the data for the F-2B category (unmarried sons and daughters of LPRs) from this report indicates that the average rate of movement over the past 18 years has been 7.2 months per year. To arrive at this figure, examine the data from the charts in the Mexico Family Preference Cut-off Dates for Fiscal Years 1992–2010. Based on USCIS processing reports, three to six years of applications are not included in these numbers.

This would demonstrate that my client’s petition would become current in less than a year, except that I know from experience that the movement in the Mexico F-2B line over the past 10 years has not been nearly that rapid. A closer inspection of the F-2B data confirms my experience. In the first five years of the report, from October 1991 to October 1996, the F-2B line advanced rapidly from September 1981 to November 1990. It is relatively safe to assume that many of the beneficiaries in this category probably qualified for amnesty between 1981 and 1990, thus emptying the category significantly. In contrast, as the Visa Bulletin reached 1991, advancement slowed down. Again, historical knowledge tells us that many legalization beneficiaries did not begin filing visa petitions for their families until they became LPRs in late 1990 and early 1991. Visas first became available for 1991 priority dates in June 1996. It took until June 2004—eight years—before visas became available for applicants with priority dates in January 1991. It was not until October 2006 that DOS could unequivocally make immigrant visas available for all 1991 F-2B applicants. Between October 1996 and October 2006, the category advanced at an average rate of six weeks per year. That rate has since slowed even further. Between October 2006 and October 2010, the category advanced from February 15, 1992, to June 22, 1992—barely more than one month per year. —