

The ICE Storm is Coming

How to Weather a Potential I-9 Enforcement Surge

February 27, 2025



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Today's Presenters





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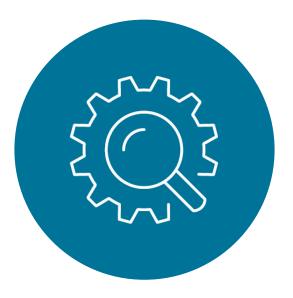


Agenda



ICE Preparation

- Planning for potential I-9 inspections and worksite enforcement actions
- Conducting internal I-9 assessments



I-9 Policy Updates

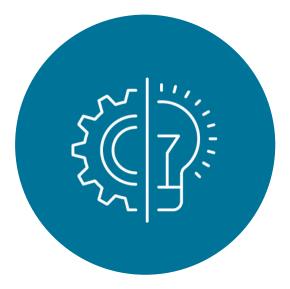
- Reviewing changes to TPS and humanitarian parole
- Implementing proactive strategies

But wait, there's more....

- Polling questions
- How Equifax can help



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Questions and Answers

- Responding to pre-submitted questions
- Live Q&A



ICE Encounters

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Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)

Form I-9 Inspection

Employer receives a Notice of Inspection (NOI) demanding production of I-9s, related documentation, and business information



See ICE website for more information on worksite enforcement: <u>https://www.ice.gov/features/worksite-enforcement</u>

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Worksite Enforcement Action

Unannounced visit from ICE special agents and other agency personnel entering the workplace to possibly detain unauthorized workers



Form I-9 Inspection

The Process

HSI (ICE) serves the employer with a Notice of Inspection (NOI) and provides at least **three business** days to produce the Forms I-9

The Scope

The NOI may will specify the scope of the investigation (e.g., I-9s for all current employees, employees hired within a given time period, or all employees within the retention obligation)

As part of the NOI, ICE will request you produce other documents



- Copy of payroll
- Articles of Incorporation
- Business licenses
- E-Verify information



• List of all active and terminated employees

Electronic I-9 software vendor information



Responding to a Notice of Inspection



Best Practices

- Employer has three business days to produce the I-9s don't give up your 3 days!
- Timeline for production of other documents may be negotiable
- Do not inadvertently expand the audit request
- Ensure chain of custody including copies
- Get counsel involved as soon as possible





Form I-9 Inspection (Electronic I-9 Considerations)



- Identify all current I-9 storage systems in use, including whether any contain scanned paper I-9s
- Prepare to provide ICE with requested information relating to audit trails, electronic signature data, indexing, data security, and system controls
- Define your electronic I-9 and document receipt and delivery processes
- Confirm readiness to conduct a live demonstration of the creation and maintenance of electronic I-9s for ICE (if requested)

See Chapter 10.1 in the M-274 Handbook for more information on electronic I-9 requirements: <u>https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/form-i-9-resources/handbook-for-employers-m-274</u>



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Notification Considerations

- Investigate whether state law requires notification to employees of an I-9 inspection (e.g., California, Illinois, Oregon, etc.)
- Unions and Collective Bargaining Agreements may require negotiation during an internal I-9 audit or ICE I-9 inspection

See the following for more information:

- California I-9 Notice Template
- **Oregon I-9 Notice Requirement**
- <u>Illinois I-9 Inspection Notice Template</u> 3.







Worksite Enforcement Action Plan Ideally, to be prepared in coordination with your counsel

Designating a Response Team (including IT) **Initial Response** Protocol

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Managing Searches of the Premises

Communication of Employee Rights



How to Help Minimize Risk

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Internal I-9 Assessment

Locate stored I-9s and supporting documents **Define** the process for correcting errors and omissions **Prioritize** I-9 remediation by severity

See DOJ/ICE Joint Guidance on Internal Audits for more information: <u>https://www.justice.gov/crt/file/798276/dl</u>







Responding to Recent Policy Changes

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Recent Changes to Humanitarian Parole and TPS Potentially impacting employees working pursuant to these programs



Humanitarian Parole

As of Jan. 28, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has ended the "Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans" (CHNV) program¹ and has paused the Uniting for Ukraine program²

Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

- Venezuela: DHS has terminated Venezuela's 2023 TPS designation, effective April 2025; this termination does not affect individuals granted TPS under Venezuela's 2021 designation, which remains valid until Sept. 10, 2025³
- **Haiti**: DHS has reduced the designation period from 18 months to 12 months; as a result, the Haiti TPS designation will now expire on August 3, 2025, instead of February 3, 2026.

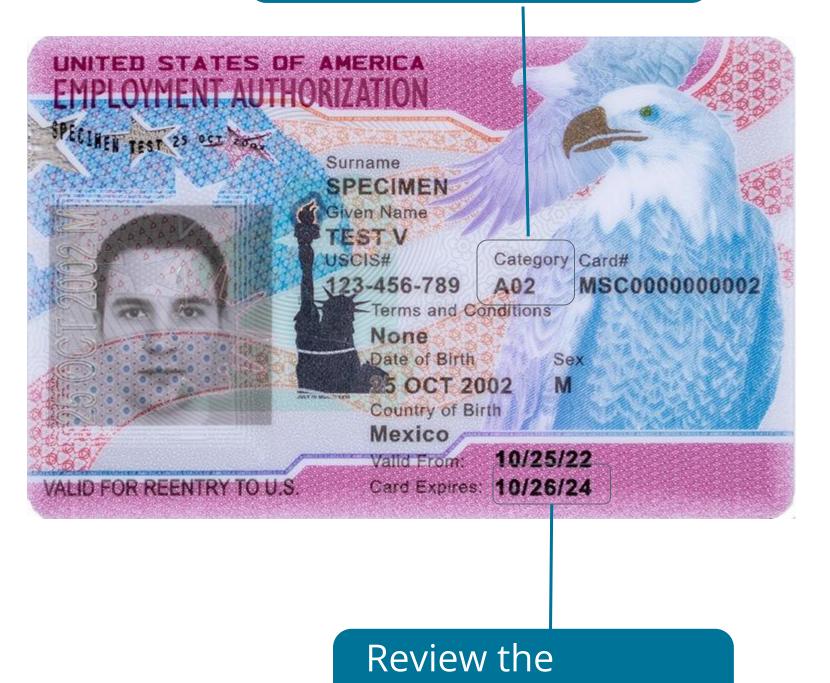
Sources: 1 Executive Order 14165; 2. USCIS alert; 3. Federal Register Notice





