

Meritas Capability Webinar

How the Trump Administration is Changing U.S. Immigration: The First 40 Days

Presented by
Joel Pfeffer



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President Trump's Executive Orders

- Travel to the U.S.
- Initiatives that Affect U.S. Businesses and Business Travelers
- Refugees and Illegals in the U.S.
- Predictions of What Lies Ahead



Travel to the U.S.

- Executive Order prohibits admission, for a period of 90 days, of any foreign national from countries known as the "countries of concern" – Libya, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Yemen, and Somalia.
- Publication of Executive Order without clear guidelines causes significant hardship to travelers.
- Court injunctions and restraining orders.



Travel to the U.S.

- Revised Executive Orders will seek to overcome court objections.
- Obama Administration restrictions on travel by Visa Waiver Nationals who have visited the "countries of concern" in the last five years remains in effect.
 - Visa is required.



Initiatives that Affect U.S. Businesses and Business Travelers

- Increase of an additional 10,000 immigration offices will heighten scrutiny of U.S. businesses, particularly those in target industries.
 - Congressional Appropriation will be needed.



Initiatives that Affect U.S. Businesses and Business Travelers

- Development and implementation of a biometric entry/exit tracking system for all foreign travelers to the United States.
 - Exit tracking has been a challenge for prior administrations.



Refugees and Illegals in the U.S.

- Suspends refugee admissions for 120 days.
- Discontinues the Syrian Refugee Program.
- Limits refugee admission for fiscal year 2017 to no more than 50,000 refugees. The number of refugee admissions is historically determined by the President, and the last administration had been admitting approximately 110,000 refugees per year.



Refugees and Illegals in the U.S.

- Who can be helped
 - Non-Quota family member
 - Legal entry to the U.S.
 - Extreme hardship waiver



Predictions

- Businesses should be ready for Form I-9 compliance audits, including unannounced inspections in target industries such as hospitality, farming, and food production.
- Congress can require companies to clear all new employees through E-Verify, which is now optional. E-Verify is an internet-based system that determines the eligibility of employees to work in the United States.



Predictions

- Employers can anticipate a thorough review of the H-1B program, including requirements for dependent employers, the number of available Visas, prevailing wage determinations, adjudications, and site visits.
- Colleges and students should expect increased scrutiny at Consular interviews, SEVIS tracking and enforcement, and proposals seeking to limit employment and training opportunities.





Joel Pfeffer
412.456.2877
jp@muslaw.com

Meyer, Unkovic & Scott

Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

www.muslaw.com



**MEYER
UNKOVIC
SCOTT**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW