

United States House of Representatives



**Subcommittee on National Security,
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

Christopher Shays, Connecticut
Chairman

B-372 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202-225-2548
Fax: 202-225-2382

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

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Contact: Robert Briggs

**Shays to Hold July 13 Hearing on Visa Revocations;
Says Process is “Still Porous” Against Suspected Terrorists**

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (R-CT), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations, will convene an oversight hearing July 13 to examine the process of revoking non-immigrant visas issued to aliens subsequently suspected of terrorist connections.

The hearing will be Tuesday, July 13, 10 a.m. in room 2247 of the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.

Last year the subcommittee held a hearing to examine the process of revoking visas and locating those who had entered the country prior to the revocation of their visa. Testimony highlighted a lack of policy clarity and coordination between the Departments of State, Homeland Security, and Justice that prevent effective use of the visa revocation process as an antiterrorism tool. Corrective actions were promised.

Shays said, “Watch lists and other data sharing have improved, but it’s still possible that suspected terrorists with revoked visas are not being pursued aggressively due to arcane immigration regulations, bureaucratic in-fighting and a reluctance to submit intelligence-based decisions to judicial scrutiny.”

At the July 13 hearing, the General Accounting Office will release a new report entitled, “Border Security: Additional Actions Needed to Eliminate Weaknesses in the Visa Revocation Process” (GAO-04-795).

**Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and
International Relations**

Visa Revocations II: Still Porous, Slow to Fix

10:00 am

2247 Rayburn House Office Building

WITNESS LIST

Mr. Jess T. Ford

Director

International Affairs and Trade Division

U.S. General Accounting Office

Ms. Janice Jacobs

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services

U.S. Department of State

Mr. Robert M. Jacksta

Executive Director, Border Security and Facilitation

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Mr. Robert A. Schoch

Deputy Assistant Director, National Security Investigations

Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Ms. Donna A. Bucella

Director, Terrorist Screening Center

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U.S. Department of Justice