

## New Immigration Guidelines and Procedures

Dear friends and clients:

With the purpose of facilitating immigration procedures, the Mexican Immigration Institute issued a decree through which it announces the new Manual of Immigration Guidelines and Procedures, unifying several procedures, therefore reducing the number of procedures from 59 to 17.

Additionally, a new Multiple Immigration Form is established in order to allow foreigners in México to obtain a visa in a quick and simple way. This form is not only for tourists and business people, but for all foreigners traveling to Mexico for a stay of 180 days or less.

Simplification of immigration procedures established by the National Immigration Institute will benefit foreigners who will be able to identify themselves and prove their legal stay in Mexico in a quick and expedite manner, furthermore, companies will also benefit from the above, given that there will be less requirements to comply.

A new and very important consideration for foreigners is that at the moment of entering México, he/she must declare, before the immigration officer who issues the immigration document (formerly "FMT" or "FMN", now the Multiple Immigration Form "FMM"), if such document will eventually be exchanged for an immigration document of a greater temporality. That is, if the immigration status of entry is Non-Immigrant-Tourist, the foreigner shall inform the immigration officer if his/her immigration status will change to Non-Immigrant with authorization to work in Mexico.

In the event foreigners plan to work in México, the entry form (FMM) will be issued for a maximum temporality of 30 days, provided that if the document is not exchanged for a document that authorizes employment in Mexico within such period, he/she shall leave the country and shall be cancelled the FMM. In the event foreigners do not plan to exchange their immigration document (FMM), it will be issued for a maximum term of 180 days with the immigration status of Tourist.

Old immigration forms (FM2 and FM3) will have a new plastic card appearance, and will contain only the following information for security purposes: name, nationality, country of origin, date of birth, immigration status, immigration characteristic, modality or authorized activity, date of issuance and expiration.

It is important to mention that the legend currently inserted by National Immigration Institute on immigration documents, regarding the position of the foreigner and name of the employer, will be eliminated and will now only refer to "generic activities", that is, it will not be limited to only one employer.

Current immigration forms (booklets) will remain valid until their expiration date, and thereafter substituted for the new forms. Every year the form is renewed or extended, a new card will be issued. These are example of the different immigration forms:



Our firm is always up to date with the new criteria regarding immigration procedures; therefore we encourage you to contact us in the event you require assistance with admissions, extensions, or any other immigration procedure.

Respectfully  
Toulet, Gottfried, Davila y Martinez, S.C.

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