

### New Form I-9 & Update on Government Enforcement of Employment Eligibility Verification Requirements

Presented by: Attorney John F. Koryto



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- President Elect Trump's statement on immigration (from donaldjtrump.com):
- "All immigration laws will be enforced we will triple the number of ICE agents."
- "Turn off the jobs and benefits magnet."

# Workforce Enforcement Strategy



ICE has been aggressively investigating and using criminal prosecution of employers who knowingly hire unauthorized aliens.



# Workforce Enforcement Tactics



ICE uses (1) individual criminal prosecution, (2) seizure of assets, and (3) imposition of meaningful civil penalties.



# Workforce Enforcement Tactics



- Plea deals
- Criminal forfeiture
- Witness visas (S visa class "snitch visa")
- Barred from federal and state contracts

### **Criminal Investigations**



ICE criminal investigations of employers are focused on:

- Employing unauthorized workers with knowledge or willful blindness
- Worker exploitation
- Harboring or aiding illegal workers



# UNFAIR IMMIGRATION-RELATED EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES, DISCRIMINATION, AND PENALTIES





Anti-discrimination provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) prohibit 4 types of unlawful conduct:

- 1. Citizenship or immigration status discrimination;
- 2. National origin discrimination;
- Unfair immigration-related employment practices during hiring processes or Form I-9 completion (document abuse); and
- 4. Retaliation.



- The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices, part of the Department of Justice, enforces the anti-discrimination provision of the INA; new name as of 01/18/2017 "Immigrant and Employees Rights Section."
- The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII) and other federal laws that prohibit employment discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability and genetic information.
- Title VII covers both intentional and <u>unintentional</u> acts of discrimination.



Unfair immigration-related employment practices may lead to one or more corrective steps, including:

- **1.** Hiring or reinstating, with or without back pay, individuals directly injured by the discrimination;
- 2. Posting notices about employee rights and employer obligations;
- **3.** Educating all personnel involved in hiring about employer sanctions and antidiscrimination laws.

The court may award attorneys' fees to prevailing parties.



"Document abuse" now called "unfair immigration-related employment practices" can be broadly categorized into four types of conduct:

- 1. Improperly requesting that employees produce more documents than are required by Form I-9;
- 2. Improperly requesting that employees present a particular document, such as a "green card";
- 3. Improperly rejecting documents that appear to be genuine and to related to the employee; and
- 4. Improperly treating groups of applicants differently when completing Form I-9.

#### Unlawful Discrimination



Violations of the anti-discrimination provision of the INA and may lead to a civil money penalty of not less than \$110 and not more than \$1,100 for each individual discriminated against.









### DHS / ICE AUDITS





#### **DHS/ICE Audits**



In the administrative setting, the playing rules tend to favor the government. Investigating ICE agents issue their own subpoenas for employers' records. Administrative judges determine the facts and the defendant's liability; juries are not an option.

#### DHS/ICE Audits



- I-9 Audit Discover improper documentation or maintenance
- Audits can lead to further investigation and significant fines and penalties
- Going after corporate officers, human resource representatives, supervisors, and contractors

#### Common Notices



ICE will notify the employer, in writing, of the intent to audit the I-9s. The following are the most common notices:

- Notice of Inspection
- Notice of Suspect Documents
- Notice of Discrepancies
- Notice of Technical or Procedural Failures
- Warning Notice
- Notice of Intent to Fine (NIF)



#### **NEW FORM I-9**

- Released November 18, 2016
- Required use 01/22/2017



Employers: Current Form I-9 valid until Jan. 21, 2017

On Aug. 25, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved a revised Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification. USCIS must publish a revised form by Nov. 22, 2016. Employers may continue using the current version of Form I-9 with a revision date of 03/08/2013 N until Jan. 21, 2017. After Jan. 21, 2017, all previous versions of Form I-9 will be invalid.

