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IMPORTANT Immigration Information for People from BURUNDI, LIBERIA & RWANDA

On July 23, 2009, the Federal government cancelled the temporary suspension of deportations/removals to BURUNDI, LIBERIA and RWANDA.

This change AFFECTS the following people from BURUNDI, LIBERIA or RWANDA:

- refugee claimants waiting for their hearings
- refugee claimants who lost their cases
- visitors, temporary workers, and students
- persons awaiting decisions in permanent residence applications (e.g. spousal, humanitarian)
- those in Canada without any immigration status.

This change DOES NOT AFFECT the following people from Burundi, Liberia or Rwanda:

- those who have been accepted as a refugee
- permanent residents of Canada
- Canadian citizens.

Please ensure that your clients from these three countries get a copy of this notice and the factsheet from the Canadian Council for Refugees which explains the action that persons from these countries should be taking immediately.

The factsheet is available:

English: www.ccrweb.ca/documents/infosheetmoratoria2009.pdf

French: www.ccrweb.ca/documents/infosheetmoratoria2009FR.pdf

The limitation to make an application to stay in Canada on Humanitarian and Compassionate grounds is January 23, 2010.

Deportations to BURUNDI and RWANDA had been suspended since 1994, and in the case of LIBERIA since 2003. You may have clients from these countries who have been in Canada for many years but who have never informed you that they do not have Permanent Resident status. We enclose a poster that you can use to inform your clients.

HALCO's immigration lawyer, John Norquay, is available to give advice to any people living with HIV who are affected by this change. Please contact HALCO at talklaw@halco.org or 416-340-7790 / 1-888-705-8889, or TTY 416-922-2352 / 1-866-513-9883, and ask for the caseworker on Intake.