

So, You've FINALLY been paroled from TSC. . . WHAT NEXT?!?!?!?

Here is what I did. Please feel free to absorb and apply as you see fit.

1.) The average number of days it takes for a file to arrive at NVC after you have been informed that your file was sent there is **3 to 5 Days**. Begin calling on day 3. The best time to get thru is after 6pm (eastern) on weeknights. They remain staffed until 10pm (eastern). The number is (603)-334-0700. Dial the numbers and listen for a voice. If you hear a voice, it WILL be telling you that the lines are busy. (*this is a recording...*) Hang up when you hear a voice, and hit redial. It takes 10 to 30 redials to get into the loop, but you can do that in less than 5 minutes. When you get into the loop, you will need to push 3 numbers.

1 for English. . . . **7** to ask a question (the recording will tell you that you can check the website. . etc. etc...) and it will then tell you that if you still wish to speak to a CSR (customer Service Representative) hit **1**.

Special Note: when you first get into the loop, you can hit 1 (wait 1 second) 7 (wait 1 second) 1

There is no need to listen to the spiel in between numbers.

You will be told that the wait time to speak to a CSR is approximately 20 minutes.

NOT.

It always says that, and it could be 3 minutes or an hour.

At this time, put your phone on speaker and go back to what you were doing.

REALLY ANNOYING 'On-Hold' music will play in a loop. Keep one ear on it while you busy yourself doing something else to pass the time. When a CSR is ready to speak, **you will hear their phone ring**. That is your cue to pick up your phone and take it off speaker, so that they can hear you clearly. They will ask you for your case number. The number to give them is the USCIS number that you have been monitoring for the past many months. If you don't have it memorized yet. . . . (sigh) Mine was **SRC1590222846** (for example) . . . When you tell them your number they will put it into their system query. Likely, on your first call, they will say that your file is not there yet, and then tell you it can take many weeks to arrive. Politely tell them that you have been monitoring other friend's case files and reports, and know that it takes 3 to 5 days. They will understand. If your file isn't there, thank them and tell them cheerfully that you will call again tomorrow. The mail only runs once per day, so multiple calls in a single day will only irritate them. Call after 6pm. If your file has arrived at NVC that day it will be there. If not, then *Call the next day after 6pm*.

When you give them your case file and they ask for additional information, it means that your file has arrived. You then must tell them the petitioner's full name (that's yours) and birthdate, and the beneficiary's full name and birthdate. This is their security check, so know this information before you call.

They will then tell you your Case File Number if it has been assigned. Sometimes it takes several days to have a case file assigned; sometimes it is assigned the same day.

Your case number will have a 3-letter Prefix relative to your Beneficiary's Embassy City, followed by 2015, then a 3-digit number and then another three-digit number. The last three numbers are what number of case files were assigned that day.

For Example: My case file was the 12th assigned that day for SEOUL Korea, so my number was

SEO2015764012

This number will stay with your file for the rest of this Journey. Write it down.

Next up, I will explain how you can track it from NVC to your Embassy.

Next Breadcrumb

Ok, so after many calls to NVC and short eternities of horrible on-hold music, you Finally have your case file. Now What? This is the beginning of the Down-hill part of this Journey. The highest Hurtle is past. Enjoy the stroll from here on out. Laugh a little, Smile a LOT.

Time for a new place to check on your case status.

When you were at TSC, you checked here: <https://egov.uscis.g...atus/landing.do>

Now that you have your new case file, you check here:

<https://ceac.state.g...eRYzCYubaSQI RA==>

Under *Visa Application Type*, Select **Immigrant Visa**

Under *Immigrant Visa Case Number* type in you newly minted Case File Number.

Ex.~ SEO2015764012 is mine.

Now, you will have one of a few answers to you query. **At NVC, In Transit, Arrived, Ready!**

'Ready' is the magic word. That means that not only is your case at the Embassy, but it is already entered into the system, and after paying your visa fee, you can submit your DS-160.

On many Embassy websites, you can download your packet 3 instructions and help your Beneficiary prepare all things needed before the interview, except for the Medical in some cases, and uploading the completed DS-160. With just this simple CEAC Case Status Check, you will know very easily when you can launch into fast-tracking your case through your Beneficiary's part of this Journey.

Please keep in mind that different countries have little differences in their systems, and you may well have to jump through different hoops than my Fiancé's did, and there may be other procedural delays beyond your control.

The next breadcrumb I will offer is how it may be possible for you to track your case package from NVC to your Embassy. It is no more informative than the CEAC status check, and will NOT speed up the delivery... but it is a LOT more fun to see the different places your file is at any given time. Personally, I found this tracking to be a HUGE stress diluter, and helped to evaporate the pent-up frustration of TSC like the morning sun dissipates last night's fog. Very Beneficial for my nerves.

Here is the eye-candy breadcrumb.

