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For Immediate Release:

February 12, 2007 Contact: Peter Karafotas
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SCHAKOWSKY CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION OF CITIZENSHIP BACKLOG

SOME CONSTITUENTS HAVE LOST CHANCE FOR CITIZENSHIP, RESIDENT STATUS BECAUSE

WASHINGTON, DC--U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky, a Chief Deputy Democratic Whip, today wa

The full text of the letter is below:

The Honorable David M. Walker
Comptroller General
Government Accountability Office
441 G St., NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Comptroller Walker:

We are writing to formally request that Government Accountability Office (GAO) conduct a study on the

The number of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services customers who have been waiting fo

- 6 months;
- 1 year;
- 1.5 years;
- 2 years;
- 2.5 years; and
- 3 years.

The breakdown of the countries of origin for applicants who have waited over 6 months, and the number

The reason why the checks currently take so long;

The process changes that would be needed to reduce the length of time for name checks for each appli

The estimated time when the FBI will have all records and files for background checks stored electronically

The estimated reduction in the backlog once all of the applicants' files are stored electronically.

Sincerely,

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress