	• Customs and Border Protection Arrival and Departure Information System • Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data - USPassportRESTService • Transportation Security Administration Technology Infrastructure Modernization and Vetting and Credentialing System
7. Does this Project, Program, or System connect, receive, or share PII with any external (non-DHS) government or non-government partners or systems?	☐ No. ☒ Yes. If yes, please list: The following are systems/organizations that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program collects/shares information to support user agencies' requests: • United States Military Entrance Processing Command Integrated Resource System • Department of Education Federal Student Aid Central Processing System • Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services • Social Security Administration Numident system • Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration's Immigration Review Information Exchange System • Department of State Consular Consolidated Database Passport The following are systems/organizations that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements provides information that determine benefit eligibility: • Various federal agencies in their role as a user agency

	• Various state, local, tribal, and territory agencies in their role as a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency
8. Is this sharing pursuant to new or existing information sharing agreement (MOU, MOA, LOI, RTA, etc.)? *If applicable, please provide agreement as an attachment.*	Existing Please describe applicable information sharing governance in place: • Letter of Agreement between United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and Social Security Administration • Information Sharing Agreement between the Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration regarding citizenship • Computer Matching Agreement with Department of Education • Memorandum of Agreements between United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and each individual user agency
9. Does the Project, Program, or System or have a mechanism to track external disclosures of an individual's PII?	☐ No. What steps will be taken to develop and maintain the accounting: *Click here to enter text.* ☒ Yes. In what format is the accounting maintained if appropriate (e.g., disclosures to the Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel, Immigration and Customs Enforcement). Verification Information System also has a transactional log that enables the recreation of accounting of disclosures.
10. Does this Project, Program, or System use or collect data involving or from any of the following technologies:	☐ Social Media ☐ Advanced analytics[42] ☐ Live PII data for testing

[42] The autonomous or semi-autonomous examination of Personally Identifiable Information using sophisticated techniques and tools to draw conclusions. Advanced Analytics could include human-developed or machine-developed algorithms and encompasses, but is not limited to, the following: data mining, pattern and trend analysis, complex event processing, machine learning or deep learning, artificial intelligence, predictive analytics, big data analytics.

	☒ No
11. Does this Project, Program, or System use data to conduct electronic searches, queries, or analyses in an electronic database to discover or locate a predictive pattern or an anomaly indicative of terrorist or criminal activity on the part of any individual(s) (i.e., data mining)?[43] This does not include subject-based searches.	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please elaborate: *Click here to enter text.*
11(a) Is information used for research, statistical, or other similar purposes? If so, how will the information be de-identified, aggregated, or otherwise privacy-protected?	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please elaborate: *Click here to enter text.*
12. Does the planned effort include any interaction or intervention with human subjects[44] via pilot studies, exercises, focus groups, surveys, equipment or technology, observation of public behavior, review of data sets, etc. for research purposes	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please reach out to the DHS Compliance Assurance Program Office (CAPO) for independent review and approval of this effort.[45]
13. Does the Project, Program, or System provide role-based or additional privacy training for personnel who have access, in addition to annual privacy training required of all DHS personnel?	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please list: *Click here to enter text.*

[43] Is this a program involving pattern-based queries, searches, or other analyses of one or more electronic databases, where—

(A) a department or agency of the Federal Government, or a non-Federal entity acting on behalf of the Federal Government, is conducting the queries, searches, or other analyses to discover or locate a predictive pattern or anomaly indicative of terrorist or criminal activity on the part of any individual or individuals.

(B) the queries, searches, or other analyses are not subject-based and do not use personal identifiers of a specific individual, or inputs associated with a specific individual or group of individuals, to retrieve information from the database or databases; and

(C) the purpose of the queries, searches, or other analyses is not solely—

(i) the detection of fraud, waste, or abuse in a government agency or program; or

(ii) the security of a government computer system.

[44] Human subject means a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research: (1) obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, and uses, studies, or analyzes the information or biospecimens; or (2) obtains, uses, studies, analyzes, or generates identifiable private information or identifiable biospecimens.

[45] For more information about CAPO and their points of contact, please see: https://www.dhs.gov/publication/capo or https://collaborate.st.dhs.gov/orgs/STCSSites/SitePages/Home.aspx?orgid=36. For more information about the protection of human subjects, please see DHS Directive 026-04: https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/mgmt/general-science-and-innovation/mgmt-dir_026-04-protection-of-human-subjects_revision-01.pdf.

14. Is there a FIPS 199 determination?[46]	☐ No. ☒ Yes. Please indicate the determinations for each of the following: Confidentiality: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Undefined Integrity: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Undefined Availability: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Undefined

PTA REVIEW

(TO BE COMPLETED BY COMPONENT PRIVACY OFFICE REVIEWER)

Component Privacy Office Reviewer:	Chiquita Jones/LeVar Sykes
Component Privacy Office Senior Reviewer:	Shannon DiMartino
PRIVCATS ID Number:	0019946
Date submitted to Component Privacy Office:	May 5, 2025
Concurrence from other Component Reviewers involved (if applicable):	Catherine Shorten, Customs and Border Protection, concurrence provided 6/5/2025

Component Privacy Office Recommendation:
Please include recommendation below, including what new privacy compliance documentation is needed, as well as any specific privacy risks/mitigations, as necessary.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services submits this updated Privacy Threshold Analysis to document the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division and Office of Technology (OIT) changes to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services administers the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program which is an inter-governmental initiative that provides a web-based service to help

[46] FIPS 199 is the Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems and is used to establish security categories of information systems. For more information, see https://www.nist.gov/itl/fips-general-information.

federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies and other governmental entities verify United States citizenship or immigration status/category information of applicants for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes.

This Privacy Threshold Analysis documents the following changes to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program:

1. Expanded search capabilities to allow approved Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to verify United States citizenship information using Social Security Numbers and other non-Department of Homeland Security enumerators.
2. A new Social Security Administration system connection to support verification of citizenship/immigration status.
3. A new bulk uploader/list processor function that allows user agencies to upload lists of benefit applicants.
4. Use of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification functionality.
5. The collection of information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database/ American Citizen Record Query system.
6. An integration with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Privacy Office recommends Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to comply with the eGovernment Act of 2002 as it "collects, maintains, or disseminates information that is in an identifiable form." The information collected, used, stored, and/or disseminated by the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program meets the definition of Personally Identifiable Information ("PII")/Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information ("SPII")[47] as it "permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred, including any other information that is linked or linkable to that individual, regardless of whether that individual is a United States citizen, legal permanent resident, or a visitor to the United States, or employee or contractor to the Department." Specifically, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program involves information from members of the public applying for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes which may include (1) United States citizens and legal permanent residents, (2) individuals who are now current United States citizens and legal permanent residents after previously naturalizing or adjusting their status, or (3) individuals who may ultimately naturalize to become United States citizens or adjust their status to receive legal permanent residency in the future. Depending on the eligibility category certain individuals may be eligible to apply for adjustment of status as soon as one (1) year after their initial immigration benefit is granted,[48] therefore the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Privacy Office recommends requiring Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure all current and future United States

[47] Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has numerous official definitions, but in general, it is defined as any information that can be used to identify an individual directly or indirectly, such as a name, email address, Social Security Number or IP address. Sensitive PII (SPII) is generally defined as any PII that if lost, stolen, or disclosed without authorization could result in significant harm to an individual.

[48] For more information on eligibility categories please refer to: https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories.

citizens and legal permanent residents have transparency into how the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services may collect, store, use, and share the information they previously provided to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The Privacy Office's Technology Oversight Branch recommends that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program continues to be designated as a privacy sensitive program that requires privacy compliance coverage. The Technology Oversight Branch recommends that with the new updates to the program documented in this Privacy Threshold Analysis the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program be identified as not in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, or the E-Government Act of 2002. A Privacy Impact Assessment update and a System of Records Notice update should be published prior to the program's changed collection and use of Personally Identifiable Information, including information on natural born United States citizens. Further, the sharing of Personally Identifiable Information with the Social Security Administration should occur after the System of Records Notice has gone through the required 30-day comment period. The following are the Technology Oversight Branch's recommendations for privacy compliance coverage and additional requirements:

Privacy Impact Assessment

- A new Privacy Impact Assessment Update for DHS/USCIS/PIA-006 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program must be completed before collection and use of additional information. Specifically, these Privacy Impact Assessment updates would include, but are not limited to:
    - The collection of Social Security Numbers and other information from the Social Security Administration regarding United States citizens, including natural born citizens.
    - The change in legal rationale for now collecting and maintaining Social Security Numbers of United States natural born citizens.
    - The collection and use of Passport Numbers from the Department of State via new system connections.
    - The addition of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification process, including how this process may verify the citizenship status of natural born United States citizens.
    - The implementation of the bulk case upload functionality for User Agencies.
    - Additional privacy risks and mitigation strategies regarding notice, consent, and data accuracy.

System of Records Notice

- An update to DHS/USCIS-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program must be completed before the collection and sharing of additional information. Specifically, these System of Records Notice updates would include, but are not limited to changes to the following sections:
    - Purpose: The System of Records Notice does not currently include the verification of voter registration and voter maintenance lists.

- Categories of Individuals: Currently, USCIS specifically informs the public it only collects information on naturalized or acquired United States citizens. This section must be updated to discuss that information on natural born United States citizens will also be collected.
- Categories of Records: The System of Records Notice currently informs the public that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program only collects Social Security Number of immigrants on the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Form G-845. This section must be updated to cover the expanded collection and use of Social Security Numbers.
- Sources of Records: The System of Records Notice currently doesn't include the Social Security Administration system of records. This section must be updated to reflect all new source systems including the Social Security Administration Numident system.

- DHS/CBP-011 Customs and Border Protection Primary and Secondary Processing (TECS (not an acronym)) National SAR Initiative December 19, 2008 (73 Federal Register 77778)
- STATE-26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 Federal Register 15653)
- STATE-39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 Federal Register 61822)
- SSA-60-0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 Federal Register 10025)

The following is a Plan of Action to ensure that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is brought into compliance with all federal statutes, regulations, and Department of Homeland Security policies.

USCIS Privacy's Action Plan for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is an inter-governmental initiative that provides a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies and other governmental entities verify United States citizenship or immigration status/category information of applicants for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes.

Action Plan

This plan outlines priority actions necessary to advance the goal and objective of ensuring the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is compliant with all applicable privacy laws, regulations, and polices. These actions will ensure that the use of technology by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program sustains and does not erode privacy protections relating to the collection, use, dissemination, maintenance, and disposal of personal information. These actions include actively working with the Verification Division, Office of Chief Counsel and the Customs and Border Protection Office of Privacy on this Privacy Threshold Analysis and the draft System of Records Notice along with continued collaboration with these stakeholders and others such as the Department of Homeland Security Privacy Office to ensure Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is in compliance.

