

30 November 2017

Dear Client:

As a valued client, we thought it was important to inform you about the REAL ID Act and how it may affect you.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's "REAL ID Act" will ultimately require all state-issued drivers' licenses to include "machine-readable technology" or chips to help keep us safe and secure while traveling.

While the intention was to begin enforcement of the REAL ID Act in early 2016, the DHS is continuing a comprehensive evaluation of the act's implementation. The results of that study will determine the timing of the next phases with ample advance notice.

According to the DHS, "States and other jurisdictions have made significant progress in enhancing the security of their licenses over the last number of years. As a result, approximately 70-80% of all U.S. drivers hold licenses from jurisdictions that meet the Act's standards or that have received extensions. Individuals holding driver's licenses or identification cards from these jurisdictions may continue to use them as before."

On January 22, 2018, because of the REAL ID Act, those residing in Illinois, New York, Louisiana & Michigan won't be able to travel with only their state driver's licenses unless a Federal extension is granted.

We strongly recommend that our clients apply for passports since they'll not only be able to use them for international travel (including to Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico), but they'll be accepted universally as a form of identification.

We also encourage our clients to sign up for DHS Global Entry program, which enable travelers to pass through U.S. Customs & Immigration much more quickly and qualifies you for TSA's Precheck airport security lines.

We also recommend that our clients request an enhanced or REAL ID driver's license, if available in your state, when convenient.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Kathryn