

Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman

October 20, 2011

National Archives and Records Administration
Washington, D.C.

Roundtable 4
Improving Docket Efficiency
through Better Communication
and Coordination:
Roles of USCIS, ICE and EOIR



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Establishment of the Interagency Working Group

- July 2009 DHS/DOJ Off-Site in Herndon, VA
- Key Participants
- Identified Issues
- Next Steps



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Interagency Working Group Progress since 2009

- Monthly Meetings
- Interagency Data Sharing w/a Focus on Detained Cases
- Development and Implementation of Local Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS)



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ICE Perspective

- Memorandum: *ICE Guidance Regarding the Handling of Removal Proceedings of Aliens with Pending or Approved Application or Petitions* (Aug. 20, 2010)
- Key Policy Developments:
 - Commitment with USCIS to Expedite Adjudication
 - Dismissal Without Prejudice of Certain Cases in Removal Proceedings
- SOP Development, Monitoring and Support



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USCIS Perspective

- Memorandum: *Guidance for Coordinating the Adjudication of Applications and Petitions Involving Individuals in Removal Proceedings; Revisions to the Adjudicator's Field Manual (Feb. 4, 2011)*
- Ensuring the Identification and Adjudication of Pending Applications/Petitions
- SOP Development, Monitoring and Support



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Tips for Practitioners

- Flagging your client's case
- Ensuring the provision of key information including:
the application/petition A/receipt number(s)
and proof of fee payment or waiver
- Conveying derogatory information including the
need for any inadmissibility waiver
- Emphasizing where appropriate compelling
humanitarian/discretionary factors
- Consider joining in motion to dismiss “without
prejudice” or administratively close the case
- Understand the exercise of discretion is always
case-by-case



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Questions & Discussion



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