Actions to Be Taken

To meet these objectives the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Privacy will complete the following activities:

- Receive United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Chief Privacy Officer adjudication of the initial Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Privacy Threshold Analysis:
  - Adjudication - Estimated Date of Completion: July 2025
- Draft an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program Privacy Impact Assessment meeting all requirements identified above and submit the draft to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Privacy.
  - Initial Draft - Estimated Date of Completion: July 2025
  - Office of Chief Counsel Review – Estimated Date of Completion: July 2025
  - Submission to Department of Homeland Security – Estimated Date of Completion: August 2025
  - Publication – Estimated August 2025
- Draft an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program System of Records Notice meeting all requirements identified above and submit the draft to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Privacy.
  - Initial Draft - Estimated Date of Completion: June 2025
  - Office of Chief Counsel Review – Estimated Date of Completion: June 2025
  - Submission to Department of Homeland Security – Estimated Date of Completion: July 2025
  - Submission to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress – Estimated July 2025
  - Publication – Estimated July 2025
  - End of 30-day commenting period (and sharing of new routine uses) Estimated August/September 2025
- Draft a Privacy Threshold Analysis documenting the new Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program information sharing agreement between the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration and receive the Chief Privacy Officer's adjudication of the Privacy Threshold Analysis.
  - Estimated Date of Completion: July 2025
- Determine the applicability of the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 to new or changed aspects of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program including the new bulk upload functionality for User Agencies.
  - Hold a discussion regarding the Computer Matching Agreement impacts with representatives from the Department of Homeland Security Privacy Office, United States

Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Chief Counsel and Office of Privacy, and Department of Homeland Security Office of General Council.

    - Date of Completion: June 2025

  - Decide on the need for Computer Matching Agreements with user agencies versus the current Memorandum of Agreements in place with each Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program user agency:

    - Estimated Date of Completion: July 2025

This Privacy Threshold Analysis and Action Plan focuses predominantly on Phases One through Four of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Optimization effort as Phase Five and Phase Six are longer term goals of the optimization effort and are still in the exploratory/planning stage. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will update this Privacy Threshold Analysis and Action Plan as needed to support the remaining phases during their development and ensure the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is compliant with all applicable laws, regulations, and Department of Homeland Security policies.

The updated Privacy Threshold Analyst should also provide, at a minimum, the following updates:

- New status types that Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program may provide to the user agencies and how any additional verification is completed.
- A discussion about the update to the user memorandum of agreements and the creation of the voter verification specific memorandum of agreements.
- Confirm all responses from the Customs and Border Protection via the use of their USPassportRESTService when matching United States Passport numbers.
- Discuss Customs and Border Protection authority/purpose for collecting United States Passport related photographs and collection of those photographs by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- A description of how the information received via the integration with the Department of Justice to enable an incarceration/felony related flag will be used internally and if any related information will be sent to the user agencies or the applicants.
- If the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will use the existing connection by the E-Verify Program to the USPassportRESTService or will it be a new connection.
- Additional use case information for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program use of Department of State information from the USPassportRESTService and the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database / American Citizen Record Query system.
- Clarification regarding user agency benefit applicants accessing the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program.
- Additional information regarding notification provided to United States citizens regarding user agencies use of their information.
- What information may be provided to the user agency about the VAWA status of an individual.

- Discussion of if there could be instances when a natural born United States citizen is unable to be verified based on the data available. Also, if all United States citizens would be able to be verified via the SSA information.
- Confirmation if there are additional responses (besides Lawful Status, No Lawful Status, or Deceased) provided to user agencies now that United States citizens can also be verified.
- A discussion of any updates regarding any new agreements between Department of State and Customs and Border Protection for the sharing and use of United States Passport number information.
- Confirmation of if there is still a connection with the Reengineered Naturalization Application Casework System (which was previously decommissioned) or how information from the previously decommissioned system is still accessed.

PTA ADJUDICATION

(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COMPONENT PRIVACY OFFICE APPROVER)

Component Privacy Office Approver:	**Angela Y. Washington**
PTA Approval Date:	July 17, 2025
PTA Expiration Date:	October 17, 2025

DESIGNATION

Privacy Sensitive System:	Yes
Category of System:	System If "other" is selected, please describe: *Click here to enter text.*
Determination:	☐ Project, Program, System in compliance with full coverage. ☐ Project, Program, System in compliance with interim coverage. ☐ Project, Program, System in compliance until changes implemented. ☒ Project, Program, System not in compliance.
PIA:	**PIA Update is required.** • DHS/USCIS/PIA-006 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program ○ This PIA must be updated to document all identified system/programmatic changes.

SORN:	**SORN update is required.** • DHS/USCIS-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, May 27, 2020 (85 FR 31798) ○ This SORN must be updated to document all identified changes. • DHS/CBP-011 Customs and Border Protection Primary and Secondary Processing (TECS (not an acronym)) National SAR Initiative December 19, 2008 (73 Federal Register 77778) • STATE-26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 Federal Register 15653) • STATE-39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 Federal Register 61822) • SSA-60-0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 Federal Register 10025)

Component Privacy Office Adjudication:
Please describe rationale for privacy compliance determination above, and any further action(s) that must be taken by Component.

The USCIS Office of Privacy is submitting this Privacy Threshold Analysis (PTA) to document the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is an intergovernmental initiative using a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal and local benefit-issuing and licensing agencies and other governmental entities determine the immigration status or United States citizenship of applicants for public benefits, licenses, grants, credentials, background investigations, and other lawful purposes, so only entitled applicants receive them. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program verifies immigration status/category and United States citizenship against Department of Homeland Security-accessed records. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is not a database but queries Department of Homeland Security-accessed federal records to provide registered user agencies with a verification response. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program does not determine an applicant's eligibility for a specific benefit or license, as this is the responsibility of the benefit/license granting agency.

This Privacy Threshold Analysis is being submitted to document multiple updates and planned updates to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program as part of the comprehensive optimization of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure a single, reliable source for verifying immigration status and United States citizenship nationwide. This Privacy Threshold Analysis documents the following key changes: (1) an expanded search capabilities to allow approved Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to verify United States citizenship information using Social Security Numbers and other non-Department of Homeland Security enumerators, (2) a new Social Security Administration system connection to support verification of citizenship/immigration status, (3) a new bulk uploader/list processor function that allows user agencies to upload lists of benefit applicants, (4) the use of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification functionality, (5) the collection of information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database/ American

Citizen Record Query system, and (6) an integration with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system.

After a thorough review of the PTA, the USCIS Office of Privacy continues to designate the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program as a privacy sensitive system/program requiring both Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) and System of Records Notice (SORN) coverage as it collects/uses Personally Identifiable Information (PII) as well as Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (SPII) from members of the public, including legal permanent residents and United States Citizens.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Privacy recommends Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to comply with the eGovernment Act of 2002 as it "collects, maintains, or disseminates information that is in an identifiable form." The information collected, used, stored, and/or disseminated by the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program meets the definition of Personally Identifiable Information ("PII")/Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information ("SPII")[49] as it "permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred, including any other information that is linked or linkable to that individual, regardless of whether that individual is a United States citizen, legal permanent resident, or a visitor to the United States, or employee or contractor to the Department." Specifically, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program involves information from members of the public applying for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes which may include (1) United States citizens and legal permanent residents, (2) individuals who are now current United States citizens and legal permanent residents after previously naturalizing or adjusting their status, or (3) individuals who may ultimately naturalize to become United States citizens or adjust their status to receive legal permanent residency in the future. Depending on the eligibility category certain individuals may be eligible to apply for adjustment of status as soon as one (1) year after their initial immigration benefit is granted,[50] therefore the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Privacy recommends requiring Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure all current and future United States citizens and legal permanent residents have transparency into how the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services may collect, store, use, and share the information they previously provided to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) coverage is provided by the following:

- DHS/USCIS/PIA-006 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program
    - **For the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be in compliance with the eGovernment Act of 2002, this Privacy Impact Assessment must be**

[49] Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has numerous official definitions, but in general, it is defined as any information that can be used to identify an individual directly or indirectly, such as a name, email address, Social Security Number or IP address. Sensitive PII (SPII) is generally defined as any PII that if lost, stolen, or disclosed without authorization could result in significant harm to an individual.

[50] For more information on eligibility categories please refer to: https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories.

updated to reflect the identified system and programmatic changes along with a privacy risk assessment of these changes including but not limited to new collections of data, new populations impacted including natural born US citizens, new system connections, new data sharing, and a new bulk upload/reporting functionality.

System of Records Notice (SORN) coverage is required as the information in the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program is retrieved by a personal identifier. System of Records Notice coverage is provided by the following:

- DHS/USCIS-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, May 27, 2020 (85 FR 31798)
    - **For the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974, this System of Records Notice must be updated to reflect the identified system and programmatic changes including that the System of Records will now include information on natural born United States citizens in addition to naturalized or acquired United States citizens. Updates to the System of Records Notice should include but are not limited to updates in the Purpose, Categories of Individuals, Categories of Records, and the Sources of Records sections.**
- DHS/CBP-011 Customs and Border Protection Primary and Secondary Processing (TECS (not an acronym)) National SAR Initiative December 19, 2008 (73 Federal Register 77778)
- STATE-26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 Federal Register 15653)
- STATE-39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 Federal Register 61822)
- SSA-60-0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 Federal Register 10025)

While there are currently published SORNs and PIAs associated with the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program, these documents to not sufficiently provide coverage for the recently implemented and planned system and programmatic changes documented in this Privacy Threshold Analysis. Therefore, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program is not in compliance. An updated Privacy Impact Assessment and an updated System of Records Notice must be published for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be brought into compliance.

An action plan has been developed to enable the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be brought into compliance with all federal laws, statutes, regulations, and Department of Homeland Security policies. A high-level summary of the action plan is as follows:

- Complete the initial Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Privacy Threshold Analysis.

- Publish an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program Privacy Impact Assessment to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Privacy website.
- Publish an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program System of Records Notice in the Federal Register and address any comments received during the 30-day public comment period.
- Complete a Privacy Threshold Analysis documenting the new Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program information sharing agreement between the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration.
- Determine the applicability of the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 and complete any identified requirements.
- Update the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Privacy Threshold Analysis and Action Plan as needed to support the ongoing optimization effort.

The Office of Privacy approves this Privacy Threshold Analysis for 3 months to formally document the current privacy posture of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program.

Privacy Office
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528
pia@hq.dhs.gov
www.dhs.gov/privacy

PRIVACY THRESHOLD ANALYSIS (PTA)

This form serves as the official determination to identify the privacy compliance requirements for all Departmental uses of personally identifiable information (PII).

A Privacy Threshold Analysis (PTA) serves as the document used to identify information technology (IT) systems, information collections/forms, technologies, rulemakings, programs, information sharing arrangements, or pilot projects that involve PII and other activities that otherwise impact the privacy of individuals, and to assess whether there is a need for additional privacy compliance documentation or requirements. A PTA includes a general description of the IT system, information collection, form, technology, rulemaking, program, pilot project, information sharing arrangement, or other Department activity and describes what PII is collected (and from whom) and how that information is used. In accordance with the Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs),[1] Component Privacy Officers should consider best practices for privacy safeguards and principles when reviewing and adjudicating PTAs.

