

**IMMIGRANT LIVING:  
101 AND BEYOND**



**MONETTE ADEVA MAGLAYA**

If you want anything done, give it to a busy person. But perhaps, this is true only up to a point. One's carrying capacity can be maxed out. Anyone who is both efficient and effective has mastered many times by trial and error over some length of time that fine blend of mixing the art and science of planning his work and working his plan. How? By thinking things through, prioritizing, sequencing and when necessary, improvising to stay within timetables and resources and keeping a laser-like focus on the goal while keeping your balance. It's a tall order yet doable. Anyone, determined enough, can get things done. Nowhere is this life skill more put to the test than here in America where a person's worth, whether you like it or not,

**Getting things done: A redux**

*"If it's going to be, it's up to me."*

*—Robert H. Schuller*

is measured by his productivity, his creativity, and his results. It is a skill needed to navigate a person's day-to-day life. The major strides in technology have enhanced man's capability to multi-task. Picture the modern version of Everyman running on a treadmill juggling multiple roles. No matter how much you want to buck the system, there is no way you can get around the fact that in order to thrive, let alone survive at this time and in this place, the life skills one needs to acquire and develop some level of competence in, are in the areas of planning and working the plan.

You know what a delight it is to work on a project that has been well conceived and well planned. And when a plan comes together in seamless fashion, everything is as smooth as silk. On the flip side of the coin, you know how aggravating it is to be involved

in one that is a mess from the beginning conceived by one who seems to be running around like a headless chicken. History bears out that most of the great leaders of all time, whether in politics, in industry and in business are supreme planners. And contrary to common belief, these planners see the big picture but do not feel that it is beneath them to roll up their sleeves and work on the nitty-gritty themselves. God is in the details. So is the devil.

Planning helps you to see the goal very clearly. Planning makes it possible to signal your intentions to others so adjustments can be made in the early stages of the project. In freeway driving, it is not only courteous to signal your intention when changing lanes to let other drivers either speed up or slow down to make room for your move, it is the safe and prudent thing to do. Planning, like your

left and right turn signals on your car, is a communication tool that gets feedback from within the team.

Henry Ford, who had a hand in perfecting the assembly line production technique once said, "Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs." As you flesh out the details of a project, the number of sub-tasks and the sequence with which these smaller tasks need to be done becomes clearer. Assigning who does what further breaks down the job to smaller and manageable bite sizes. Of course as the overseer, your task is to monitor progress of each component of the project and see that each one contributes to the overall goal. Inspect what you expect. Never assume. Ultimately, the value of planning brings you full circle as it helps you stay focused on the goal and get the job done on time and within budget. Getting things done and looking back at a job well done is gratifying for it somehow validates your self-worth.

Here's a caveat. Lest we think that planning is foolproof, remember that "The best laid

plans of mice and men often go awry." Even with all the seemingly perfect planning that brainiac scientists at NASA do and even with the use of cutting edge technology, the agency still experiences monumental failures—sometimes.

Things may not work out as planned. Consider the recent tragedy of the Air France plane crash over the Atlantic where no one survived. All told, 228 lives were lost. That flight was the result of expert plans that worked over and over in the past. It will be some time before aviation experts figure out exactly what went wrong on what could have been a routine flight from Rio de Janeiro to Paris. They say a small Airbus part, called the Pitot tube responsible for reading the plane's speed iced up and malfunctioned giving wrong readings of air speeds, as it flew directly into the belly of a severe thunderstorm and was never heard from again as it broke apart and plunged to the Atlantic. Sometimes you wonder if given all the sophisticated modern technology at our disposal, we should still have the option of a manual override for human

operators of machines thrust in dire emergency conditions.

There are absolutely no guarantees that something will work out because of a great plan. Man proposes, God disposes. There will be curve balls thrown in our path. When things don't work out as planned, try to accept it. Perhaps, there is a much better plan from a higher frequency and perspective. This is when you go deep inside and plumb the depths of your being and ask for the inner strength to accept things humbly. For the most part however, it has been proven that unless mighty cosmic forces are conspiring against something from happening, chances are stacked heavily towards transforming an idea to reality because of the simple act of planning and tenaciously working the plan.

