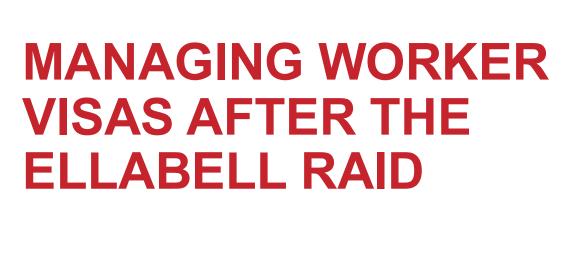


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Contacts:

Beth Gotthelf gotthelf@butzel.com Direct: (248) 258-1303

Clara DeMatteis Mager mager@butzel.com
Direct: (313) 225-7077

Presenters:

Amany Kasham kasham@butzel.com
Direct: (313) 983-6916

Reginald Pacis
pacis@butzel.com
Direct: (313) 983-6929





WHAT YOU <u>CAN</u> DO AS A BUSINESS VISITOR (B-1/ESTA)



B-1/ESTA: Permissible Business Visitor Activities

- The B-1 visa/ESTA for commercial or industrial workers is the only visa/status option to permit foreign nationals to travel to the U.S. and perform activities as set forth in the purchase order(s) for the Project. Permissible activities include:
 - **Installation and Commissioning:** Setting up or commissioning commercial or industrial equipment or machinery.
 - Warranty Service and Repair: Performing maintenance or repair work on the equipment during the warranty period.
 - **Training:** Training U.S. workers to perform the installation, commissioning, service, or repair of the equipment.
 - Supervision: Installation, commissioning, and training.

The B-1 visa/ESTA requires that the foreign national has a residence in a foreign country that the foreign national has no intention of abandoning, and the foreign national must show an intention to stay in the United States temporarily. Entries with a B-1 visa/ESTA can be denied if the consular officer presumes that the foreign national is an intending immigrant.



USICE I-9 INSPECTION / AUDIT



Various types of government inspections:

- 1. USICE I-9 Inspection
- 2. USCIS or US Department of Labor H-1B Public Access File Inspection
- 3. USCIS Worksite Inspection
- 4. USICE Worksite Raid

□Be prepared.
□Designate a point of contact within the company.
□Educate your employees.
□Know your rights.
□Have a plan.



USICE I-9 Inspection

- Inspection begins with a Notice of Inspection (NOI) from USICE that is hand delivered to the company.
- The purpose of the inspection is to verify that the Forms are properly completed and that the employees are authorized to work.
- NOI informs the company that ICE will be conducting an audit of the employer's Form's I-9, and other documents, and provides the company with a minimum of three (3) business days' notice before starting the inspection.
- > NOI provides a date that the ICE Officer will come to your office to start their review.
- ➤ NOI allows the employers to waive their allowed Three (3) day notice and provide the documents to the Officer sooner NEVER waive your three (3) day notice.
- Employer is required to provide Forms I-9 and audit trails, which show the actions performed on the I-9 forms.
- > Monetary fines may be imposed if forms are not completed properly.
- > Criminal penalties may be imposed if there is a pattern and practice of employment of persons not authorized to work in the US.



USICE I-9 Inspection – CONTINUED....

If company receives a USICE NOI:

- > The recipient must immediately contact the location's Designated Point of Contact.
- The Designated Point of Contact should contact Human Resources, who will contact internal and external counsel.
- Counsel will contact the ICE Officer to discuss the timing and location involved in providing the required documents.
- ➤ The goal is to keep ICE out of your office.





H-1B PUBLIC ACCESS FILE INSPECTION



H-1B Public Access File Inspection

- > Conducted by the US Department of Labor or USCIS.
- The purpose of the inspection is to ensure compliance with Labor Condition Application (LCA) obligations under H-1B program.
- Inspection begins with a Notice of Audit that is either mailed or hand delivered to the company.
- > During an inspection the Officer will confirm Employers have:
 - ➤ Not made false or misleading statements in their LCAs;
 - That they have maintained Public Access Files (PAF);
 - > That they have paid the foreign worker the required wage.