#### New Form I-9

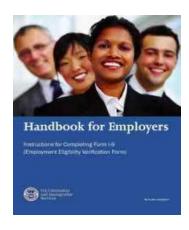


- Changes to the form and instructions
- Purpose is the same
- Revisions designed to minimize error
- Revised as part of USCIS forms and rules modernization efforts

#### New Form I-9



- Revised Spanish version as well
  - may only be used as a translation guide (except in Puerto Rico)
- Updated Handbook for Employers, M-274 "coming soon"
  - 65 pages to explain a two-page form



### **I-9 Compliance**



- ALL employees hired after November 6, 1986, are required to have an Employment Eligibility
   Verification Form (Form I-9) on file with the employer
- Includes U.S. citizens!



#### Section One



- Employee must fill out Section One after job accepted, but before first day of employment
  - Name (maiden name, or other *last* names used)
  - Address
  - Date of Birth
  - Check status in United States
    - Work authorization must include expiration date

Signature and date (required even if prepared by

translator)

- Preparer or translator certification
- Optional Information
  - Social Security Number
  - E-mail address
  - Telephone number

3		Departs	nent o	fHom	lity Verific eland Secu- migration S	rity			USCIS Form I-9 OMR No. 1415-0047 Expires 08/31/2019
► START HERE: Read insidering completion of this for ANTI-DISCRIMINATION If document(s) an employee an individual because the	rm. Employers a NOTICE: It is its may present to documentation	re table for egal to disc establish presented	r errore erimina emplo hea e	to the c de again yment a future e	empletten of the thick work authorization of the thick work authorization of the thick work authorization date.	this form. orized individue and identity. The e may also cons	is. Emp	layers CA I to hire or egal discri	NNOT specify which continue to employ mination.
Section 1, Employee						nost complete an	of sign 2	Santiem Fe	of Farm 19 ms later
Last Nama (Family Nama)		First Nam				Middle Initial	Other	Lest Neme	e Usea (if 24y)
Address (Street Number and	Name)	1	Apt. No	mber	City or Town		-	State	ZIP Code
Data of Wirth (mm/02/yyyy)	U.B. Sociel Se	ourity Numb	ar	Employ	se's Rimeli Ad	brees		Emproyee's	Telephone Number
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Preparer and/or Train	r translator. Implested and sign perjury, that I	A propert	er(s) an proper	dior trans	dator(s) assists for Internstation		is form	completin	g Section 1.) to the best of my
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#### Employment Eligibility Verification Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Form I-9 OMB No. 1615-0047

Expirés 08/31/2019

START HERE: Read instructions carefully before completing this form. The instructions must be available, either in paper or electronically, during completion of this form. Employers are liable for errors in the completion of this form.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE: It is illegal to discriminate against work-authorized individuals. Employers CANNOT specify which document(s) an employee may present to establish employment authorization and identity. The refusal to hire or continue to employ an individual because the documentation presented has a future expiration date may also constitute illegal discrimination.

l attest, under penalty of perjury, that I am (check one of the following boxes):							
1. A citizen of the United States							
2. A noncitizen national of the United States (Sec Instructions)							
3. A lewful permanent resident (Allen Registration Number/USCIS Number):							
4. An elien authorized to work - until (expiration dispose aliens may write "N/A" in the expiration dispose aliens may be a second or a seco	-		and an arrange				
Preparer and/or Translator Certification (check of	-						
I did not use a preparer or translator. A preparer(s) and/or tra				~			
(Fields below must be completed and signed when preparers and/or translators assist an employee in completing Section 1.)  I attest, under penalty of perjury, that I have assisted in the completion of Section 1 of this form and that to the best of my knowledge the information is true and correct.							
Signeture of Preperer or Translator			Today's D	Nete (mm/d)	\$'7777 <i>)</i>		
Lest Name (Family Name)		First Name (Given Name)					
Address (Street Number and Name)	City or	Town		State	ZIP Code		

24

#### **Section Two**



- Employer must complete the form within 3 business days of the date employment begins
- Employer must review the <u>original</u> documents and complete Section Two
  - Document title
  - Issuing authority
  - Document number
  - Expiration date (if any)
  - Date employment begins (often missed)

#### **Section Two**



- Employees must provide documents within 3 business days of the date employment begins
- If not in possession of documents, must provide a Receipt Notice or I-94 Card within 3 business days and the actual documents within 90 days
- Employees are not required to show a Social Security card for I-9 purposes unless the employer participates in E-Verify

#### **Section Two**



- Examine one document from List A <u>or</u> one document from List B <u>and</u> one from List C
- Employer <u>cannot</u> specify which documents they will accept from an employee



(Employers or their authorized repr must physically examine one docur of Acceptable Documents.")			_		-		•	
Employee Info from Section 1	Last Name (Fa	mily Name)		First Name (Give	n Name)	M.I	. Citize	nship/Immigration Status
List A Identity and Employment Aut	OF horization	2	List Iden		AND	)	Emple	List C oyment Authorization
Document Title		Document 1	itle			Document '	Title	
Issuing Authority		Issuing Auth	nority		I	ssuing Aut	hority	
Document Number		Document N	lumber			Document	Number	
Expiration Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyy	(y)	Expiration D	ate (if any)(i	mm/dd/yyyy)	E	Expiration (	Date (if an	y)(mm/dd/yyyy)
Document Title	_							
Issuing Authority		Additiona	I Informatio	n				Code - Sections 2 & 3 lot Write In This Space
Document Number								
Expiration Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyy	(y)							
Document Title								
Issuing Authority						[		
Document Number								
Expiration Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyy	(y)							
Certification: I attest, under pe 2) the above-listed document( employee is authorized to worl	s) appear to be	e genuine ar						
The employee's first day of e	employment (/	mm/dd/yyy	v):	6	See inst	ructions	for exem	nptions)
Signature of Employer or Authorize	ed Representativ	/e	Today's Da	te(mm/dd/yyyy)	Title of I	Employer	or Authoriz	ed Representative
Last Name of Employer or Authorized	Representative	First Name of	Employer or a	Authorized Represen	tative	Employer's	Business	or Organization Name
Employer's Business or Organizati	on Address (Stre	eet Number a	nd Name)	City or Town			State	ZIP Code

FULL

#### LISTS OF ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS All documents must be UNEXPIRED

Employees may present one selection from List A or a combination of one selection from List B and one selection from List C.

	LIST A  Documents that Establish  Both Identity and  Employment Authorization	R	LIST B  Documents that Establish Identity  AN	1D	LIST C Documents that Establish Employment Authorization
2.	U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card  Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)  Foreign passport that contains a		<ul> <li>Driver's license or ID card issued by a State or outlying possession of the United States provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address</li> </ul>	1.	A Social Security Account Number card, unless the card includes one of the following restrictions:  (1) NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT  (2) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH
	temporary I-551 stamp or temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine- readable immigrant visa	2	ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or		INS AUTHORIZATION (3) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH DHS AUTHORIZATION
4.	Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I-766)		information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address	2.	Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545)
5.	For a nonimmigrant alien authorized to work for a specific employer because of his or her status:  a. Foreign passport; and b. Form I-94 or Form I-94A that has the following:  (1) The same name as the passport; and  (2) An endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status as long as that period of endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form	4	School ID card with a photograph     Voter's registration card	3.	Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State (Form DS-1350)
		6	U.S. Military card or draft record Military dependent's ID card U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card	4.	Original or certified copy of birth certificate issued by a State, county, municipal authority, or territory of the United States
			Native American tribal document     Driver's license issued by a Canadian		bearing an official seal  Native American tribal document  U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
			government authority  For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:		Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
6.	Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	1	School record or report card     Clinic, doctor, or hospital record     Day-care or nursery school record	8.	Employment authorization document issued by the Department of Homeland Security

Illustrations of many of these documents appear in Part 8 of the Handbook for Employers (M-274).





Employees may present one selection from List A or a combination of one selection from List B and one selection from List C.

