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Headlines:

Visa Bulletin for September Notes 'Steady Increase' in Demand for Employment-Based Visas – Beginning September 1, 2022, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will no longer accept a single, combined fee payment when an applicant or petitioner files EB-5 applications or petitions with related forms.

E-Verify Updates Initial Enrollment Process – The updates include new screens and requirements to ensure consistency with other pages in E-Verify.

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements Updated for Ukraine Parolees – All beneficiaries under the Uniting for Ukraine program aged 6 months and older must submit an attestation that they received COVID-19 vaccinations both before traveling to the United States and after arrival in the United States, unless they are eligible for an exception.

DHS, DOL Publish Semiannual Regulatory Agendas – The agendas give an overview of what the agencies are considering during the upcoming one-year period.

EOIR Warns of Scammers Spoofing Agency Phone Number – In this scam, fraudulent callers posing as Executive Office for Immigration Review employees or officers advise individuals that their social security number has been compromised and request money from the victims.

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Visa Bulletin for September Notes 'Steady Increase' in Demand for Employment-Based Visas

The Department of State's (DOS) Visa Bulletin for September notes a steady increase in both U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Department of State demand patterns for employment-based visas during the fiscal year. As a result, the Department expects that most employment-based preference category limits and/or the overall employment-based preference limit for FY 2022 to be reached during September. If the annual limit were reached, "it would be necessary to immediately make the preference category 'unavailable,' and no further requests for numbers would be honored," the bulletin states.

For adjustment of status filing dates for September 2022, the Final Action Dates chart in the Visa Bulletin must be used for employment-based preference categories.

The bulletin also notes that the worldwide employment-based preference numerical limit for FY 2022 is 281,507.

Details:

- Visa Bulletin for September 2022, Dept. of State, <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin/2022/visa-bulletin-for-september-2022.html>
- USCIS Adjustment of Status Filing Dates for September 2022, Aug. 8, 2022, <https://www.aila.org/infonet/adjustment-of-status-filing-dates-september-2022>

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E-Verify Updates Initial Enrollment Process

E-Verify notified users via email on August 11, 2022, that it has updated the Initial Enrollment process. The updates include new screens and requirements to ensure consistency with other pages in E-Verify. As a result, several changes affect users:

- Anyone enrolling a company in E-Verify will have to set up a temporary user account to complete the enrollment process. This person is called the Enrollment Point of Contact (POC). The Enrollment POC is a different role from the POC on the E-Verify account and can only access E-Verify to complete a company enrollment.
- The person identified as the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signatory will become the E-Verify POC. Program Administrators added during enrollment will not become E-Verify POCs.
- Corporate Administrators are not required to sign an MOU. As a result, the Corporate Administrator user will be the E-Verify POC.
 - Only one Corporate Administrator user can be added during the enrollment process.
- Corporate Administrators who add a new child company location (employer) must add an MOU signatory and at least one Program Administrator for the child company they are enrolling in E-Verify.

Details:

- E-Verify Enrollment Process, <https://www.e-verify.gov/employers/enrolling-in-e-verify/the-enrollment-process>

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COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements Updated for Ukraine Parolees

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has updated the COVID-19 vaccination requirements for beneficiaries paroled into the United States under the "Uniting for Ukraine" program. Effective August 10, 2022, all beneficiaries aged 6 months and older must submit an attestation that they received COVID-19 vaccinations both before traveling to the United States and after arrival in the United States, unless they are eligible for an exception.

Previously, beneficiaries younger than five years old qualified for an exception to the COVID-19 vaccination requirement because the vaccine was not approved or licensed for use in that age group.

Details:

- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services alert, Aug. 10, 2022, <https://www.uscis.gov/newsroom/alerts/updated-covid-19-vaccination-requirements-for-uniting-for-ukraine-parolees>

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DHS, DOL Publish Semiannual Regulatory Agendas

On August 8, 2022, the Departments of Homeland Security (DHS) and Labor (DOL) published their semiannual regulatory agendas, which summarize projected and existing regulations. The agendas give an overview of what the agencies are considering during the upcoming one-year period. Below are selected highlights:

- Among other things, DHS plans to propose adjusting the fees charged by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for immigration and naturalization benefit requests. On August 3, 2020, DHS adjusted the fees, imposed new fees, revised certain fee waiver and exemption policies, and changed certain application requirements via a rule. DHS was preliminarily enjoined by court order from implementing that rule. This rule would rescind and replace the changes made by the August 3, 2020, rule and establish new USCIS fees.
- Also, DOL's Employment and Training Administration and Wage and Hour Division, and DHS/USCIS, plan to jointly propose to amend H-2B nonimmigrant visa program regulations. The proposed rule would establish standards and procedures for employees seeking to hire foreign temporary nonagricultural workers for certain itinerant job opportunities, including entertainers and carnivals and utility regulation management.

Details:

- Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, Dept. of Homeland Security, 87 Fed. Reg. 48294 (Aug. 8, 2022), <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-08-08/pdf/2022-14604.pdf>

- Semiannual Agenda of Regulations, Dept. of Labor, 87 Fed. Reg. 48308 (Aug. 8, 2022), <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-08-08/pdf/2022-14607.pdf>

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EOIR Warns of Scammers Spoofing Agency Phone Number

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) announced that it has recently been notified of phone calls that spoof the Arlington Immigration Court as part of a misinformation campaign. The callers often "spoof," or fake, the immigration court's main line, 703-305-1300, so the calls appear to be coming from EOIR on the recipient's caller ID.