H-1B Public Access File Inspection – CONTINUED....

- > Officers will review payroll records, timekeeping records, job descriptions, worksite locations.
- ➤ Officers may conduct interviews with H-1B workers and others.
- Failure to comply with LCA requirements can lead to:
 - Monetary penalties;
 - Payment of back wages to workers;
 - Debarment from future visa sponsorship.

If company receives a Notice of Audit for H-1B PAF inspection:

- > The recipient must immediately contact the location's Designated Point of Contact.
- > The Designated Point of Contact should contact Human Resources to discuss a time to provide the requested document.





USCIS WORKSITE INSPECTION



USCIS Worksite Inspection

- > Conducted by the Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) unit part of USCIS.
- The purpose is to prevent immigration benefit fraud and ensure national security and public safety by verifying the accuracy of information provided as part of the immigration process.
- > The FDNS officer has authority to recommend that a petition be revoked.
- > A worksite visit can occur at any point during the validity of employee's status.
- > Worksite visits can be announced or unannounced.
 - o Communication of inspection can be in person at worksite, or at employee's home, if an employee is working from home.
 - o FDNS has wide discretion in initiating a site visit including contacting HR who signed immigration documents, company attorney or employee.



USCIS Worksite Inspection – CONTINUED....

- During a worksite visit, the Officer will:
 - Talk to the company representative and employee;
 - Make sure that there is an employer/employee relationship;
 - Ensure the job description described in the petition is what the employee is doing;
 - Look at the employee's worksite;
 - Make sure the employee is working at the stated locations;
 - Make sure employee is being paid the proper salary;
 - Make sure the employer is a legitimate, active business;
 - Tour the company facility.

If FDNS Officer comes to company:

- > The recipient must immediately contact the location's Designated Point of Contact.
- > The Designated Point of Contact should contact Human Resources, who will contact internal and external counsel. Counsel will interact with the Officer.
- > If FDNS comes to the employee's home, the employee should contact their Human Resources.
- > HR Business Partner should contact the Designated Point of Contact.





ICE WORKSITE RAID



USICE Worksite Raid

- The purpose of USICE worksite raid is to locate and/or detain undocumented workers by entering a business premises to investigate and potentially arrest undocumented employees found on site.
- ➤ USICE raids can be triggered by I-9 audits that showed many undocumented foreign nationals or by tips from the public or other agencies.
- > USICE agents may question, detain or arrest people.



Preparing for an USICE Worksite Raid

- Designate a main company contact to handle USICE interactions and direct agents.
- Conduct regular training sessions so employees understand their rights and obligations.
- >Create a workplace plan detailing steps to follow in case of an USICE raid.



USICE – Worksite Raid – Day of Raid

- ➤ Host/receptionist should immediately contact the company's Designated Point of Contact.
- The Designed Point of Contact should immediately contact Human Resources, who will contact external counsel upon learning about an impending raid.
- ➤ Host/receptionist can tell USICE agent that we have contacted our Designated Point of Contact and our internal and external counsel and to please wait until both have responded/show up before proceeding.
- > Only the Designated Point of Contact or counsel should talk to USICE agent.
- Establish procedures for reviewing USICE warrants before allowing access to any non-public areas of the business.



USICE – Worksite Raid - Understanding USICE Authority

- Public vs. Private Areas:
- USICE agents may enter public areas (e.g., lobbies) without permission.
- Private areas require a judicial warrant signed by a U.S. District or State Court judge. Employers must comply with a valid judicial warrants.
 - The warrant must specify the search location, items (payroll records, forms I-9, SSA correspondence, etc.) or individuals sought, and must be issued within the past 14 calendar days.
 - Employers have the right to review the warrant for accuracy (e.g., correct address and validity).
 - If the warrant does not meet legal requirements, officers cannot conduct a search without permission.



USICE – Worksite Raid - Understanding USICE Authority – CONTINUED....

