



Managing Immigration Challenges and Compliance

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When ICE or HSI Agents Appear



- Investigative and Charging Priority:
 - Attorney General Memo: Prosecutors "shall use all available criminal statutes to combat the flood of immigration..."
 - DOJ Enforcement Plan: Prioritize "violations by corporations of federal immigration law" in support of the DOJ's Whistleblower Awards Pilot Program.
- Other Priorities:
 - Conduct I-9 Audits and Impose Fines
 - Investigate Joint Employment (contractors, staffing agencies, etc.)



Worksite Enforcement Actions and Fallout

- Three Primary Concerns:
 - 1. Civil Fines
 - 2. Criminal Charges (individual/corporate)
 - 3. Operational/Reputational Impact
 - Glenn Valley Foods
 - "ICE Took Half Their Workforce: What Do They Do Now?" New York Times





Take a Step Back: I-9 Compliance Basics

What does DHS/HSI require?

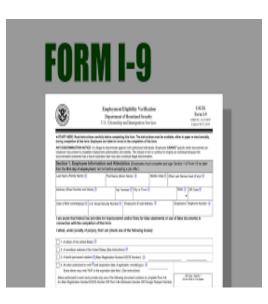
- Properly/Timely Completed I-9
 Good Faith Belief New Hire is Eligible to Work
 Good Faith Belief Current Employee Continues to be Eligible to Work
- 4. Properly Run E-Verify Query (where required)

What does DOJ/IER require?

- 1. No national origin, citizenship status, immigration status discrimination
- 2. No unfair documentary practices ("document abuse")
- 3. Private bar may start to pursue these types of cases

What does an I-9 Audit mean?

- 1. Civil fines/debarment from state and federal contracts
- 2. Tool to gather evidence







Employment Eligibility Verification

Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Form I-9 OMB No.1615-0047 Expires 07/31/2026

START HERE: Employers must ensure the form instructions are available to employees when completing this form. Employers are liable for failing to comply with the requirements for completing this form. See below and the Instructions.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE: All employees can choose which acceptable documentation to present for Form I-9. Employers cannot ask employees for documentation to verify information in Section 1, or specify which acceptable documentation employees must present for Section 2 or Supplement B. Revertification and Rehite. Treating employees differently based on their citizenship, mimigration status or autional origin may be illegal.

Supplement B, Reverifica	tion and	d Rehir	e. Trea	ating en	ployees	differ	ently b	ased on the	ir citi:	zenship	o, im	migra	ation sta	stus,	or natio	onal or	rigin may	y be illegal
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Address (Street Number and Name)					Apt. Number (if any			City or Tow	1				П	State ZIP Code		e		
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	U.S. Social Security Nu			rity Num	ber	Employee's Email Address							Employee's Telephone Number				umber	
I am aware that federal law provides for imprisonment and/or fines for false statements, or the use of false documents, in connection with the completion of this form. I attest, under penalty of perjury, that this information, including my selection of the box attesting to my citizenship or immigration status, is true and		1 2 3 4 If you d	A citiz A non A lawf	en of the o citizen nat ul permar citizen (ot m Numbe	United tional c sent re- ther that	States of the Un sident (I on Item	est to your cit nited States (Enter USCIS Numbers 2. a e of these:	See In or A-N and 3.	structio lumber. above)	ns.)	orizeo	I to work	until	(exp. da	te, if an	ny)	tions.):	
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Employer's Business or Orga	anization	n Name			Em	ployer's	s Busin	ess or Organi	zation	Addres	s, Ci	ty or 1	Town, St	ate, Z	IP Code			

For reverification or rehire, complete Supplement B, Reverification and Rehire on Page 4.

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Form I-9



3

Name of Employer or Authorized Representative

Additional Information (Initial and date each notation.)

Supplement B,

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Reverification and Rehire (formerly Section 3)

USCIS	
Form I-9	

Supplement B OMB No. 1615-0047 Expires 07/31/2026

Expiration Date (if any) (mm/dd/yyyy)

Today's Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Check here if you used an alternative procedure authorized by DHS to examine documents.

Last Name (Family Name) from	Section 1.	First Name (Given Nam	First Name (Given Name) from Section 1.			Middle initial (if any) from Section 1.			
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Form I-9 Edition 08/01/23 Page 4 of 4

I attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my knowledge, this employee is authorized to work in the United States, and if the employee presented documentation, the documentation I examined appears to be genuine and to relate to the individual who presented it.

Signature of Employer or Authorized Representative

Supplement B



Electronic Forms I-9 Requirements—New Frontier for Enforcement

System Integrity

 System must provide same level of data integrity, security, sequence, and access as paper-based processes.

Employee and Employer Roles

• Employee completes Section 1; Employer completes Section 2 and 3.

Accessibility

Employers
 must produce
 electronic I-9
 records (e.g.,
 DHS, ICE)
 within three
 business days.

Electronic Authentication

 The system must capture attestation and digital signatures and be linked to signer's identity.

Audit Trail

 Requires secure audit trail, tracking who accessed or modified the form (with time, step taken).



Good Faith at Hiring

Required to be Document Expert?

- Must accept documents that "reasonably appear to be genuine and to relate to the person presenting them."
 - > But what is "reasonable"?





Continuing Good Faith

- Ongoing Responsibility to Monitor Workforce
- Actual/Constructive Knowledge
- Improper/Missing Form I-9
- Expired Temporary Document
- Obviously Fake Documentation
- Confessión/Recorded Conversation
- Temp Workers/Contractors (Walmart)
- Government Notification (DHS, SSA, IRS, etc.)





E-Verify System

Voluntary (unless Executive Order for Federal Contracts or State Law Applies)

What does E-Verify accomplish?

- Rebuttable presumption of legal workforce
- No "safe harbor" from workplace enforcement
- Complies with FAR E-Verify clause (if applicable)
- Complies with state laws (10 states)

WARNING: E-Verify has become tool for ICE and IER to target employers

Audit thresholds (for referral to ICE or IER)





Civil Tools

- Fines
 - ➤ Knowing Employment of Undocumented Workers (up to \$5,800 per employee)
 - > Paperwork Violations (up to \$2,800 per defective form)
- Contract Debarment or Suspension (Federal Contractors)
 - >For knowing employment of undocumented workers
 - **≻**One-year increments





Other Documents



Pattern and practice in hiring undocumented workers (misdemeanor). 8 USC 1324a(f)



Knowingly hiring 10+ unauthorized workers w/in 1 year. 8 USC 1324(a)(3)



Harboring/shielding undocumented workers from detection.

8 USC 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii)



Encouraging or inducing undocumented workers to remain in violation of law.

8 USC 1324(a)(1)(iv)



Making false attestation on Form I-9 (Perjury and Visa Fraud). 18 USC 1546(b)



Forced Labor/Benefitting from Forced Labor.

18 USC 1589, 1590



Best Practices

Conduct internal audit

- i. Highlight problematic I-9s
- ii. Correct them
- iii. Flag employees with bad documents and develop plan with counsel to address the situation

Stop the Bleeding

- i. Provide compliance training for I-9 and visa sponsorship
- ii. Establish written I-9 Compliance Policy iii. Enroll in E-Verify (and use it consistently)
- iv. Participate in IMAGE (https://www.ice.gov/outreachprograms/image)?

Do not participate in this program without coordinating with counsel

Reduce Individual/Company Exposure

- i. Reverify or phase out personnel with bad documents
- ii. Consult with counsel about known problems or warning signs (past or present)
- iii. Develop action plan for responding to government agencies (e.g., HSI, ICE, IRS, local law enforcement, etc.)





Thank you! Questions?



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