately 320,000 TPS recipients residing in the United States as of May 2021 (American Immigration Council, 2021).

DHS anticipates that the eligible population for this designation will triple. Our center has supported Haitian TPS efforts since 2010, but we anticipate a rise in cases over the next 18 months. Receiving TPS status grants individuals employment authorization, as well as protection from deportation; both of which are vital for individuals we serve.

If you have any questions about how this affects your status, please contact our team at 617-542-7654.