While I cannot say what shipping company is used for all of the destination countries, I do know that Packages going from NVC to Egypt, Dominican Republic, Vietnam and South Korea are all traveling via DHL. So, if you don't know which one will be used for your country, perhaps you can ask the NVC CSR when they tell you your case number. For those going via DHL, Follow me into the link below...

http://www.dhl.com/e..._reference.html

On this site, we will be using (left side of the page) Express/Tracking/Track by Shipper's Reference.

That brings you to a center box. (the above link will take you directly there, but knowing how to get there is handy.)

IMPORTANT TIP: Your package actually leaves 1 or 2 days before the date that CEAC Case Status reflects. For Example, My CEAC date had my case shipment date as September 24th. However, DHL picked it up and scanned into their system on the 23rd, then shipped on the 24th. Another friend's was 2 days earlier.

So, when checking your CEAC Case Status (previous breadcrumb), on the date that it reflects as "In Transit", your actual shipment scanning day is likely the day before that. The box on the DHL Express Tracking page will have 5 slots for input. Rather than give many lines of explanation, I am going to simply list the 'Prompt' in Black, and **My** answer (in red) for **My** Case file. If you are with me this far, I think that surely you can simply copy the format, substituting **Your** data in place of mine. DHL tracking Input and Results JPGs (for my shipment) are attached.

~to avoid the inevitable 20-questions~ I will add (some format explanation in blue)

Remember, My CEAC 'In Transit Date listed Sep 24th. My file was going to Seoul South Korea. You will want to include tracking from the day before your shipment, until the date that you are currently checking the shipment's progress.

Shippers reference: **EXP 23 SEP 2015A** (Express September 23 2015)
Date Range for Shipment - From: **22 10 2015** (2 days before the CEAC listing)
Date Range for Shipment - To: **26 10 2015** (example day that I was checking on my package)
Account Number: (intentionally left blank, **[a must]**)
Shipment Destination: **Korea, Republic of** (Fiancé's country from a drop-down menu)

This was my own experience that I copied and modified from another VJ member, who passed through these shark-infested waters on this Journey in 2011. Each one may be different, so you may have to play around with the numbers (dates) a bit to make it work. Below are screenshots of the input page and the results page. Currently, you can go to DHL tracking, input my data as listed below, and still see my Waybill and the stepping stones my Case file used to skip around the world from Boston to Seoul.



Express

- [> MyDHL](#)
- [> Shipping](#)
- [> Tracking](#)
 - [> Monitor Shipments](#)
 - [> Tracking FAQs](#)
 - [Track by Shipper's Reference](#)**
 - [> Tracking Tools](#)
 - [> Electronic Proof of Delivery](#)
- [> Customs Services and Support](#)
- [> Export Services](#)
- [> Import Services](#)
- [> Domestic Services](#)

[> DHL Global](#) | [> Express](#) | [> Tracking](#) | **Track by Shipper's Reference**

Track Using Personalized Shipper's References

DHL allows you to track your express shipments using a personalized reference number. Adding this reference on your waybill allows DHL account holders to differentiate shipments on their monthly invoice.

Track by Shipper's Reference

Fields marked with a (*) are mandatory

* Shipper's Reference

* Date range for shipment - From


* Date range for shipment - To













Account Number

Shipment Destination

[Track >>](#)

Result Summary

 <p>Waybill: 4678177243 Signed for by: YONGHOON JIN > Get Signature Proof of Delivery</p>	<p>Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 09:01 Origin Service Area: > BOSTON, MA - PORTSMOUTH - USA Destination Service Area: > SEOUL - SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)</p>	<p> 1 Piece</p>
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Wednesday, September 30, 2015		Location	Time	Piece
14	Delivered - Signed for by : YONGHOON JIN	SEOUL	09:01	 1 Piece
13	With delivery courier	SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	08:48	 1 Piece
12	Arrived at Delivery Facility in SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	06:19	 1 Piece
Tuesday, September 29, 2015		Location	Time	Piece
11	Departed Facility in INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	10:28	 1 Piece
10	Processed at INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	09:18	 1 Piece
Monday, September 28, 2015		Location	Time	Piece
9	Processed at INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	20:58	 1 Piece
Saturday, September 26, 2015		Location	Time	Piece
8	Processed at INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	15:16	 1 Piece
7	Arrived at Sort Facility INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	INCHEON OUTSKIRT OF SEOUL - KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH K.)	12:46	 1 Piece
Friday, September 25, 2015		Location	Time	Piece
6	Departed Facility in CINCINNATI HUB - USA	CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA	06:24	 1 Piece
5	Processed at CINCINNATI HUB - USA	CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA	05:03	 1 Piece
4	Arrived at Sort Facility CINCINNATI HUB - USA	CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA	01:29	 1 Piece
Thursday, September 24, 2015		Location	Time	Piece
3	Departed Facility in BOSTON - USA	BOSTON, MA - USA	23:44	 1 Piece
2	Processed at BOSTON - USA	BOSTON, MA - USA	23:41	 1 Piece
1	Shipment picked up	BOSTON, MA - USA	14:47	 1 Piece