

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Office of the Director (MS 2000)
Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

June 29, 2023

American Immigration Lawyers Association
1331 G St. NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

Dear American Immigration Lawyers Association:

Thank you for your June 2, 2023 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I am responding on behalf of the Department.

As you are aware, during the registration period for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 H-1B cap, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) saw a significant increase in the number of registrations submitted compared to prior years. Generally, we saw an increase in the number of registrations submitted, the number of registrations submitted on behalf of beneficiaries with multiple registrations, and the number of registrations submitted on behalf of unique beneficiaries with only one registration.

DHS recognizes the importance of sustaining the integrity of the H-1B program. Based on evidence from the FY 2023 and FY 2024 H-1B cap seasons, USCIS has already undertaken extensive fraud investigations, has accordingly denied petitions and revoked petition approvals, and is in the process of initiating law enforcement referrals for criminal prosecution. DHS agrees that it is critical to ensure full utilization of available H-1B numbers in FY 2024. We are carefully monitoring and adjudicating the petitions that continue to be submitted during the 90-day period that began on April 1, and we plan to make relevant data available to the public soon after this period closes on June 30.

Further, DHS intends to propose changes to its regulations to, among other things, bolster the H-1B registration process to reduce the possibility of misuse and fraud in the H-1B registration system. DHS also appreciates your comments regarding options for reforming the H-1B registration system through rulemaking. When we do issue a relevant rule for public comment, we look forward to your further insights and reactions as part of that process.

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Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. Should you require any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ur M. Jaddou", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ur M. Jaddou
Director