



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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Press Release

USCIS Announces Establishment of Records Digitization Facility

WASHINGTON – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today the establishment of a new Records Digitization Facility (RDF) in Williamsburg, Kentucky to digitize more than one million USCIS Alien-Files (A-Files) during the first phase of the inaugural project. While this is a relatively small percentage of the approximately 70 million immigration records, USCIS plans to use the digitized files to begin the transformation of its business processes. Congress has provided dedicated funding for the digitization of approximately one million files per year.

“The Records Digitization Facility represents a major step toward USCIS’ ongoing electronic record-keeping re-engineering effort and is a key component of continued USCIS business systems transformation,” remarked USCIS Director Emilio Gonzalez. “The Digitization of USCIS Alien-Files will increase efficiency, provide our customers with timely service they deserve, and simultaneously enhance our national security capabilities and protections against fraud and illegal activity,” he added.

The digitized A-files can be made available to multiple users at the same time, and they can be made available immediately without shipping or handling. The ready availability of files will improve customer service and support the integrity of immigration applications. Moreover, when files are needed for law enforcement or national security reasons, the ability to make them available to multiple users simultaneously is very valuable.

USCIS awarded the multi-year contract to support the digitization of A-File data to Datatrac Information Services, Inc. Datatrac will operate the facility for USCIS in Williamsburg, KY and will provide document scanning, physical and electronic records management, metadata capture and data transmission into the USCIS document management environment.

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