

Greetings,

Received some good news this week concerning Armen. N.J. Rep. Chris Smith's office has been working with me on Armen's case. Considering all the changes and proposed changes in immigration policy this is a bit more difficult now than before. We are now considering a R-1 Visa for Armen. His family can come on a R-2 Visa (if Armen gets the R-1). This is a Religious visa which requires Armen to be employed with a religious organization at least part time while here.

We also cleared up a question. One CAN simultaneously pursue different tracks of citizenship. So Armen can continue to pursue the refugee status in America while applying for a R-1 Visa.

Some procedural questions are being discussed now to speed that process.

B.T.W. Rep. Chris Smith has volunteered a referral letter for Armen if that is needed or helpful.

*Congressman Chris Smith, chairman of the Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organization Subcommittee, and of the bi-partisan Helsinki Commission*