Work Authorization for Venezuelan TPS

Look for category code of A12 or C19



expiration date

A qualifying Venezuelan TPS employee may present:

- under the 2021 TPS designation.
- 2025.

Sources:

- Termination of 2023 Venezuelan TPS (I-9 Central)
- TPS for Venezuela (USCIS site)
- Automatic Extensions for TPS (M-274) 3.



• An **unexpired EAD** with Card Expires date of **April 2, 2025** under the 2023 TPS designation which has been terminated. An unexpired EAD with Card Expires date of Sept. 10, 2025

• An expired EAD with Card Expires date of March 10, 2024 or Sept. 9, 2022 issued under the 2021 TPS designation. These were automatically extended through March 10,



Completing I-9s for Haiti TPS

- USCIS indicated they will NOT provide updated EADs with the amended Aug. 3, 2025 expiration date to individuals who previously received EADs with the Feb. 3, 2026 expiration date
- **New hires:** if a TPS Haiti beneficiary presents an EAD with a Category Code of A12 or C19 and any of the following Card Expires dates, the employer should enter Aug. 3, 2025 on the Form I-9 as the expiration date:
 - Feb. 3, 2026 Dec. 31, 2022

 - June 30, 2024 Jan. 4, 2021
 - Feb. 3, 2023

- Jan. 2, 2020
- July 22, 2019
- Aug. 3, 2024 Oct. 4, 2021 Jan. 22, 2018
 - July 22, 2017
- **Existing hires:** Employers are instructed to correct previously completed I-9s for each employee that presented an EAD with a Feb. 3, 2026 expiration date to include the amended expiration date of Aug. 3, 2025

Source: USCIS I-9 Central News Post (Feb. 24, 2025)





Proactive I-9 Management

1. Know your population

Review EAD category codes on document copies (if retained) or if separately recorded

Example Codes

(full list is available on <u>USCIS website</u>)

EAD Category	Description
A12 or C19	TPS
C11	Humanitarian Parole
C33	DACA

2. Stay on top of reverifications

- Keep close watch of upcoming reverification deadlines
- Remember that employees should always be provided the opportunity to present any document that demonstrates continuing work authorization
- Work with immigration counsel when questions arise



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How Equifax can help

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So you got a Notice of Inspection (NOI)... Now what?



Audit assistance at the ready. We can help you:

By providing information to assist you in pulling your identified forms, audit trails, and E-Verify details (if applicable) to help you meet the typical 72 hour timeframe.

By giving you information on the I-9 platform.

By providing you with our Electronic Storage Policy document.

The information provided is intended as general guidance and is not intended to convey any tax, benefits, or legal advice. For information pertaining to your company and its specific facts and needs, please consult your own tax advisor or legal counsel.







Help to Gain Greater Confidence in Your Forms I-9

I-9 Inspect helps you review your Forms I-9 that have been digitally converted to help you detect and prioritize potential issues while simplifying the process of making your corrections and helping you reduce your organization's risk.

I-9 Inspect helps identify possible errors and helps you remediate your information with guided prompts and notifications

Changes are tracked with a detailed audit trail, resulting in form storage in your locations that helps you become more audit-ready



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Only 72 hours to prepare What to do when you get a Notice of Inspection (NOI)

Without a plan in place...

You might have to:

- Pull documents in multiple storage and office locations
- Deal with mislabeled files
- Search for missing forms
- Organize electronic and paper forms
- All within a short time frame!



REMEMBER: You are responsible for all I-9s in your possession, even if past retention requirements. Any errors on any I-9s could result in fines.



With I-9 Inspect[®]

Responding is quicker and easier:

- Search, view and print tools
- Structured storage to help facilitate audits and administration at both corporate and location levels
- Detailed audit trails of new I-9s and changes to I-9s created in the system



I-9 Anywhere Employer Features

I-9 Anywhere helps you:

Simplify workflows

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Engage local and/or virtual completers

More safely capture documents \bigcirc

Standardize the Form I-9 completion process







I-9 MANAGEMENT: I-9 ANYWHERE®

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How It Works For Your Employees Virtual I-9 completion with I-9 Anywhere is as easy as 1,2,3...

from any device ENTERPRISE U.S.A. (?) English → A Form Instruction _ Form I-9 Form I-9 Overview Form I-9 is a required document used to verify the identity and employment authorization of individuals hired to work in the United States. This is a legal document subject to perjury. We're going to ask you a few questions. Let's get started. X at Eligibility Verifica

Complete Section 1

2 Easily upload verification documents

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*Screenshots are for illustrative purposes only.



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Have a question? Enter it in the chat now!

Next Steps



SURVEY

Complete the survey through the webinar console.



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2 CONTACT

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