Please complete the attached PTA and submit it to your Component Privacy Office. If you do not have a Component Privacy Office, please send the PTA to the DHS Privacy Office:

Senior Director, Privacy Compliance
The Privacy Office
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528
[redacted]@hq.dhs.gov (b)(6)

The Component or DHS Privacy Office will review this form and assess whether any privacy compliance documentation is required. If privacy compliance documentation is required – such as Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA), System of Records Notice (SORN), Privacy Act Statement/Privacy Notice, or Computer Matching Agreement (CMA) – the Component Privacy Office will send you a copy of the relevant compliance template to complete and return.

[1] *See* The Fair Information Practice Principles | Homeland Security.

PRIVACY THRESHOLD ANALYSIS (PTA)

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Project, Program, or System Name:	Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program		
Component or Office:	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)	**Office or Program:**	Verification Division
FISMA Name (if applicable):	Verification Information System	**FISMA Number (if applicable):**	**CIS-06285-MAJ-06285**
Type of Project or Program:	**System**	**Project or program status:**	**Operational**
Date first developed:	July 7, 2007	**Pilot launch date:**	N/A
Date of last PTA update	February 7, 2023	**Pilot end date:**	N/A
ATO Status (if applicable):[2]	**Complete**	**Expected ATO/ATP/OA date (if applicable):**	**Ongoing Authorization**

PROJECT, PROGRAM, OR SYSTEM MANAGER

Name:	Irina Sidelnikov		
Office:	Office of Information Technology	**Title:**	OIT Project Manager
Phone:	[redacted]	**Email:**	[redacted]@uscis.dhs.gov

INFORMATION SYSTEM SECURITY OFFICER (ISSO) (IF APPLICABLE)

(b)(6)

Name:	Minh Vo		
Phone:	N/A	**Email:**	[redacted]@uscis.dhs.gov

[2] The DHS OCIO has implemented a streamlined approach to authorizing an Authority to Operate (ATO), allowing for rapid deployment of new IT systems and initiate using the latest technologies as quickly as possible. This approach is used for selected information systems that meet the required eligibility criteria in order to be operational and connect to the network. For more information, see https://dhsconnect.dhs.gov/org/comp/mgmt/ocio/ciso/Documents/DHS%20ATP%20Guide%20v2.0.pdf#search=atp.

SPECIFIC PTA QUESTIONS

1. Reason for submitting the PTA: Updated PTA

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services submits this updated Privacy Threshold Analysis to document the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division and Office of Technology changes to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services administers the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, an inter-governmental initiative that provides a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies and other governmental entities verify United States citizenship or immigration status/category information of applicants for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes.

This Privacy Threshold Analysis documents that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program has

1. Expanded its search capabilities to allow approved Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to verify United States citizenship information using Social Security Numbers and other non-Department of Homeland Security enumerators.
2. A new Social Security Administration system connection to support verification of citizenship/immigration status.
3. A new bulk uploader/list processor function that allows user agencies to upload lists of benefit applicants.
4. Use of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification functionality.
5. The collection of information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database/ American Citizen Record Query system. Additionally, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will integrate with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system.

2025 Updates

On April 22, 2025, Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, alongside the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Department of Government Efficiency, announced a comprehensive optimization of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure a single, reliable source for verifying immigration status and United States citizenship nationwide. Congressional, federal, and state stakeholders have periodically expressed interest in using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements to verify naturalized and derived citizenship information during voter registration and/or for voter list maintenance. Verification for voter list maintenance purposes often occurs when a state Department of Motor Vehicles compares its records to state voter agency records to determine if individuals on the voter rolls represented that they were other than U.S. citizens when the Department of Motor Vehicles issued their driver's license. The state voter agency then follows up with those individuals as to their citizenship status through state law voter registration challenge procedures. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division is leading this effort and has identified multiple phases to optimize the program. A high-level summary is provided below, while a more detailed description of each phase follows.

- Phase 1: Free Service for State, Local, Tribal, Territory agencies and Bulk Uploader. (Estimated completion: Implemented)
- Phase 2: Integration with the Social Security Administration to allow for full Social Security Number to be used as a non-Department of Homeland Security enumerator. (Estimated completion: Implemented)
- Phase 3: Modify the Security Administration integration to allow for truncated Social Security Numbers (last 4-digits) to be used as a non-Department of Homeland Security enumerator. (Estimated completion: July/August 2025)
- Phase 4: Integration with Customs and Border Protection to enable United States passport data, received from the Department of State, to be used within the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. (Estimated completion: To be determined)
- Phase 5: Integration with the Department of Justice to enable an incarceration/felony related flag (the flag will be used internally and will not be sent to the agencies or the applicants). (Estimated completion: To be determined)
- Phase 6: Integration with State Driver's Licensing Agencies to enable a Driver License number to be used as a non-Department of Homeland Security enumerator. (Estimated completion: To be determined

The summary below focuses on phases one (1) through four (4). More detailed information can be found later in this document. Phases five (5) and six (6) are longer term goals of the optimization effort and are still in the exploratory/planning stage. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will update this Privacy Threshold Analysis to support the remaining phases during their development.

Phases One (1) through Three (3)

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program eliminated fees for non-federal users creating Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program cases. User agencies can now create multiple individual cases from a list of data provided by the user. Further, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program plans to integrate additional immigration information into search functionality and case results, such as timelines and addresses. Improved automatic status updates and a new user-friendly interface will empower federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal agencies to help prevent individuals who are not qualified for government benefits and licenses from receiving those benefits and licenses. The Department of Homeland Security intends to provide ongoing updates to stakeholders as the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Optimization Plan progresses. Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program users must attest to completing the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program tutorial prior to gaining access to Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. Users' access is based on their permissions.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has developed and implemented a new bulk uploader/list processor feature to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. This feature will allow program users to upload a list (such as an excel spreadsheet) of benefit applicants to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program for processing. Once the list is uploaded, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will accept or not accept the data then, through an automated process, create front-end single-record cases for each entry. Initially the creation of cases using this feature is limited to cases created using an A-number, Citizenship or Naturalization Certificate

number, or Social Security number. Agencies will not be prompted to institute additional verification when using this process but are instructed to resubmit additional information when the process is unable to return a response. Expansion of this feature in the future may include the ability to create cases with additional enumerators and the ability to request configured information not automatically selected for the benefit type.

User agencies will be able to access each case created using the list processor feature in the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements system as normal, by viewing the individual case status and response. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program also has a feature available to all the user agencies to generate a report that will list all the cases created, the status of the case and the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response. Access to generate the report, including what cases are included, will vary depending upon the individual user's permission. United States Citizenship and Immigration Services is providing this verification service for all benefit requests. There are approximately 1,200 user agencies with access to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to verify immigration status for benefits or entitlements, and in fiscal year 2024, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program completed over 24.5 million first step verifications.

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program was originally designed only to use a Department of Homeland Security-issued enumerator (such as an alien number or A-Number) to query immigration records, specifically, to provide immigration status to Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is now expanding to allow Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to provide a Social Security Number or a United States Passport number to query the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program.

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will also add the ability for user agencies to verify truncated Social Security Numbers (last 4 digits) against Social Security Administration records. This will allow the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to verify all United States citizens including those by birth, which was previously not available. A benefit applicant's Social Security number can only be used for automated initial verification and cannot be used for additional verification, which will continue to require a Department of Homeland Security immigration enumerator since the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program does not normally collect Social Security Numbers or passport numbers. The addition of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification, and the Social Security Administration connection is now live. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program can now verify United States-born citizens for voter verification agencies.

The Department of Homeland Security/United States Citizenship and Immigration Services seeks access to Social Security Administration information accessed through the Department of Homeland Security/United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Information System[3]. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration agreed to the following limitations on the access to, and disclosure and use of information that identifies a verification request as being generated by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or associated with a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services program:

[3] Verification Information System provides services to customers through Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements and E-Verify (the latter of which will not be used for this initiative).

- Data or information that identifies a verification request as being generated by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or associated with a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services program will remain information owned by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will use the verification responses generated by the Social Security Administration only for the purposes described in the Information Sharing Agreement between the Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration.
- Data or information that identifies a verification request as being generated by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or associated with a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services program will be used only as provided in the Information Sharing Agreement by the Social Security Administration.
- Data or information that identifies a verification request as being generated by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or associated with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services program provided by Social Security Administration will not be duplicated or disseminated outside Social Security Administration without prior written approval from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will not give such approval unless the redisclosure is required by law or is essential to the conduct of the exchange. In such cases, the Social Security Administration, the agency redisclosing the records, must specify in writing what records will be redisclosed, to whom they will be redisclosed, and the reasons that justify redisclosure.
- The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will not duplicate or disseminate the verification responses for a purpose not covered by the Information Sharing Agreement, within or outside of its agency, without the written permission of the Social Security Agreement excepted as required by Federal law. The Social Security Administration will not give such permission, unless Federal law requires disclosure, or disclosure is essential to the purpose of this Agreement. For such permission, The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services must specify in writing what data it is requesting to duplicate or disseminate and to whom, and the reasons that justify such duplication or dissemination.

Administrative Safeguards

The Social Security Administration and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will restrict access to the data matched and to any data created by the match to only those users, for example, employees and contractors, who need it to perform their official duties in connection with the uses of the data authorized in the Information Sharing agreement. Further, the Social Security Administration and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will advise all personnel with access about the confidential nature of the data, the safeguards required to protect the data, and the civil and criminal sanctions for noncompliance contained in the applicable Federal laws.

Parties, including all personnel with access to information, will be appropriately educated and trained regarding the proper handling of personally identifiable information and proper care of the information systems to ensure the overall safeguarding and security of the information. The Social Security Administration and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will ensure that its

employees, including contractors with the access to any of the information, have completed privacy training on the handling of personally identifiable information.

Phase Four (4)

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will need to query other non-United States Citizenship and Immigration Services systems, besides the Social Security Administration's Numident system, with the information provided by the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency to find the appropriate Department of Homeland Security-issued enumerator to continue with the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program case processing. For instance, USCIS is researching the possibility of using a United States Passport Number to be able to identify a Department of Homeland Security-issued enumerator. In a case when a User Agency uploads or enters a United States Passport Number instead of a DHS-issued enumerator, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will query another non-United States Citizenship and Immigration Services System using the United States Passport Number along with a unique identifier to find any records and will identify if a Department of Homeland Security-issued enumerator was used by the applicant when applying for a Department of Homeland Security-issued benefit or if a Passport Number was used at a United States Port of Entry and is associated with a Department of Homeland Security-issued enumerator. In this instance, to enable this change, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program would integrate with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data to match a Passport Number against Customs and Border Protection and Department of State records to attempt to locate a Department of Homeland Security issued enumerator.

The TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data stores travel document information (scanned images of documents, biographic information, document details, and photographs) from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Lawful Permanent Resident Cards along with Department of State-issued United States passports, visas, foreign passports, enhanced driver's licenses, and enhanced tribal cards. The TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data USPassportRESTService allows interconnected systems to query TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data for United States passport information. For this use case, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency will input a passport number into the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. The query will trigger the USPassportRESTService to locate the matching United States passport number and return the results to the user. This will allow the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to verify all types of United States citizens, including those by birth, which was previously not available. Currently, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program only collects passport numbers for foreign issued passports if it is provided with an additional Department of Homeland Security enumerator. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services E-Verify has an existing connection to the USPassportRESTService, which also resides within the Verification Information System, like Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program.

The following are updates that were planned prior to Secretary Noem's vision for optimizing the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program and are still in progress.

- Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will update the responses provided to users as part of the Interface Control Agreement Version 38, which enhances the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program query logic to provide more accurate information based on the need to know. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will add the collection of an uploaded document such as a Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate Number, when the user submits a second step additional verification, as well as the collection of a reason code, which allows the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program users to provide additional details regarding the applicant's request, particularly during the additional verification process. The Systematic Alien Verification Entitlements responds to users by providing an immigration status/category or United States citizenship. These additional collections will help Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program identify and remedy data issues, reduce overall manual response times, and allow the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to improve the quality of first step automated responses.
- A live site environment will be implemented where Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements web service users can access new and current interface control agreements. This will streamline the process to update the interface control agreements and ensure that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program users have access to the most current information for the Interface Control Agreement Version 38.
- The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program case response screen will be redesigned so that it is easier to read and allow for the additional information to be submitted. The screen will be packaged in a new way to provide the user clear information during the initial verification.

Additionally, Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will be collecting information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database / American Citizen Record Query system which is a consular search engine used by the Department of State to manage and access records related to United States citizens, particularly for consular protection and services, including managing passport requests and applications.

2024 Update

As part of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program's normal review process, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services intends to access the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database / American Citizen Record Query system to verify immigration status of applicants for benefits, licenses, and other authorized purposes. The purpose of collecting this information is to confirm the identity of the applicant to determine their status. This process is part of an ongoing effort that began in 2024.

Background

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is an online service for registered federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local government agencies to verify immigration status and United States citizenship of applicants seeking benefits or licenses. Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements

Program is not a database but queries Department of Homeland Security-accessed federal records to provide registered user agencies with a verification response.

In 1986, Congress mandated that the Immigration and Naturalization Service, now United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, establish a system to verify the citizenship and immigration status of individuals seeking government benefits and licenses.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division administers the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, which is an intergovernmental initiative using a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal and local benefit-issuing and licensing agencies and other governmental entities determine the immigration status or United States citizenship of applicants for public benefits, licenses, grants, credentials, background investigations, and other lawful purposes, so only entitled applicants receive them. Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program verifies immigration status/category and United States citizenship against Department of Homeland Security-accessed records. Historically, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program has not verified information for United States born citizens as a Department of Homeland Security immigration enumerator was previously required, but now the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program can verify United States-born United States citizens against Social Security Administration data. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program does not determine an applicant's eligibility for a specific benefit or license, as this is the responsibility of the benefit/license granting agency.

As of April 1, 2025, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program has revised its transaction charges for all state, local, tribal, and territorial government agencies using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to eliminate those charges. Federal agencies are still charged a fee to use the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. The authority for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, and for particular Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program authorized uses can be found in the Immigration Reform and Control Act[4]; the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act[5] Title IV, Subtitle A, of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996[6], and the REAL ID Act of 2005[7], the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010,[8] and the Federal Aviation Administration Extension, Safety and Security Act of 2016.[9] In addition, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program has an obligation under 8 U.S.C. 1373(c) to "respond to an inquiry by a Federal, State or local government agency, seeking to verify or ascertain the citizenship or immigration status of any individual within the jurisdiction of the agency for any purpose authorized by law, by providing the requested verification or status information."

[4] Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, Public. Law. No. 99-603

[5] Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law No. 104-193, 110 Statute 2168

[6] Title IV, Subtitle A, of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 Public Law 104-208, 110 Statute 3009

[7] REAL ID Act of 2005, Public. Law No.109-13, 119 Statute 231

[8] Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, Public Law No. 111-148

[9] Federal Aviation Administration Extension, Safety and Security Act of 2016 (Federal Aviation Administration Act), Public. Law. No. 114-190 § 3405(d) (July 15, 2016).

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division operates the Verification Data Information System as the search engine for Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program and the E-Verify Program. The Verification Data Information System accesses nationally accessible databases of selected immigration records to support both the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program and the E-Verify Program. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program queries an individual's immigration status to help the administering agency determine eligibility for any public benefit, license, or credential based on their United States citizenship or immigration status. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services is obligated by law to respond to an inquiry by a Federal, state or local government agency, seeking to verify or ascertain the citizenship or immigration status of any individual within the jurisdiction of the agency for any purpose authorized by law, by providing the requested verification or status information.

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services administers the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, an inter-governmental initiative that provides a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local benefits-issuing and licensing agencies and other governmental entities along with Airport Operators verify the United States citizenship and immigration status/category information of applicants for public benefits or licenses (hereinafter "benefits"). Examples of these benefits include Supplemental Security Income Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly food stamps), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, REAL ID compliance, and other statutorily authorized purposes, including voter verification.

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program also eliminates fees for database searches, breaks down silos for more accurate results, streamlines List Processor submission, and integrates additional immigration information, such as timelines and addresses. Automatic status updates and a new user-friendly interface will empower Federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal agencies to help prevent individuals who are not qualified for government benefits from receiving those benefits. The Department of Homeland Security intends to provide ongoing updates to stakeholders as the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Optimization Plan progresses.

Agency use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is administered by the Verification Division. All user agencies are required to register with the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to access the system prior to using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is not a source system and connects with federal immigration systems, and now the Social Security Administration's Numident[10] system, to access applicable information. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program also has a Case Status Check capability that allows benefit applicants to view the status of their Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program case. The system provides benefit eligibility checks based on the grant dates. The Verification Division has a three (3) tier process when verifying an individual's immigration status or United States citizenship.

[10] NUMIDENT or "Numerical Identification" refers to the master file of Social Security Administration records containing information about individuals who have applied for or been assigned a Social Security Number. This file includes records for applications, claims, and death records related to individuals with a Social Security Number.

Users must perform all additional verification procedures the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program requires and/or the applicant requests prior to denying a benefit based upon a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response. Users must provide all applicants who are denied benefits based solely or in part upon the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response adequate written notice and the information necessary to contact the Department of Homeland Security so that applicants may correct their immigration records in a timely manner, if necessary.

Initial verification

A Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency accesses their account in the system and either submits requests individually or via a bulk request using the system's new bulk uploader feature. When a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency submits an online verification request for a benefit applicant, it provides several required identifiers for the benefit applicant from documents presented by the benefit applicant, including first and last name, date of birth, and at least one of the following: an enumerator from the Department of Homeland Security (e.g. Alien number/United States Citizenship and Immigration Services number, Form I-94 Number, Card Number/I-797 Receipt number, Citizenship/Naturalization Certificate Numbers), a Social Security number from Social Security Administration, or a United States passport number from the Department of State. Social Security Numbers and United States passport numbers are new enumerators. Previously, enumerators were solely limited to Department of Homeland Security-issued immigration enumerators.

In the case of a bulk upload the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will use an automated process to create individual cases for each benefit applicant on the list.

Using these data fields, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program performs an automated query of various Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program-accessed federal databases for relevant records. If a Social Security Number is submitted under this new collection, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will verify this enumerator against the Social Security Administration records, including the Social Security Administration death records and citizenship records. If the individual's Social Security account has a record of an A-number or certificate number, the Social Security Administration will provide that information to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, which will be used to validate that information against the Department of Homeland Security records. If a United States passport number is submitted, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will verify it against the Department of State related records available in the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system. When the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program locates a record pertaining to the benefit applicant in any of these federal databases, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program displays a verification response to the user agency within seconds.

Second step, additional verification (Tier 2)

If the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is unable to find a record pertaining to the benefit applicant through the automated first level search of the Department of Homeland Security records, including United States passport records and the Social Security Administration records, it displays a response to the user indicating additional action is required from the user agency, including requesting additional verification when an immigration enumerator is available. If only a Social Security Number is submitted for verification, the user agency will be informed to close the case and submit a new request using either corrected data or an immigration enumerator, since additional verification cannot be conducted with only a Social Security Number.

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency may start the additional verification procedure, which may include is an in-depth manual review by Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program staff (Status Verification Analyst) to determine the applicant's immigration status or United States citizenship. At the point at which the "Institute Additional Verification" message is displayed, user agencies must submit the case for additional verification if they are relying on a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response to deny a benefit. Additionally, if the user agency receives a response and they have questions about the validity of the response, the user agency may submit a case that already received a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response for additional verification. Users must also submit a case for additional verification when requested by the applicant.

User agencies may not rely on a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response to approve or deny an application for benefits unless they have followed all required Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program verification procedures. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program users are not required to institute additional verification if a user agency has alternate grounds upon which to base its decision to decide a benefit that do not require verification of the applicant's immigration status/category, even where the agency is prompted to do so. Examples of when a user agency has alternate grounds to base a decision that does not require the completion of additional verification include:

- The applicant does not meet eligibility requirements for the benefit unrelated to immigration status/United States citizenship.
- The applicant withdraws their application.
- The applicant cannot be contacted/fails to respond to an agency's request for follow-up.
- The applicant presents documentation the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program cannot verify (such as a military identification).

This revision adds the collection of an uploaded document which includes immigration enumerators (such as a Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Records, Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate, or passport records) when a case is submitted for second step additional verification as well as a reason code. Reason codes can provide information on why the initial verification was not successful, if the case has been escalated for additional verification, or suggest that additional verification steps may be needed to determine the applicant's status or eligibility for a benefit. Reason codes can also identify if it was a user-initiated additional verification request when the user received an initial Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response providing an immigration status/category or United States citizenship. These additional collections will help the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program identify

and remedy data issues, reduce overall manual response times, and allow the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to improve the quality of first step automated responses.

If the second step manual search produces relevant information enabling the verification of immigration status, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program provides an electronic response to the inquiring user agency.

If the user agency declines second step additional verification, the verification process ceases. Additional screens notify the user agency that closing the case without performing additional verification means the agency does not have a complete Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies cannot rely upon an incomplete Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program response to deny a benefit.