- Employer can accept the warrant but not consent to the search. Search will proceed, but you can later challenge it if there are grounds to do so.
- USICE may demand that equipment be shut down and that no one leaves the premises without permission.
- USICE may move employees into a contained area for questioning.
- Some agents may question employees while other will execute the search of items listed in the warrant.

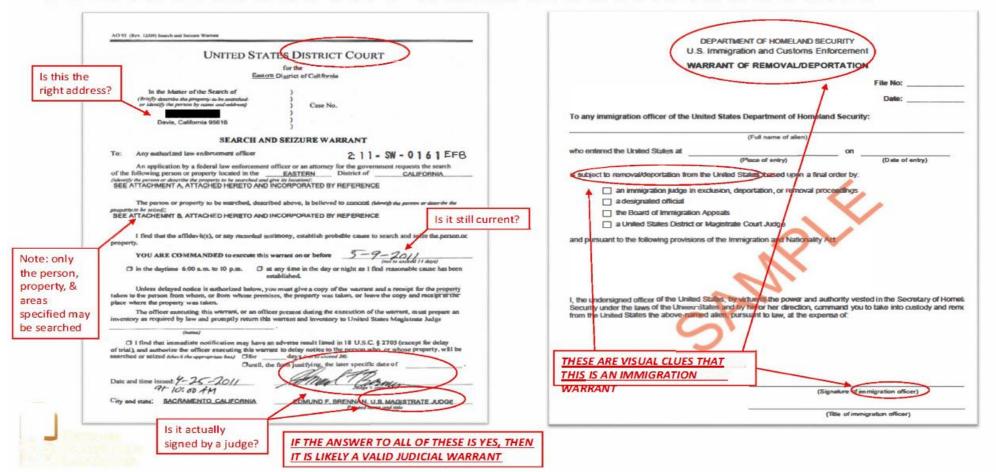


USICE – Administrative Warrants

- Administrative Warrants, i.e. DHS forms I-200 or I-205, signed by USICE, not a Judge, do not authorize entry into private areas, and officers cannot enter these areas with an administrative warrant unless granted permission.
- ➤ If USICE presents an **Administrative Warrant**, employers:
 - Are not required to inform USICE if the employee is present.
 - Are not required to lead officers to the employee.
 - Should remind your employees that they have the right to remain silent and request legal representation.



JUDICIAL WARRANTS v. IMMIGRATION WARRANTS





Steps to Protect Private Areas

- ☐ Mark private areas with "Private" signs to clearly designate restricted access.
- ☐ Keep doors closed or locked to prevent unauthorized entry.
- If USICE attempts to enter a private area without a judicial warrant or a valid warrant, do not interfere but inform them that they **do not** have permission to enter the private area.



USICE – Worksite Raid – <u>During the Raid</u> - <u>Employers</u>

If USICE presents a valid warrant:

☐ Note the timeframe and scope of the search.
☐ Monitor/follow agents to ensure they do not exceed the warrant's limits.
☐ Take notes, take video recording of the agents.
☐ Write down the name of the supervising agent and the name of the US attorney assigned to the case.
☐ Note any documents the agents take and ask to copy documents before they are taken.
lacktriangle If agents go beyond the warrant's scope, verbally object and document any violations.
☐ Protect documents covered by attorney-client privilege and refuse to release them until legal counsel is consulted.
☐ If agents take privileged documents, document what was taken and take photos if possible.



USICE – Worksite Raid – <u>During the Raid</u> – <u>Employers</u> – <u>CONTINUED....</u>

☐ Request reasonable accommodations with regard to documents that are vital to your operations, i.e. request permission to copy document.
☐ Object to a search that is outside the scope of the warrant.
☐ Do not interfere with agents activities.
☐ Ask for a list of the items seized during the search.
lacktriangle Inform employees of their right to remain silent and to request an attorney if questioned by USICE.
☐ Do not direct your employees not to cooperate with USICE/answer their questions. It is the employee's choice
☐ Do not hide employees. If an employee is detained, ask USICE where they are being taken so their attorney and family can locate them