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**US Visa options for registered nurses**

by ATTY. BELLA REYES, J.D., LL.M.

AS many of the readers of *Asian Journal* know, I am a Filipina and an immigration attorney based in Anaheim, California. I am a retained immigration counsel for several hospitals, nursing facilities, and other private employers of Registered Nurses who provide employment and sponsorship to RNs who want to work and live in the United States. I also represent hundreds of families of RNs who have successfully immigrated to the US. On behalf of my employer clients, I am actively looking for qualified RNs who have passed the NCLEX and require a sponsorship.

In the past, I have had many RNs (or friends and family members of RNs) who called my office to inquire about their US Visa options. I have always taken time to provide them with as much information as I can to help them make the right decisions for themselves and their families. To accommodate the increasing number of these inquiries, and provide vital and accurate information to more people, I have decided to hold seminars in California, Manila and Cebu this

summer exclusively targeting RNs who are NCLEX candidates and passers to discuss their US Visa options.

Some of the questions to be discussed in the seminars are as follows:

- What are the different visa categories that RNs can apply for now?
- What is the difference between Permanent/Immigrant Visas and Non-Immigrant Visas?
- What is the Visa Retrogression? What do we do while there is a Visa Retrogression?
- Can I work while waiting for my visa application to be processed?
- What is the H-1B visa? How does one qualify for H-1B visa?
- Can I change my Tourist visa to H-1B visa and start working?
- What do Employer/Sponsors need from an Applicant RN?
- Who pays for the legal, filing, and other fees for visa applications?
- Can I bring my family with me under any of the visa options?
- If I passed the NCLEX-RN in one State, can I use it to apply for a visa and work in

another State?

Please visit my website at [www.bellareyes.com](http://www.bellareyes.com) for more information about the Seminars and to register to attend the Seminar. You can also find more information about my background, credentials, and law practice there.

This article is not intended to provide the reader any legal or tax advice. For more information on applicable legal remedies or tax benefits for you, please call our office at (714) 530-0042 or visit our website at [bellareyes.com](http://bellareyes.com).

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Bella Reyes is a Federal Tax and Immigration Attorney and has been practicing for over 12 years. She has clients in several states, including California, Texas, Nevada, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Florida, New York, and New Jersey. She is a member of the bars of the US Supreme Court, US Tax Court, and Maryland. Ms. Reyes graduated from Georgetown University Law Center and is one of the first female graduates of the Ateneo De Manila University. Her office is located at 421 N. Brookhurst Street, Suite 200, Anaheim, California 92801. She can be reached at Tel. (714) 530-0042, and her website address is: [bellareyes.com](http://bellareyes.com).

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**U.S. Census Bureau News**  
 Los Angeles Regional Census Center  
 9301 Corbin Avenue, Suite 1000  
 Northridge, California 91324

**Managers Being Recruited for 2010 Census**  
**Tagalog-Speaking Managers Sought for 19 counties**

**Northridge, CA**

The Los Angeles Regional Census Center is actively recruiting managers for 27 Local Census Offices. 26 will be located in Southern California, and one in Honolulu, Hawaii. With the exception of the U.S. military, the nationwide recruiting effort for the decennial census is the largest peace time hiring of temporary federal employees.

In the fall of 2009, these 27 Local Census Offices will open to direct Field Operations for the region's population count on Census Day, April 1, 2010. These offices will be located in strategic areas of southern California and on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. Managers' salaries range from \$19.25 to \$29.00 per hour depending on location and position.

The current focus and priority is on recruiting and testing to fill six key management positions for each Local Census Office before the openings in the Fall, 2009. The positions are: Local Census Office Manager, Assistant Manager for Field Operations, Assistant Manager for Administration, Assistant Manager for Recruiting, Assistant Manager for Quality Assurance, and Assistant Manager for Technology.

Testing will be ongoing in Local Census Office cities and their surrounding areas. To reserve a seat for testing, please call (866) 861-2010, enter zero: "0" and your zip code.

New offices will open in the counties of Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Fresno, Santa Barbara, and Honolulu, Hawaii.

For more information on Census 2010 jobs in the Los Angeles Region, please visit [www.census.gov/losangeles](http://www.census.gov/losangeles).  
 Click on the link for "Regional Employment."

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