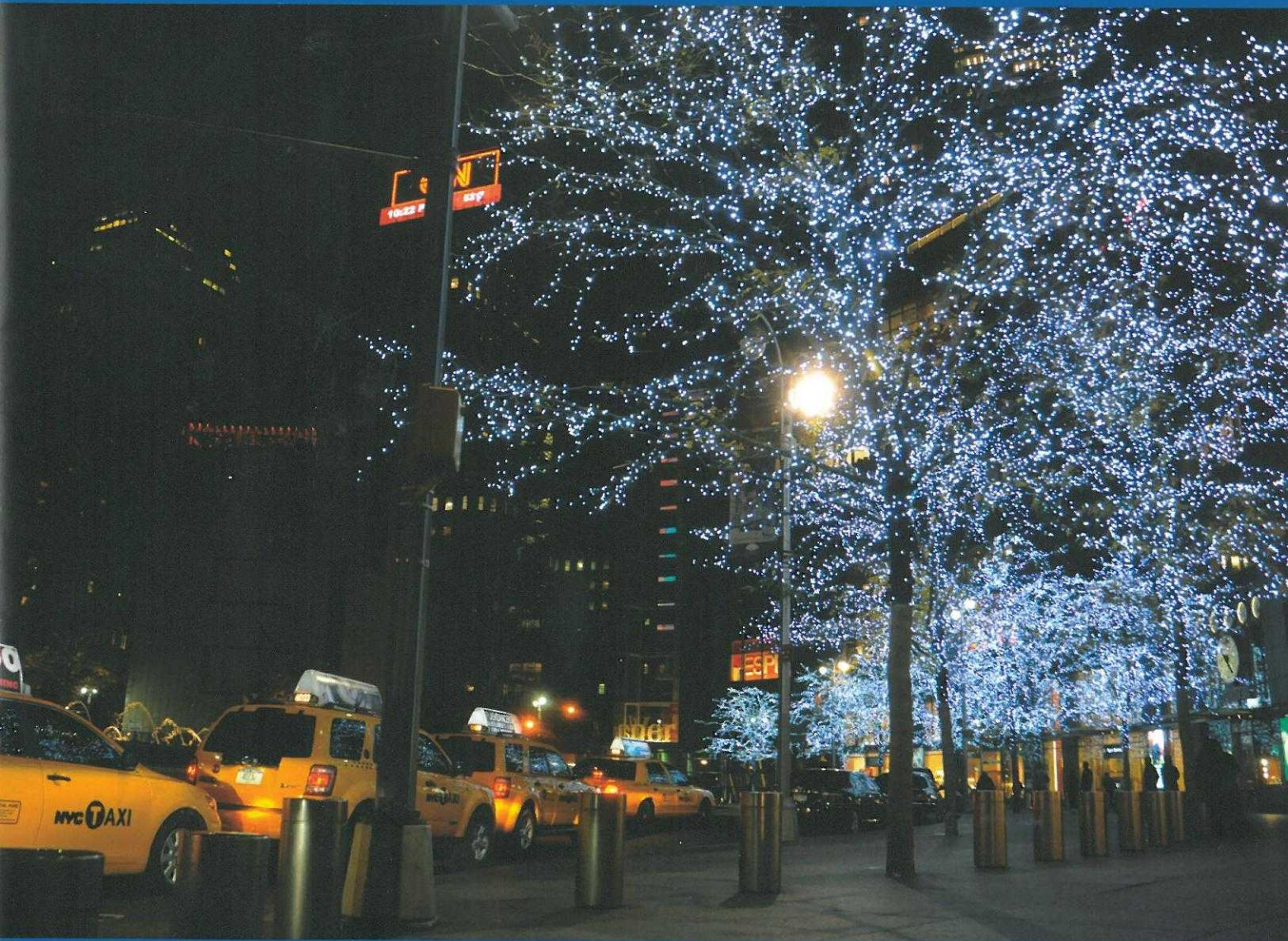


This issue is sponsored by Uppsala University and American Friends of Uppsala University

IN NEW YORK

No. 7, 2010



Lucia Trade Award & Annual Christmas Luncheon	page 3-5
The Global Grid at Nasdaq OMX	page 6-7
Speaker Luncheon with Börje Ekholm	page 8
Up Close & Personal with Lena Olving	page 10



HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND WELCOME TO THE USA!