LIST A		LIST B	LIST C
Documents that Establish Both Identity and		Documents that Establish Identity	Documents that Establish Employment Authorization
Employment Authorization	OF	Al	ND
1. U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card		Driver's license or ID card issued by a	1. A Social Security Account Number



#### U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card

	1-766)	gender, neight, eye color, and address	FS-545)
5	For a nonimmigrant alien authorized	3. School ID card with a photograph	3. Certification of Report of Birth
٠.	to work for a specific employer because of his or her status:  a. Foreign passport; and	4. Voter's registration card	issued by the Department of Sta (Form DS-1350)
		5. U.S. Military card or draft record	Original or certified copy of birth
	<b>b.</b> Form I-94 or Form I-94A that has	6. Military dependent's ID card	certificate issued by a State,
	the following:  (1) The same name as the passport; and  (2) An endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status as long as that period of endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.	7. U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card	county, municipal authority, or territory of the United States bearing an official seal
		8. Native American tribal document	Native American tribal documer
		Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority	6. U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-19
		For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:	7. Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
	Passport from the Federated States of		Employment authorization document issued by the
	Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of	10. School record or report card	Department of Homeland Secur
	the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating	11. Clinic, doctor, or hospital record	
	nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	12. Day-care or nursery school record	

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LIST A
Documents that Establish
Both Identity and
<b>Employment Authorization</b>

LIST B

Documents that Establish Identity

LIST C

Documents that Establish Employment Authorization



### Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)

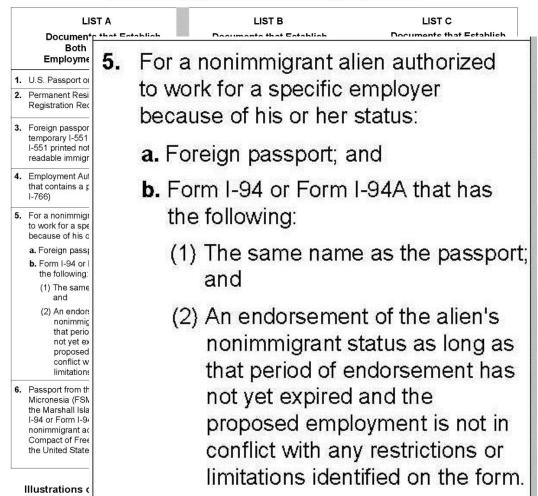
AND

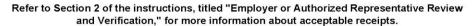
because of his or her status:	5. U.S. Military card or draft record	(Form DS-1350)
a. Foreign passport; and	5. O.S. Williary card of draft record	4. Original or certified copy of birth
b. Form I-94 or Form I-94A that has	6. Military dependent's ID card	certificate issued by a State, county, municipal authority, or
the following:	7. U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner	territory of the United States
(1) The same name as the passport, and (2) An endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status as long as that period of endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.	Card	bearing an official seal
	8. Native American tribal document	5. Native American tribal document
	Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority	6. U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
	For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:	7. Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
D 11	listed above.	8. Employment authorization
Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of	10. School record or report card	document issued by the Department of Homeland Security
the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form	11. Clinic, doctor, or hospital record	Department of Florifeland Security
I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	12. Day-care or nursery school record	

Illustrations of many of these documents appear in Part 8 of the Handbook for Employers (M-274).

#### LISTS OF ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS All documents must be UNEXPIRED

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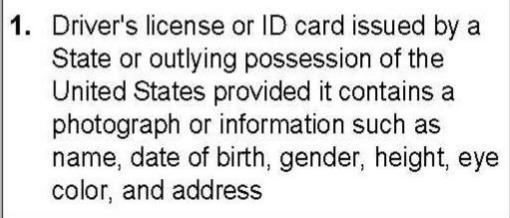


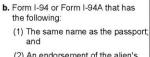






Employees may present one selection from List A or a combination of one selection from List B and one selection from List C.





- (2) An endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status as long as that period of endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.
- Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI

6.	Military dependent's ID card
7.	U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card

- 8. Native American tribal document
- Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority

#### For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:

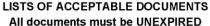
- 10. School record or report card
- 11. Clinic, doctor, or hospital record
- 12. Day-care or nursery school record

certificate issued by a State, county, municipal authority, or territory of the United States bearing an official seal

- 5. Native American tribal document
- 6. U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
- Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
- 8. Employment authorization document issued by the Department of Homeland Security

Illustrations of many of these documents appear in Part 8 of the Handbook for Employers (M-274).





or a combination of one selection from List B and one selection from List C.