Third step Additional Verification with Documents (Tier 3)

If a benefit applicant's immigration status/category cannot be verified on initial or additional verification step when submitting a Department of Homeland Security enumerator, the system will prompt the user agency to resubmit the case with documents. When the prompt is received, the agency must upload a copy of the front and back of the immigration document the applicant presented to the user agency for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to perform detailed manual research at third step. A Department of Homeland Security immigration enumerator is required for the third step additional verification. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program cannot complete third step additional verification using non-immigration documentation. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies are legally authorized to make electronic copies of immigration documents for purposes of verifying immigration status. Cases created with just the Social Security Number or a Passport Number as the enumerator are not subject to this step.

If the third step manual review produces relevant information enabling the verification of immigration status/category or United States citizenship, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program provides an electronic response to the user agency.

If a benefit applicant's immigration status/category is not verified after completing third step verification, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will provide additional information or guidance on how to proceed.

If the applicant believes their information in the Department of Homeland Security records is incorrect, the applicant can seek a records correction. User agencies should provide the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Fact Sheet and Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Records: Fast Facts for Benefit Applicants[11] to benefit applicants that may require records correction.

[11] The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Fact Sheet and Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Records: Fast Fact for Benefits Applicants is accessible at https://www.uscis.gov/save/benefit-and-license-applicants/resources-for-benefit-and-license-applicants

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency continues to have the option of running a web report within the system that will create a file in Adobe format of all cases processed for their organization. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services provides access to relevant reports of approved or pending cases for Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to assist them in managing their Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program cases and monitoring their own compliance with the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program rules and the federal deeming and reimbursement rules. User agencies can run case-specific reports for quality assurance that will include information, such as name, date of birth, type of benefit, immigration identifier (e.g., A-Number, unexpired foreign passport number, I-94 Arrival/Departure Record), and immigration status, only if the benefit was administered.

Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification

The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 expanded the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program by requiring the program to respond to inquiries by federal, state and local government agencies seeking to verify or determine the citizenship or immigration status of any individual within the jurisdiction of the agency for any lawful purpose. See 8 U.S.C. § 1373(c). This authority allows agencies to use the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program for verification of citizenship and immigration status outside of the traditional benefit-granting programs covered by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. This includes voter registration and voter list maintenance purposes, so long as the agency meets the legal requirements for using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program and provides the required applicant information, when submitting verification requests.

On January 20, 2025, and March 25, 2025, the President issued Executive Orders 14159, *Protecting the American People Against Invasion*[12] and 14248, *Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections*[13] respectively. Executive Order 14159 requires the Secretary to "promptly issue guidance to ensure maximum compliance by [Department of Homeland Security] personnel with the provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1373[14] and 8 U.S.C. 1644[15] and ensure that State and local governments are provided with the information necessary to fulfill law enforcement, citizenship, or immigration status verification requirements authorized by law." Executive Order 14248[16] provides, "Federal laws, such as the National Voter Registration Act (Pub. L. 103-31) and the Help America Vote Act (Pub. L. 107-252), require States to maintain an accurate and current Statewide list of every legally registered voter in the State. Pursuant to the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, Department of Homeland Security/United States Citizenship and Immigration Services is required to share database information with States upon request so they can fulfill this duty. 8 U.S.C. 1373(c)[17]." Executive Order 14159[18] directs the Secretary to "ensure that State and local officials have, without the requirement of the payment

[12] https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/29/2025-02006/protecting-the-american-people-against-invasion
[13] https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/03/28/2025-05523/preserving-and-protecting-the-integrity-of-american-elections
[14] 8 USC 1373 Communication between government agencies and the Immigration and Naturalization Service
[15] 8 USC 1644 Communication between State and local government agencies and Immigration and Naturalization Service
[16] Executive Order 14248 Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections
[17] 8 USC. 1373(c) Obligation to respond to inquiries
[18] Executive Order 14159 Protecting the American People Against Invasion

of a fee, access to appropriate systems for verifying the citizenship or immigration status of individuals registering to vote or who are already registered." The Secretary is also required under Executive Order 14159, in coordination with the Department of Government Efficiency Administrator, to review each State's publicly available voter registration list and available records concerning voter list maintenance activities as required by 52 U.S.C. 20507[19], alongside Federal immigration databases and State records requested, including through subpoena where necessary and authorized by law, for consistency with Federal requirements. To support this activity the Attorney General is required to prioritize enforcement of 18 U.S.C. 611[20] and 1015(f)[21] and similar laws that restrict aliens from registering to vote or voting, including through use of: (i) databases or information maintained by the Department of Homeland Security; (ii) State-issued identification records and driver license databases; and (iii) similar records relating to citizenship.

In accordance with federal statutes and policies, the Department of Homeland Security personnel must, in a timely manner, provide verification or immigration status information in response to inquiries from State and local government agencies to verify or ascertain the citizenship or immigration status of individuals. As required by 8 U.S.C. 1373(c), such inquiries must relate to individuals within the jurisdiction of the State or local government agency and must be for a purpose authorized by law. Department of Homeland Security personnel have been directed to comply, to the maximum extent possible and permissible under law, with Section 1373, considering federal statutory requirements, including the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a[22], and 8 U.S.C. 1367[23] (special protected class information); as well as other laws, rules, regulations, policies, and requirements regarding verification, information sharing, and confidentiality.

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency registration process determines whether a state voter registration agency meets the legal requirements for using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. As part of registering to use Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, the agency must provide the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program all applicable legal authorities and voter registration procedures that authorize the agency to engage in voter registration and/or voter list maintenance activities and verify citizenship status before making individual determinations regarding eligibility for voter registration. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services provides information on its public facing website to assist user agencies understand the above referenced requirements.[24]

Current Process - Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification

[19] 52 USC 20507 Requirements with respect to administration of voter registration

[20] 18 USC 611 Voting by aliens

[21] 18 USC 1015 (f) Naturalization, citizenship or alien registry, whoever knowingly makes any false statement or claims that he is a citizen of the United States in order to register to vote or to vote in any Federal, State, or local election (including an initiative, recall, or referendum)-Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both

[22] 5 USC 552a Records maintained on individuals

[23] 8 USC 1367 Penalties for disclosure of information

[24] The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Fact Sheet is accessible at https://www.uscis.gov/save/resources/voter-registration-and-voter-list-maintenance-fact-sheet.

In understanding the use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program for voter verification-related purposes (voter registration and voter list maintenance), one should also bear in mind the following limitations and considerations:

- The information needed to verify an individual through the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is typically not collected on a voter registration application, although it may be available from other sources, especially driver's license applications.
- The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program previously was only able verify United States citizenship for naturalized and certain acquired citizens[25] for whom the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has a record of their citizenship.
- The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program previously was often unable to verify acquired United States citizens because eligible individuals frequently do not apply for and thus do not receive a determination and certificate of United States citizenship from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- Department of State adjudicates acquired citizens that may not have a record with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services via the issuance of U.S. passports. Therefore, obtaining passport information from the Department of State is in progress.
- The Department of State maintains records for individuals who have renounced their citizenship. Once a Certificate of Loss of Nationality is approved by the Department of State indicating the official determination of loss of United States nationality, this information is shared with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services per 8 USC 1373.[26]
- With the newly established connection to the Social Security Administration's Numident system, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is now able to verify more United States citizens, including United States citizens by birth, when a Social Security Number is provided.

Verification for voter list maintenance purposes often occurs when a state Department of Motor Vehicles compares its records to the state voter agency records to determine if any individuals on the voter rolls identified that they were non-United States citizens when the Department of Motor Vehicles issued their driver's license. The state voter agency would then follow up with those individuals their citizenship status through established state law voter registration challenge procedures. As part of the established voter registration challenge procedures, the State Voter Agency will seek to establish the immigration/citizenship status of the individuals and use Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program as one method to verify the information.

There are likely some situations in which the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program provides an initial response indicating a non-United States citizen immigration status (e.g., Lawful Permanent Resident) when the registrant is in fact a United States citizen. However, as also noted above, rules for using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program prohibit voter registration agencies from relying upon this initial verification response to deny or revoke registration since as by

[25] "Acquired citizenship" refers to U.S. citizenship conveyed to children through the naturalization of parents or, under certain circumstances, at birth to foreign-born children of U.S. citizens, provided certain conditions are met.

[26] 8 USC 1873 outlines the communication between government agencies and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

asserting United States citizenship as part of registering to vote, registrants inherently disagree with any initial response indicating they are not a United States citizen.

Shortfalls in data accuracy in the system could cause incomplete or false results.

According to Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program subject matter experts, the situations in which the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program provides an initial non-United States citizen immigration status for a United States citizen who has a certificate of naturalization or citizenship from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, or legacy Immigration and Naturalization Service can happen for a variety of reasons. In some instances, the initial non-United States citizen response is due to the lack of an electronic record with the Social Security Administration showing United States citizenship (which was not reliably recorded pre-1981), or the lack of an electronic record of a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization or acquired citizenship certificate, which is more likely for older certificates issued before recording them in electronic systems became a consistent practice. In addition, although the electronic record-matching algorithms in the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Person Centric Service that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program uses are very good, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services previously identified and subsequently fixed two algorithm issues that caused Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to provide an initial verification response of Lawful Permanent Resident for some naturalized citizens and a small number of acquired United States citizens. But again, many of the safeguards noted above are designed to address any imperfections in records and algorithms used to match them.

The delay between the issuance a Certificate of Naturalization during a naturalization ceremony and when the certificate is reflected in source systems and made available to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program rarely, if ever, causes the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to provide an initial response of non-United States citizen immigration status. It typically takes about one business day plus a few hours for an electronic record of the certificate to be available to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program once it is input by the responsible United States Citizenship and Immigration Services office. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program rarely, if ever, receives requests to verify United States citizenship during this time.

Additionally, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services is not the source agency for Social Security Administration related information. While the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services assumes the accuracy of the Social Security Administration data, it cannot verify accuracy of the information and relies on the Social Security Administration to ensure the data accuracy, timeliness, and integrity of their own data.

Customs and Border Protection Integration

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will integrate with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data. Customs and Border Protection is now permitting the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to query TECS (not an acronym) Travel Documents and Encounter Data system to find a match to US passport information in Customs and Border Protection holdings. The TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system stores travel document information (i.e. scanned images of documents, biographic information, document details, and photographs) from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Lawful Permanent Resident Cards, Department of State-issued United States

passports and visas, foreign passports, enhanced driver's licenses, and enhanced tribal cards. The TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data USPassportRESTService allows interconnected systems to query TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data for United States passport information. For this use case, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies will input a United States passport number into the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program system.

The query will trigger the USPassportRESTService to locate the matching United States passport number and return the results to the user. This will allow the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to verify all types of United States citizens, including those by birth, which was previously not available. Currently, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services E-Verify Program has an existing connection to the USPassportRESTService, which also resides within the Verification Information System, like the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program.

Customs and Border Protection has the authority to collect passport photos pursuant to 5 USC 552a (4),[27] Customs and Border Protection receives a routine feed from the Department of State with US passports as they are issued and/or updated. Customs and Border Protection also collects passport information primarily on all travelers seeking to enter the United States at ports of entry. Customs and Border Protection uses this information as part of Agency operations.