Holiday Travel to USA may bring pitfalls to the unwary traveler.

All your bags are packed and you are ready to go! You and your family have been looking forward to hitting the ski slopes in Vail or Park City, or sunning on the beach in Florida for the holidays, but your visit has now become a nightmare due to red tape and U.S. immigration travel restrictions.

That is why it is helpful for individuals planning trips to the USA to become familiar with business and leisure travel visa requirements before the trip, to assure smooth travel and easy entry to the USA. The USA is no different than other countries that restrict the length and stay of visitors. As well, considering the increased security restrictions at airports, longer lines, and higher scrutiny of items being brought into the USA, it is important to become familiar with US visa requirements and procedures.

- The ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) is an automated system that determines the eligibility of visitors to travel to the USA under the Visa Waiver Program. The program can be accessed online at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website (www.uscbp.gov). The Visa Waiver Program allows nationals of 37 countries to enter the USA for purposes of business or holiday travel for up to 90 days without the need to apply formally at a US Consular post for a visa. European countries have been approved for the visa waiver program since its inception in the early 1990's. Most recently, Greece has been added to the list. Proof of home ties, a round trip ticket and a clean criminal record are basic prerequisites for eligibility for the ESTA program. ESTA applications may be made on line, and a 72 hour window is recommended for clearance and granting of a visa. The ESTA program advises that anyone with a criminal record, and even an unresolved serious traffic infraction would be

better off approaching a local U.S. consular post or embassy and submitting a formal visitor visa application. In the event that a visa waiver application is denied, one also has the opportunity to apply directly at a U.S. consular post for a formal B1/B2 visa application.

- For entry to the USA on the visa waiver program, applicants are required to make a representation to US Customs and Border Protection officers at US ports of entry, including airports, boat terminals and land entries, that they are entering the USA for a bona fide business or personal reason. When entering the USA on the visa waiver program, or on the formally issued B1/B2 visa, it is important to note that border officials are assessing the intent of the applicant. If the Border officials determine that one is making too many trips on the visa waiver, or, for instance, has too many ties to the USA i.e. U.S. credit cards, lease to homes, indicia of work in the USA, the officers have the legal authority to send the applicant for the visa back home and bar that person from the USA for 5 years. Thereafter, any application must be made directly at a U.S. consular post in a home country.

- Many people are under the misconception that a quick trip to Canada or Mexico will start the clock running again on the 90-day admission as a visitor. U.S. immigration regulations specifically exclude this maneuver. An individual making such travel plans, as well as those vacationing in some of the Islands off the coast of the USA will be admitted for the duration of their time remaining within the 90-day period.

- Business travelers, who are entering the USA for purpose of Board meetings and not for actual work in the USA, are also permitted to enter the USA on the visa

waiver program. Those anticipating longer stays, or who come to understand that the nature of the visit would be more appropriately described as actual work where one is receiving more than just expenses for services in the USA, should seek professional advice as to the appropriate nonimmigrant work visa covering their intended employment in the USA.

Ultimately, visits to the USA can be both successful and rewarding with some advance planning and an understanding of what U.S. immigration regulations expect of both the business and leisure visitor.



Roxanne H. Levine

Partner

Wildes and Weinberg P.C.

Ms. Levine has practiced law for over twenty years with Wildes and Weinberg, managing some of the firm's most prestigious clientele, including banking, financial institutions, performers and entertainers, and has been a partner in the firm since 2005. Graduated from Touro Law School in 1984, Ms. Levine has also earned a Master's Degree in History. She has often been published in the field of U.S. immigration law, including a legal text, with a specialty in business visas. Ms. Levine is considered an expert resource on U.S. immigration law by other practitioners throughout the nation.