Documents that Establish

Identity



Documents that Establish

Both Identity and

Employment Authorization



ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address

AND

LIST C Documents that Establish

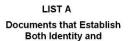
**Employment Authorization** 

	not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.	For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:	7.	Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
6.	Passport from the Federated States of		8.	Employment authorization
٠.	Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	10. School record or report card		document issued by the Department of Homeland Security
		11. Clinic, doctor, or hospital record		,
		12. Day-care or nursery school record		

Illustrations of many of these documents appear in Part 8 of the Handbook for Employers (M-274).



Employees may present one selection from List A or a combination of one selection from List B and one selection from List C.



LIST B

Documents that Establish
Identity

Documents that Establish Employment Authorization

LIST C



- A Social Security Account Number card, unless the card includes one of the following restrictions:
  - (1) NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT
  - (2) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH INS AUTHORIZATION
  - (3) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH DHS AUTHORIZATION

	proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.	For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:	Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
_	5	listed above.	8. Employment authorization
6.	Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	10. School record or report card	document issued by the
		11. Clinic, doctor, or hospital record	Department of Homeland Security
		12. Day-care or nursery school record	

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2.	U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)  Foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp or temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine- readable immigrant visa	Driver's license or ID card issued by a State or outlying possession of the United States provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address	A Social Security Account Number card, unless the card includes one of the following restrictions:     (1) NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT     (2) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH INS AUTHORIZATION     (3) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH DHS AUTHORIZATION	
4.	Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I-766)	provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address	Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545)	
5.	For a nonimmigrant alien authorized to work for a specific employer because of his or her status:  a. Foreign passport; and b. Form I-94 or Form I-94A that has the following:  (1) The same name as the passport; and  (2) An endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status as long as that period of endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.	School ID card with a photograph     Voter's registration card     U.S. Military card or draft record	Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State (Form DS-1350)	
		b. Form I-94 or Form I-94A that has the following:	Military dependent's ID card     U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card	<ol> <li>Original or certified copy of birth certificate issued by a State, county, municipal authority, or territory of the United States bearing an official seal</li> </ol>
		Native American tribal document     Driver's license issued by a Canadian	Native American tribal document     U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)	
		For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:	7. Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)	
6.	Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	10. School record or report card  11. Clinic, doctor, or hospital record  12. Day-care or nursery school record	8. Employment authorization document issued by the Department of Homeland Security	

Illustrations of many of these documents appear in Part 8 of the Handbook for Employers (M-274).



#### **Section Two**



- What are you certifying?
  - On its face, the document <u>reasonably</u> appears:
    - 1) To be genuine

Certification: I attest, under penalty of perjury, that (1) I have examined the document(s) presented by the above-named employee, (2) the above-listed document(s) appear to be genuine and to relate to the employee named, and (3) to the best of my knowledge the employee is authorized to work in the United States.

The employee's first day of employment (mm/dd/yyyy):					See instructions for exemptions)				
Signature of Employer or Authorized Representative		Today's Date(mm/dd/yyyy)		Title of Employer or Authorized Representative					
Last Name of Employer or Authorized Representative	First Name of Employer or Authorized Representa				Employer's Business or Organization Name				
Employer's Business or Organization Address (Street Number and Name)			City or Town			State	ZIP Code		

### Section Three



- Updating and Reverification
- THIS IS CRITICAL!

Section 3. Reverification and Rehires (To be completed and signed by employer or authorized representative.)									
A. New Name (if applicable)					B. Date of Rehire (if applicable)				
Last Name (Family Name)	First Name (Given Nam	ne)	Middle Initial	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)					
<b>C.</b> If the employee's previous grant of employment authorization has expired, provide the information for the document or receipt that establishes continuing employment authorization in the space provided below.									
Document Title		Document Number			Expiration Date (if any) (mm/dd/yyyy)				



#### **RETAINING I-9s**



## Retaining Forms



- Completed I-9s must be retained for:
  - 3 years after the date of hire; or
  - 1 year after employment ends, whichever is later
    - For example, if an employee retires from your company after 15 years, you will need to store his/her I-9 for a total of 16 years
- Must remain easily accessible
  - If the USCIS requests to see I-9s, they must
     ALL be available in 3 days

# Retaining Forms



- Electronic Storage
  - Fillable printable Form I-9 on <u>www.uscis.gov</u>
  - Electronic storage system must include:
    - Security and reliability
    - Read-only format to prevent editing to completed Form I-9
    - Inspection and quality assurance program with regular evaluations
    - Retrieval system with indexing system and search capability
    - Ability to reproduce legible and readable hard copies