Social Security Administration Data Sharing

The Information Sharing Agreement between the Department of Homeland Security-United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration documents the Social Security Administration's support by matching data submitted through the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to Social Security Administration records in the Social Security Administration's master files of Social Security Number holders and Social Security Number Applications. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will only submit verification requests to the Social Security Administration for authorized purposes.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division and Social Security Administration connection is now live and now connects the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program with the Social Security Administration's Numident system. Prior to the connection, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and Social Security Administration executed a Letter of Agreement that identifies the authorities for both organizations as well as purposes and the data exchange. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will document this sharing in a separate Privacy Threshold Analysis.

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program performs an automated query of various Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program-accessed federal databases for relevant records. Now, if a Social Security Number is submitted by a user agency, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will verify this enumerator against the Social Security Administration Numident system including the death and citizenship records. If the individual's Social Security account has a record of an A-number or certificate number, the Social Security Administration will provide that information to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, which will in turn be used to

[27] 5 USC 552a (4) Records maintained on individuals - collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by an agency, including, but not limited to, his education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history and that contains his name, or the identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual, such as a finger or voice print or a photograph.

validate the information against the Department of Homeland Security records. Verifying citizenship status using Social Security Administration data will be made available to all Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies.

Department of State Data Sharing

If a United States passport number is submitted, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will verify it against information from Department of State-issued passports maintained by the Custom Boarder Protection. Additionally, Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will collect information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database / American Citizen Record Query system, which is a consular search engine used by the Department of State to manage and access records related to United States citizens, particularly for consular protection and services, including managing passport requests and applications.

Department of Homeland Security-Department of State Memorandum of Agreement Appendix A allows this query of passport information to be used in Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data to support its missions, including but not limited to verification of United States passports, whenever the document is presented as proof of identity to obtain a benefit, privilege, status, or credential from the Department of Homeland Security, for vetting and screening purposes, and/or for transportation security, national security, law enforcement, border security (including biometric entry and exit initiatives), immigration (including verification purposes such as E-Verify) and counterterrorism purposes.

User Agencies Memoranda of Agreement

All user agency memorandums of agreements contain similar provisions to protect the due process and other rights of individuals for whom states or other user agencies submit verification requests to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program[28]. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has an online tool that allows the public to search if a federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial agency is registered with the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program.[29]

2. From whom does the Project, Program, or System collect, maintain, use, or disseminate information? *Please check all that apply.*	☐ This project does not collect, collect, maintain, use, or disseminate any personally identifiable information[30] ☒ Members of the public

[28] The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program memorandum of agreement is assessable at https://www.uscis.gov/save/prospective-user-agencies/register-an-agency-for-save and under the "How to Register for SAVE" section.

[29] The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program search tool is accessible at https://www.uscis.gov/save/save-agency-search-tool.

[30] DHS defines personal information as "Personally Identifiable Information" or PII, which is any information that permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred, including any information that is linked or linkable to that individual, regardless of whether the individual is a U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident, visitor to the U.S., or employee or contractor to the Department. "Sensitive PII" is PII, which if lost, compromised, or disclosed without authorization, could result in substantial harm, embarrassment, inconvenience, or unfairness to an individual. For the purposes of this PTA, SPII and PII are treated the same.

	☒ U.S. Persons (U.S citizens or lawful permanent residents) ☒ non-U.S. Persons ☒ DHS Employees/Contractors (list Components): United States Citizenship and Immigration Services ☐ Other federal employees or contractors (list agencies): *Click here to enter text.*
2(a) Is information meant to be collected from or about sensitive/protected populations?	☐ No ☒ 8 USC § 1367 protected individuals (e.g., T, U, VAWA)[31] ☒ Refugees/Asylees ☐ Other. Please list:

3. What specific information about individuals is collected, maintained, used, or disseminated?

Information Collected from Requesting Agencies about applicants for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes:

- Full Name
- Date of birth
- Benefit sought
- Driver license
- State Identification
- Citizenship or nationality
- Country of birth
- A-Number
- Social Security Number
- Alias
- Customer Agency-issued Case Number

Unique Immigration Identifiers Used:

[31] This involves the following types of individuals: T nonimmigrant status (Victims of Human Trafficking), U nonimmigrant status (Victims of Criminal Activity), or Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). For more information about 1367 populations, please see: DHS Management Directive 002-02, Implementation of Section 1367 Information Provisions, *available at* http://dhsconnect.dhs.gov/org/comp/mgmt/policies/Directives/002-02.pdf.

- Alien number
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Number
- I-94 Admission Record Number (a 11-digit admission record assigned to foreign visitors entering the United States by the United States Customs and Border Protection)
- Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification Number
- Naturalization or Citizenship Certificate Number
- Card Number / I-797 Receipt Number (unique identifier assigned by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to track an immigration application or petition).
- Visa Number
- Foreign passport number (if submitted with another immigration enumerator and issuing country)

Other Identifiers:

- Social Security Number including a truncated version of the Social Security Number where only the last four digits are displayed, with the initial five digits are masked using asterisks (*) or XXXXX
- United States Passport Number
- Agency Data Universal Numbering System

Other Information:

Additional information requested by the agency:

- Employment Authorization Document History
- Grant Date
- Affidavit of Support Sponsor Data[32]
  - Full name
  - Current mailing address - In care of name (if any)
  - Current physical address
  - Country of domicile
  - Date of birth
  - Country of birth
  - Social Security Number
  - Immigration Status
  - Sponsors A-number (if any)
  - United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Online Account Number (if any)
  - Military service
  - Employment and income
  - Federal tax return information

[32] A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Affidavit of Support sponsor is an individual who signs a legal contract, Form I-864, agreeing to financially support an intending immigrant, ensuring they won't become a public charge. This sponsor is typically the U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident, or U.S. national who filed the immigrant petition.

- Sponsor Deeming and Agency Reimbursement Information Collection
  - Whether the benefit-granting agency approved or denied the application for the means-tested public benefit.
  - If the benefit-granting agency denied the application, if the denial was based upon the information that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program provided in its response to the citizenship and immigration status verification request from the benefit-granting agency.
  - Whether the benefit-granting agency deemed sponsor/household member income and, if not, the exception or reason for not doing so.
  - Whether the benefit-granting agency sent the sponsor a reimbursement request letter (yes/no).
  - Whether the sponsor complied with his or her reimbursement obligation.
  - Whether the benefit-granting agency conducted a collection action or other proceedings if the sponsor did not comply with his or her reimbursement obligation (yes/no and if yes, the status, court or forum, and docket or matter number).

- Data collected on Form I-864, Affidavit of Support Under Section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act
  - Principal Immigrant:
    - Full name
    - Current mailing address - In care of name (if any)
    - Current physical address
    - Country of Citizenship or Nationality
    - Date of birth
    - Alien Registration number
    - United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Online Account Number (if any)
    - Daytime telephone number
  - Principal Immigrant Family Members:
    - Full name
    - Relationship to Principal Immigrant
    - Alien Registration number
    - United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Online Account Number (if any)
    - Daytime telephone number
  - Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification and Signature:
    - Full name
    - Telephone number
    - Email address (if any)
    - Interpreter's certification and signature
  - Preparer's Contact Information:
    - Daytime number
    - Mobile number (if any)
    - Email address (if any)
    - Signature

- Cuban/Haitian, Immigration Status

- Violence Against Women's Act
- Request Document Review
- Citizenship Status
- Immigration Documentation (uploaded by the user agency to perform additional verification)

Agency User Information

- Agency point of contact name
- Agency point of contact phone number
- Initiated on
- Initiated by

Information Shared with Social Security Administration:

- Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Social Security Number

DATA Received and Maintained from Social Security Administration:

- Social Security Number Match: True/False
- Name Match: True/False
- Date of Birth Match: True/False
- Citizenship Indicator:
- "A" - United States citizen
- "B" - Legal alien, eligible to work
- "C" - Legal alien, not eligible to work
- "D" - Other
- "E" - Alien Student - restricted work authorized
- "F" - Conditionally legalized alien
- Foreign Born Indicator: Citizenship code is not present, but individual was foreign born
- Alien Registration Number: Where applicable
- Certificate Number: Where applicable
- Death Indicator: Yes Deceased / Not Deceased
- Error Code Descriptions: Transaction and record levels

Information Shared with TECS (not an acronym) – TECS (not an acronym)-Travel Documents and Encounter Data for Passport query:

- Full Name
- Date of Birth
- United States passport number

Information Provided to Requesting User Agencies:

- Case Verification Number: a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program generated number
- Initial Request Date
- Identification Type
- Identification Number
- Last Name
- Benefit Code
- Benefit Description
- Initial Request Response: Lawful Status, No Lawful Status, Deceased
- Additional Request Date
- Additional Request Response: Lawful Status, No Lawful Status, Deceased
- Third Step Request Date
- Third Step Resolution: Lawful Status, No Lawful Status, Deceased

Additional information for immigrants requested from agencies for which they established the authority/need to receive

- Employment authorization document history
- Grant date
- Affidavit of Support Sponsor Data
- Cuban/Haitian Entrant Information
- Violence Against Women's Act information
- Immigration Status
- Request document review
- Citizenship status
- Photo
- Closed Date
- Receipt number

3(a) Does this Project, Program, or System collect, maintain, use, or disseminate Social Security numbers (SSN) or other types of stand-alone sensitive information?[33] If applicable, check all that apply.

[33] Sensitive PII (or sensitive information) is PII that if lost, compromised, or disclosed without authorization, could result in substantial harm, embarrassment, inconvenience, or unfairness to an individual. More information can be found in the DHS Handbook for Safeguarding Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information, *available at* https://www.dhs.gov/publication/handbook-safeguarding-sensitive-personally-identifiable-information.

☒ Social Security number ☒ Alien Number (A-Number) ☐ Tax Identification Number ☒ Visa Number ☒ Passport Number ☐ Bank Account, Credit Card, or other financial account numbers	☐ Social Media Handle/ID ☒ Driver's License/State ID Number ☐ Biometric identifiers *(e.g., FIN, EID)* ☒ Biometrics.[34] *Please list modalities (e.g., fingerprints, DNA, iris scans): Click here to enter text.* ☒ Other. *Please list:* Form I-94 number, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification number, Naturalization / Citizenship Certificate number, Permanent Resident Card number / Receipt number, and Visa number.
3(b) Please provide the specific legal basis for the collection of SSN:	The Social Security Number is collected from applicants and is used to verify their immigration status/United States citizenship. div. C, title VI, Section 642 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-208, 110 Stat. 3009-707, codified at 8 U.S.C. 1373 (a) and (c). Authority for having a system for verification of citizenship and immigration status of individuals seeking government benefits is governed by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 Pub. L. No. 99-603, 100 Stat. 3359. Sections 415 and 642 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, authorizes the collection and use of Social Security Numbers to verify entitlement to public benefits, licenses, and credentials.
3(c) If the SSN is needed to carry out the functions and/or fulfill requirements of the Project, System, or Program, please explain why it is necessary and how it will be used.	
The Social Security Number is used to assist in identity verification for user agencies and in determining benefits eligibility. If possible, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will use a truncated Social Security Number if provided by the user agency.	

