

IMMIGRATION UPDATE®

March 8, 2013



NEW FORM I-9 EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION FORM REQUIRED BEGINNING MAY 7, 2013

Today, March 8, 2013, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published notice in the Federal Register to announce the implementation of a new revision to the Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification form. The new form, with a revision date of 03/08/13, will be required beginning May 7, 2013.

The new Form I-9 was <u>originally proposed</u> by DHS in March 2012. Following the notice and comment period, DHS published the DHS response to stakeholder comments. A review of the comments, the DHS response, and the new Form I-9 being implemented today indicates that the DHS accepted and implemented some of the commenters' suggested grammatical and formatting revisions while declining to make substantive changes. As a result, the new Form I-9 will be implemented largely as originally proposed, with a few changes made to improve clarity. For a discussion of changes, please review FosterQuan's <u>March 2012 Immigration Update@</u> announcing the proposed changes last year.

U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (CIS) will make the new Form I-9 available on the <u>CIS website</u>, and will accept current versions of the Form I-9 until May 7, 2013. After May 7th, employer must use only the new Form I-9. A Spanish-language version of the new Form I-9 (Rev. 03/08/13)N will also be available on the CIS website but it can be completed only in Puerto Rico.

As always, FosterQuan will continue to monitor and provide updates regarding an employer's Form I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification obligations and will make future updates available via Immigration Updates and our firm's <u>website</u>. For more information on Form I-9 compliance, E-Verify, and Form I-9 audits to identify and mitigate existing liability, please contact your FosterQuan immigration attorney.