USICE – Worksite Raid – <u>During the Raid</u> – <u>Employees</u>

□ Employees should not run away, as this could give USICE a legal basis for arrest.
☐ Employees are not required to hand over IDs or immigration documents.
☐ Never provide false documents or provide false information.
☐ Employees are not required to answer questions about their immigration status, where they were born or how they entered the US.
☐ Do not say you were born in the US if you were not, and do not claim to be a US citizen if you are not one.
☐ Employees have the right to remain silent and request an attorney.
☐ Employees do not have to sign any paperwork until consulting with an attorney.
☐ Any information shared with USICE can be used against the employee later.



USICE - Worksite Raid - After the Raid - Employees

- > Document the raid Record details of USICE activity, including:
 - Number of officers present;
 - Areas searched;
 - Whether officers were in uniform or armed;
 - Whether employees were prevented from leaving;
 - Any instances of mistreatment;
 - Preserve any surveillance footage of the raid;
 - Notify the employees' union if applicable.
- Investigation does not end after the agents depart.
- > Agents will review documents taken and the investigation can continue for many months

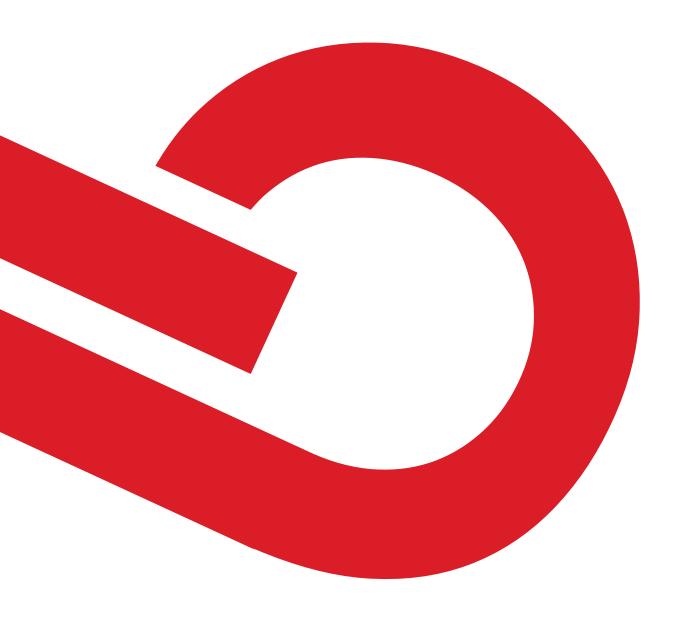


IN CLOSING: USICE WORKSITE RAID DO's and DON'Ts During Worksite Raid

- 1. Do stay calm and professional.
- 2. Do direct the Officers/Agents to your selected internal point of contact.
- 3. Do examine the search warrant.
- 4. Do verify the Officers/Agents identity and contact information. Ask for identification.
- 5. Do write down the names of the Officers/Agents and take notes during the visit.
- 6. Do accompany the Officers/Agents and watch if they are complying with what is written in the warrant.
- 7. Do object to a search that is outside the scope of the warrant.
- 8. Do inform employees of their right to remain silent and to request an attorney if questioned by USICE.
- 9. Do ask for a list of any items seized during the search and make a list of those items.

- 1. Do <u>not</u> hide employees.
- 2. Do <u>not</u> direct your employees to not cooperate with USICE or to not answer their questions. It is the employee's choice.
- 3. Do not conceal, lie or mislead the Officers/Agents. Avoid providing any misleading information.
- 4. Do <u>not</u> alter, destroy, create false or tamper with documents requested by the Officers/Agents.
- 5. Do <u>not</u> intervene with the raid, but if the Officers/Agent goes beyond the warrant authority, you should verbally object and document.





THANK YOU



TRUST. ALWAYS.

Amany Kasham <u>kasham@butzel.com</u> Direct: (313) 983-6916

Reginald Pacis pacis@butzel.com
Direct: (313) 983-6929

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