[34] If related to IDENT/HART and applicable, please complete all Data Access Request Analysis (DARA) requirements. This form provides privacy analysis for DHS' IDENT, soon to be HART. The form replaces a PTA where IDENT is a service provider for component records. PRIV uses this form to better understand how data is currently shared, will be shared and how data protection within IDENT will be accomplished. IDENT is a biometrics service provider and any component or agency submitting data to IDENT is a data provider.

3(d) If the Project, Program, or System requires the use of SSN, what actions are being taken to abide by Privacy Policy Instruction 047-01-010, *SSN Collection and Use Reduction*,[35] which requires the use of privacy-enhancing SSN alternatives when there are technological, legal, or regulatory limitations to eliminating the SSN? Note: *even if you are properly authorized to collect SSNs, you are required to use an alternate unique identifier. If there are technological, legal, or regulatory limitations to eliminating the SSN, privacy-enhancing alternatives should be taken, such as masking, truncating, or encrypting the SSN, or blocking the display of SSNs in hard copy or digital formats.*
The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has traditionally used an alternative number to the Social Security Number to access records to determine the citizenship/immigration status of user agencies benefit applicants in compliance with the Department of Homeland Security privacy-related policies. However, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services now needs to collect Social Security numbers to facilitate user agencies' ability to submit a request for citizenship/immigrations status of benefit applicants. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services is working to implement use of the truncated form of a Social Security number (i.e. the last four numbers of a Social Security number rather than the full identifier) to retrieve information from the Social Security Administration. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program's user interface will mask the full Social Security Number during data inputs, except for when information is submitted via the bulk uploader. In compliance with the security policy for Social Security numbers, server-side encryption is used for Amazon Simple Storage Service[36] and Amazon Relational Database Services[37] databases. This uses key management provided by Amazon Web Services for the storage buckets and Relational Database Services databases where Social Security Numbers are housed. Social Security Numbers and Personally Identifiable Information are not exposed in any hard copy documents available for extract from the information system. Additionally, in accordance with the National Institute of Science and Technology and Department of Homeland Security information security and privacy policies, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program maintains moderate level controls for the confidentiality of information within the tool.

4. How does the Project, Program, or System retrieve information?	☒ By a unique identifier.[38] Please list all unique identifiers used: • Full name • Alias

[35] *See* https://www.dhs.gov/publication/privacy-policy-instruction-047-01-010-ssn-collection-and-use-reduction.

[36] Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3) is an object storage service offering industry-leading scalability, data availability, security, and performance. Organizations can use this service to store, manage, analyze, and protect any amount of data for virtually any use case, such as data lakes, cloud-native applications, and mobile apps.

[37] Amazon Relational Database Service (Amazon RDS) is an easy-to-manage relational database service optimized for total cost of ownership. It is simple to set up, operate, and scale with demand. Amazon RDS automates undifferentiated database management tasks, such as provisioning, configuring, backing up, and patching. Amazon RDS allows customers to create a new database in minutes and offers flexibility to customize databases to meet their needs.

[38] Generally, a unique identifier is considered any type of "personally identifiable information," meaning any information that permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred, including any other information which is linked or linkable to that individual regardless of whether the individual is a U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident, visitor to the U.S., or employee or contractor to the Department.

	• Date of birth
	• Immigration enumerator:
	  ○ Alien number/United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Number,
	  ○ Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record number,
	  ○ Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification number,
	  ○ Citizenship or Naturalization Certificate number
	  ○ Card Number / I-797 Receipt Number,
	  ○ Visa Number, or
	  ○ Foreign passport number (if submitted with another immigration enumerator) and issuing country
	• Social Security Number
	• United States passport number
	• Customer Agency-issued Case Number
	• Case Verification Number
	
	☐ By a non-unique identifier or other means. Please describe:
	Click here to enter text.

5. What is the records retention schedule(s) for the information collected for each category type (include the records schedule number)**?** *If no schedule has been approved, please provide proposed schedule or plans to determine it.* *Note: If no records schedule is in place or are unsure of the applicable records schedule, please reach out to the appropriate Records Management Office.*[39]	Data within Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is retained for 10 years after the final match determination of the employee or applicant in accordance with NARA approved records retention schedule N1-566-08-07. All United States Citizenship and Immigration Services verification requests will be documented in a transactional database. The retention period is 10 years. The database is not accessible to the public, except as permitted.

[39] *See* https://dhsconnect.dhs.gov/org/comp/mgmt/ocio/cdod/rm/Pages/DHS-Records-Officers.aspx

5(a) How does the Project, Program, or System ensure that records are disposed of or deleted in accordance with the retention schedule (e.g., technical/automatic purge, manual audit)**?**	Data is automatically purged annually based on NARA disposal schedule N1-566-08-07.
6. Does this Project, Program, or System connect, receive, or share PII with any other DHS/Component projects, programs, or systems?[40]	☐ No. ☒ Yes. If yes, please list: **United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Systems:** • Central Index System • Electronic Immigration System • Computer Linked Application Information Management System 3 • Enterprise Citizenship and Immigration Services Centralized Operational Repository • GLOBAL (not an acronym) • RAILS (not an acronym) • Customer Profile Management System • Reengineered Naturalization Application Casework System • Marriage Fraud Amendment System • Salesforce Customer Relationship Management Customer Relationship Management[41] **Department of Homeland Security Systems:** • Department of Homeland Security OneNet • Immigration and Custom Enforcement Student and Exchange Visitor Information System • Immigration and Custom ENFORCE Integrated Database

[40] PII may be shared, received, or connected to other DHS systems directly, automatically, or by manual processes.
[41] Provides a unified platform where data from different departments can be accessed and used to improve customer interactions.

	• Customs and Border Protection Arrival and Departure Information System • Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data - USPassportRESTService • Transportation Security Administration Technology Infrastructure Modernization and Vetting and Credentialing System
7. Does this Project, Program, or System connect, receive, or share PII with any external (non-DHS) government or non-government partners or systems?	☐ No. ☒ Yes. If yes, please list: The following are systems/organizations that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program collects/shares information to support user agencies' requests: • United States Military Entrance Processing Command Integrated Resource System • Department of Education Federal Student Aid Central Processing System • Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services • Social Security Administration Numident system • Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration's Immigration Review Information Exchange System • Department of State Consular Consolidated Database Passport The following are systems/organizations that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements provides information that determine benefit eligibility: • Various federal agencies in their role as a user agency

	• Various state, local, tribal, and territory agencies in their role as a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agency
8. Is this sharing pursuant to new or existing information sharing agreement (MOU, MOA, LOI, RTA, etc.)? *If applicable, please provide agreement as an attachment.*	Existing Please describe applicable information sharing governance in place: • Letter of Agreement between United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and Social Security Administration • Information Sharing Agreement between the Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration regarding citizenship • Computer Matching Agreement with Department of Education • Memorandum of Agreements between United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and each individual user agency
9. Does the Project, Program, or System or have a mechanism to track external disclosures of an individual's PII?	☐ No. What steps will be taken to develop and maintain the accounting: *Click here to enter text.* ☒ Yes. In what format is the accounting maintained if appropriate (e.g., disclosures to the Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel, Immigration and Customs Enforcement). Verification Information System also has a transactional log that enables the recreation of accounting of disclosures.
10. Does this Project, Program, or System use or collect data involving or from any of the following technologies:	☐ Social Media ☐ Advanced analytics[42] ☐ Live PII data for testing

[42] The autonomous or semi-autonomous examination of Personally Identifiable Information using sophisticated techniques and tools to draw conclusions. Advanced Analytics could include human-developed or machine-developed algorithms and encompasses, but is not limited to, the following: data mining, pattern and trend analysis, complex event processing, machine learning or deep learning, artificial intelligence, predictive analytics, big data analytics.

	☒ No
11. Does this Project, Program, or System use data to conduct electronic searches, queries, or analyses in an electronic database to discover or locate a predictive pattern or an anomaly indicative of terrorist or criminal activity on the part of any individual(s) (i.e., data mining)?[43] This does not include subject-based searches.	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please elaborate: *Click here to enter text.*
11(a) Is information used for research, statistical, or other similar purposes? If so, how will the information be de-identified, aggregated, or otherwise privacy-protected?	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please elaborate: *Click here to enter text.*
12. Does the planned effort include any interaction or intervention with human subjects[44] via pilot studies, exercises, focus groups, surveys, equipment or technology, observation of public behavior, review of data sets, etc. for research purposes	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please reach out to the DHS Compliance Assurance Program Office (CAPO) for independent review and approval of this effort.[45]
13. Does the Project, Program, or System provide role-based or additional privacy training for personnel who have access, in addition to annual privacy training required of all DHS personnel?	☒ No. ☐ Yes. If yes, please list: *Click here to enter text.*

[43] Is this a program involving pattern-based queries, searches, or other analyses of one or more electronic databases, where—

(A) a department or agency of the Federal Government, or a non-Federal entity acting on behalf of the Federal Government, is conducting the queries, searches, or other analyses to discover or locate a predictive pattern or anomaly indicative of terrorist or criminal activity on the part of any individual or individuals.

(B) the queries, searches, or other analyses are not subject-based and do not use personal identifiers of a specific individual, or inputs associated with a specific individual or group of individuals, to retrieve information from the database or databases; and

(C) the purpose of the queries, searches, or other analyses is not solely—

(i) the detection of fraud, waste, or abuse in a government agency or program; or

(ii) the security of a government computer system.

[44] Human subject means a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research: (1) obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, and uses, studies, or analyzes the information or biospecimens; or (2) obtains, uses, studies, analyzes, or generates identifiable private information or identifiable biospecimens.

[45] For more information about CAPO and their points of contact, please see: https://www.dhs.gov/publication/capo or https://collaborate.st.dhs.gov/orgs/STCSSites/SitePages/Home.aspx?orgid=36. For more information about the protection of human subjects, please see DHS Directive 026-04: https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/mgmt/general-science-and-innovation/mgmt-dir_026-04-protection-of-human-subjects_revision-01.pdf.

14. Is there a FIPS 199 determination?[46]	☐ No. ☒ Yes. Please indicate the determinations for each of the following: Confidentiality: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Undefined Integrity: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Undefined Availability: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Undefined

PTA REVIEW

(TO BE COMPLETED BY COMPONENT PRIVACY OFFICE REVIEWER)

Component Privacy Office Reviewer:	Chiquita Jones/LeVar Sykes
Component Privacy Office Senior Reviewer:	Shannon DiMartino
PRIVCATS ID Number:	0019946
Date submitted to Component Privacy Office:	May 5, 2025
Concurrence from other Component Reviewers involved (if applicable):	Catherine Shorten, Customs and Border Protection, concurrence provided 6/5/2025

Component Privacy Office Recommendation:
Please include recommendation below, including what new privacy compliance documentation is needed, as well as any specific privacy risks/mitigations, as necessary.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services submits this updated Privacy Threshold Analysis to document the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Division and Office of Technology (OIT) changes to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services administers the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program which is an inter-governmental initiative that provides a web-based service to help

[46] FIPS 199 is the Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems and is used to establish security categories of information systems. For more information, see https://www.nist.gov/itl/fips-general-information.

federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies and other governmental entities verify United States citizenship or immigration status/category information of applicants for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes.