In this scam, fraudulent callers posing as EOIR employees or officers advise individuals that their social security number has been compromised and request money from the victims.

Questions about individual immigration court cases may be directed to the Automated Case Information Hotline at 1-800-898-7180, the Automated Case Information System, or the Immigration Court Online Resource.

Details:

- EOIR release, Aug. 3, 2022, <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/pr/eoir-warns-scammers-spoofing-agency-phone-number-0>
- Automated Case Information System, <https://acis.eoir.justice.gov/en/>
- Immigration Court Online Resource, <https://icor.eoir.justice.gov/en/>

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New Publications and Items of Interest

Immigrant and Employee Rights Section free webinars. The Department of Justice's Immigrant and Employee Rights Section is offering free webinars for the public.

<https://www.justice.gov/crt/webinars>

Agency Twitter accounts:

- EOIR: @DOJ_EOIR
- ICE: @ICEgov
- Study in the States: @StudyinStates
- USCIS: @USCIS

Immigrant and employee rights webinars. The Department of Justice's Immigrant and Employee Rights Section is offering a number of free webinars for workers, employers, and advocates. For more information, see <https://www.justice.gov/crt/webinars>.

E-Verify webinar schedule. E-Verify released its calendar of webinars at https://www.e-verify.gov/calendar-field_date_and_time/month.

Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers:

- ABIL is available on Twitter: @ABILImmigration
- Recent ABIL member blogs are at <http://www.abilblog.com/>

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ABIL Member/Firm News

Kristin Peresta, of **Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP** (KILP), was recently awarded the Lisa Felix Award. Lisa Felix was an attorney at KILP who died in 2020 after a long illness. Ms. Peresta, KILP's Director of Client Communications & Workload, was awarded the inaugural Lisa Felix Award "for her innate ability to spread unconditional, unwavering, and selfless kindness among the KILP community." <https://bit.ly/3AIUCjk>

Alison Li has joined **Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP**, as an associate attorney. She has nearly a decade of immigration law experience and works with regional centers, developers, and investors who seek to use foreign investment capital under the EB-5 program to fund job-creating projects. In addition to her work in EB-5, Ms. Li has assisted numerous clients in obtaining E, H, and L visas, among others. She has experience in consular processing through U.S. embassies and consulates worldwide. <https://chambers.com/articles/klasko-immigration-law-partners-welcomes-associate-alison-li>

Cyrus Mehta (bio: <https://www.abil.com/abil-lawyers/cyrus-d-mehta/>) and **Kaitlyn Box** co-authored a new blog post, "Will Head of Team Anywhere and Other New Fangled Jobs That Have Popped Up During the Pandemic Be Able to Fit Under Existing Visa Categories?" <https://bit.ly/3zYnoVP>

Mr. Mehta and **Kaitlyn Box** co-authored a new blog post, "A Practical Guide to Spending the 3 and 10 Year Bars in the United States." <http://blog.cyrusmehta.com/2022/07/a-practical-guide-to-spending-the-3-and-10-year-bars-in-the-us.html>

Charina Garcia and **Melissa Harms**, of **Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP**, will moderate two programs at the Worldwide ERC's Global Workforce Symposium in October 2022. Ms. Garcia will moderate "Relationship Building Through Tech – How Immigration Tech Can Focus on a Workforce's Well-Being," a discussion on immigration management technologies and the relationship between mobility technologies, well-being, and human connection. Ms. Harms will moderate "DEIA Global Mobility Playbook: Issues Facing the LGBTQ+, Transgender and Gender Diverse Employee," a discussion on the emergence of LGBTQ+ inclusive global mobility programs, issues related to relocating internationally to locations that criminalize transgender or sexual preference diversity; the process and impact of changing name or gender markers on national identity documents; and traveling and screening procedures for transgender and gender-diverse/fluid people. <https://wolfsdorf.com/wr-immigration-honored-to-lead-two-groundbreaking-discussions-at-werco-global-workforce-symposium/>

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Government Agency Links

Follow these links to access current processing times of the USCIS Service Centers and the Department of State's latest Visa Bulletin with the most recent cut-off dates for visa numbers:

USCIS case processing times online: <https://egov.uscis.gov/processing-times/>

Department of State Visa Bulletin: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin.html>

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About ABIL

The Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers (ABIL) offers a single point of contact for customer needs, news alerts, staff training, and other programs that benefit clients through the collaboration of more than 425 member lawyers and their more than 1,400 staff. Corporate counsel, human resource professionals, in-house immigration managers, and other corporate decision-makers turn to ABIL lawyers for outstanding legal skills and services. ABIL's work also includes advocating for enlightened immigration reform, providing speakers and media sources, presenting conferences, publishing books and articles on cutting-edge immigration topics, and sharing best practices, all with the ultimate goal of offering value-added services to business immigration clients.

The Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers' website is at <http://www.abil.com/>. ABIL is also on Twitter: @ABILImmigration.

Disclaimer/Reminder

This email does not constitute direct legal advice and is for informational purposes only. The information provided should never replace informed counsel when specific immigration-related guidance is needed.

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