## Retaining Forms



- Electronic Signature:
  - System to capture electronic signatures
  - Ability to affix the electronic signature at the time of transaction
  - Create and preserve a record verifying the identity of the person
  - Provide a printed confirmation of the transaction, at the time of the transaction, to the person providing the signature



# **BEST PRACTICES**

	Employment Eligibility Verification						USCIS			
	Department of Homeland Security						Form I-9			
	T	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services						OMB No. 1615-0047 Expires 08/31/2019		
			_						Explication 51: 2015	
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## I-9 Compliance Best Practices



- Have a written policy in place which states the company's position on immigration compliance and completion of the I-9 forms.
- Do not store the I-9 forms with the employee personnel files. This could lead to the Department of Homeland Security or the Department of Labor reviewing <u>all</u> of your personnel files.
- 3. Store the I-9 forms in three separate files: one for current employees for whom reverification will never be required, one for current employees for whom reverification is required, and one for terminated employees.

# I-9 Compliance Best Practices (cont.)



- 4. Designate company representatives who will complete and maintain the I-9 forms and provide training and refresher instruction as appropriate.
- 5. Complete I-9 forms at the same point in the hiring process for all employees, preferably before the employee begins working.
- 6. Do not retain copies of the supporting documents which are presented by employees during the I-9 process. If you choose to retain the supporting documents, be sure you keep them for everyone.

The key is to be consistent.

# I-9 Compliance Best Practices (cont.)



- 7. Provide the I-9 instructions to the newly hired employee at the time the I-9 form is being completed.
- 8. Develop resources and reference materials for use by the company representative who will complete and maintain the I-9 forms, including a copy of your written policy and a copy of the government's I-9 Handbook for Employers.
- 9. Perform periodic internal audits of your I-9 forms to ensure adherence to your policy.

# I-9 Compliance Best Practices (cont.)



- 10. Use your audits as an occasion to review and revise your written policy to address any problem areas revealed by the audit.
- 11. Consider whether it is beneficial to use I-9 compliance software (e.g. I-9 Zoom or Tracker I-9). This may be particularly useful for employers participating in E-Verify and employers with over 100 employees.
- 12. Do not seek advice from the Department of Homeland Security. If you have any questions, contact your immigration lawyer.

## Completing the I-9 Remotely



- The employer can designate anyone to serve as its Authorized Representative for completing the I-9. Notaries, attorneys, registered agents, bank tellers, etc.
- The Authorized Representative should receive:
  - Written authority, limited to the I-9
  - Instructions on completing the I-9
  - Information to complete the form:
    - Name and address of the employee and employer
    - Start date
  - Contact information at company for questions
  - Address to return completed I-9
- Have Authorized Representative make copies of documents

## Completing the I-9 Remotely



- Review the I-9 immediately
  - Send a fax or scan to HR before the employee leaves
  - If Section 1 is incomplete/wrong send it back to the employee
  - If Section 2 is incomplete/wrong coordinate with Authorized Representative to make corrections



- If you conduct an internal audit you will find mistakes.
- The simple advice is: fix the mistakes when you find them.
- The complicated advice is: don't make things worse.



- What you should do:
  - Be consistent. Whatever you decide, do it for everyone.
  - Compare your I-9s against an employee payroll list. This is how ICE begins.
  - Consider making a chart that summarizes all of the corrections and why they were made.



- What you should <u>not</u> do:
  - Erase, use whiteout, correction tape or black marker
  - Correct things that do not need it
  - Backdate corrections or otherwise make it appear as though it was correct from the beginning



- Section 1 mistakes must be corrected by the employee
- Section 2 mistakes must be corrected by the same employer representative who signed Section 2
- Line through incorrect information and insert the correct clarification where it can be clearly seen



- Make minor changes in a different color ink
- Always initial and date the corrections as of the date they are made
- If the I-9 is beyond repair, complete a new I-9 and attach it to the old form
  - Wrong version
  - Section 2 not signed
  - No space to highlight corrections







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