This Privacy Threshold Analysis documents the following changes to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program:

1. Expanded search capabilities to allow approved Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to verify United States citizenship information using Social Security Numbers and other non-Department of Homeland Security enumerators.
2. A new Social Security Administration system connection to support verification of citizenship/immigration status.
3. A new bulk uploader/list processor function that allows user agencies to upload lists of benefit applicants.
4. Use of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification functionality.
5. The collection of information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database/ American Citizen Record Query system.
6. An integration with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Privacy Office recommends Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to comply with the eGovernment Act of 2002 as it "collects, maintains, or disseminates information that is in an identifiable form." The information collected, used, stored, and/or disseminated by the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program meets the definition of Personally Identifiable Information ("PII")/Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information ("SPII")[47] as it "permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred, including any other information that is linked or linkable to that individual, regardless of whether that individual is a United States citizen, legal permanent resident, or a visitor to the United States, or employee or contractor to the Department." Specifically, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program involves information from members of the public applying for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes which may include (1) United States citizens and legal permanent residents, (2) individuals who are now current United States citizens and legal permanent residents after previously naturalizing or adjusting their status, or (3) individuals who may ultimately naturalize to become United States citizens or adjust their status to receive legal permanent residency in the future. Depending on the eligibility category certain individuals may be eligible to apply for adjustment of status as soon as one (1) year after their initial immigration benefit is granted,[48] therefore the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Privacy Office recommends requiring Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure all current and future United States

[47] Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has numerous official definitions, but in general, it is defined as any information that can be used to identify an individual directly or indirectly, such as a name, email address, Social Security Number or IP address. Sensitive PII (SPII) is generally defined as any PII that if lost, stolen, or disclosed without authorization could result in significant harm to an individual.

[48] For more information on eligibility categories please refer to: https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories.

citizens and legal permanent residents have transparency into how the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services may collect, store, use, and share the information they previously provided to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The Privacy Office's Technology Oversight Branch recommends that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program continues to be designated as a privacy sensitive program that requires privacy compliance coverage. The Technology Oversight Branch recommends that with the new updates to the program documented in this Privacy Threshold Analysis the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program be identified as not in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, or the E-Government Act of 2002. A Privacy Impact Assessment update and a System of Records Notice update should be published prior to the program's changed collection and use of Personally Identifiable Information, including information on natural born United States citizens. Further, the sharing of Personally Identifiable Information with the Social Security Administration should occur after the System of Records Notice has gone through the required 30-day comment period. The following are the Technology Oversight Branch's recommendations for privacy compliance coverage and additional requirements:

Privacy Impact Assessment

- A new Privacy Impact Assessment Update for DHS/USCIS/PIA-006 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program must be completed before collection and use of additional information. Specifically, these Privacy Impact Assessment updates would include, but are not limited to:
    - The collection of Social Security Numbers and other information from the Social Security Administration regarding United States citizens, including natural born citizens.
    - The change in legal rationale for now collecting and maintaining Social Security Numbers of United States natural born citizens.
    - The collection and use of Passport Numbers from the Department of State via new system connections.
    - The addition of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification process, including how this process may verify the citizenship status of natural born United States citizens.
    - The implementation of the bulk case upload functionality for User Agencies.
    - Additional privacy risks and mitigation strategies regarding notice, consent, and data accuracy.

System of Records Notice

- An update to DHS/USCIS-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program must be completed before the collection and sharing of additional information. Specifically, these System of Records Notice updates would include, but are not limited to changes to the following sections:
    - Purpose: The System of Records Notice does not currently include the verification of voter registration and voter maintenance lists.

- Categories of Individuals: Currently, USCIS specifically informs the public it only collects information on naturalized or acquired United States citizens. This section must be updated to discuss that information on natural born United States citizens will also be collected.
- Categories of Records: The System of Records Notice currently informs the public that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program only collects Social Security Number of immigrants on the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Form G-845. This section must be updated to cover the expanded collection and use of Social Security Numbers.
- Sources of Records: The System of Records Notice currently doesn't include the Social Security Administration system of records. This section must be updated to reflect all new source systems including the Social Security Administration Numident system.

- DHS/CBP-011 Customs and Border Protection Primary and Secondary Processing (TECS (not an acronym)) National SAR Initiative December 19, 2008 (73 Federal Register 77778)
- STATE-26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 Federal Register 15653)
- STATE-39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 Federal Register 61822)
- SSA-60-0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 Federal Register 10025)

The following is a Plan of Action to ensure that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is brought into compliance with all federal statutes, regulations, and Department of Homeland Security policies.

USCIS Privacy's Action Plan for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is an inter-governmental initiative that provides a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies and other governmental entities verify United States citizenship or immigration status/category information of applicants for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes.

Action Plan

This plan outlines priority actions necessary to advance the goal and objective of ensuring the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is compliant with all applicable privacy laws, regulations, and polices. These actions will ensure that the use of technology by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program sustains and does not erode privacy protections relating to the collection, use, dissemination, maintenance, and disposal of personal information. These actions include actively working with the Verification Division, Office of Chief Counsel and the Customs and Border Protection Office of Privacy on this Privacy Threshold Analysis and the draft System of Records Notice along with continued collaboration with these stakeholders and others such as the Department of Homeland Security Privacy Office to ensure Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is in compliance.

Actions to Be Taken

To meet these objectives the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Privacy will complete the following activities:

- Receive United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Chief Privacy Officer adjudication of the initial Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Privacy Threshold Analysis:
  - Adjudication - Date of Completion: July 2025
- Draft an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program Privacy Impact Assessment meeting all requirements identified above and submit the draft to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Privacy.
  - Initial Draft - Complete
  - Office of Chief Counsel Review – Complete
  - Submission to Department of Homeland Security – Date of Completion: September 2025
  - Publication – Estimated September 2025
- Draft an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program System of Records Notice meeting all requirements identified above and submit the draft to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Privacy.
  - Initial Draft - Complete
  - Office of Chief Counsel Review – Complete
  - Submission to Department of Homeland Security – Date of Completion: September 2025
  - Submission to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress – Estimated September 2025
  - Publication – Estimated September 2025
  - End of 30-day commenting period (and sharing of new routine uses) Estimated October/November 2025
- Draft a Privacy Threshold Analysis documenting the new Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program information sharing agreement between the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration and receive the Chief Privacy Officer's adjudication of the Privacy Threshold Analysis.
  - Estimated Date of Completion: September 2025
- Determine the applicability of the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 to new or changed aspects of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program including the new bulk upload functionality for User Agencies.
  - Hold a discussion regarding the Computer Matching Agreement impacts with representatives from the Department of Homeland Security Privacy Office, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Chief Counsel and Office of Privacy, and Department of Homeland Security Office of General Council.

- Date of Completion: June 2025

- Decide on the need for Computer Matching Agreements with user agencies versus the current Memorandum of Agreements in place with each Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program user agency:
  - Date of Completion: July/August 2025

This Privacy Threshold Analysis and Action Plan focuses predominantly on Phases One through Four of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Optimization effort as Phase Five and Phase Six are longer term goals of the optimization effort and are still in the exploratory/planning stage. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services will update this Privacy Threshold Analysis and Action Plan as needed to support the remaining phases during their development and ensure the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is compliant with all applicable laws, regulations, and Department of Homeland Security policies.

The updated Privacy Threshold Analyst should also provide, at a minimum, the following updates:

- New status types that Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program may provide to the user agencies and how any additional verification is completed.
- A discussion about the update to the user memorandum of agreements and the creation of the voter verification specific memorandum of agreements.
- Confirm all responses from the Customs and Border Protection via the use of their USPassportRESTService when matching United States Passport numbers.
- Discuss Customs and Border Protection authority/purpose for collecting United States Passport related photographs and collection of those photographs by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- A description of how the information received via the integration with the Department of Justice to enable an incarceration/felony related flag will be used internally and if any related information will be sent to the user agencies or the applicants.
- If the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program will use the existing connection by the E-Verify Program to the USPassportRESTService or will it be a new connection.
- Additional use case information for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program use of Department of State information from the USPassportRESTService and the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database / American Citizen Record Query system.
- Clarification regarding user agency benefit applicants accessing the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program.
- Additional information regarding notification provided to United States citizens regarding user agencies use of their information.
- What information may be provided to the user agency about the VAWA status of an individual.

- Discussion of if there could be instances when a natural born United States citizen is unable to be verified based on the data available. Also, if all United States citizens would be able to be verified via the SSA information.
- Confirmation if there are additional responses (besides Lawful Status, No Lawful Status, or Deceased) provided to user agencies now that United States citizens can also be verified.
- A discussion of any updates regarding any new agreements between Department of State and Customs and Border Protection for the sharing and use of United States Passport number information.
- Confirmation of if there is still a connection with the Reengineered Naturalization Application Casework System (which was previously decommissioned) or how information from the previously decommissioned system is still accessed.

PTA ADJUDICATION

(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COMPONENT PRIVACY OFFICE APPROVER)

Component Privacy Office Approver:	**Angela Y. Washington**
PTA Approval Date:	September 11, 2025
PTA Expiration Date:	December 11, 2025

DESIGNATION

Privacy Sensitive System:	Yes
Category of System:	System If "other" is selected, please describe: *Click here to enter text.*
Determination:	☐ Project, Program, System in compliance with full coverage. ☒ Project, Program, System in compliance with interim coverage. ☐ Project, Program, System in compliance until changes implemented. ☐ Project, Program, System not in compliance.
PIA:	**PIA Update is required.** • DHS/USCIS/PIA-006 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program ○ This PIA must be updated to document all identified system/programmatic changes.

SORN:	**SORN update is required.** • DHS/USCIS-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, May 27, 2020 (85 FR 31798) ○ This SORN must be updated to document all identified changes. • DHS/CBP-011 Customs and Border Protection Primary and Secondary Processing (TECS (not an acronym)) National SAR Initiative December 19, 2008 (73 Federal Register 77778) • STATE-26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 Federal Register 15653) • STATE-39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 Federal Register 61822) • SSA-60-0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 Federal Register 10025)

Component Privacy Office Adjudication:
Please describe rationale for privacy compliance determination above, and any further action(s) that must be taken by Component.

The USCIS Office of Privacy is submitting this Privacy Threshold Analysis (PTA) to document the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is an intergovernmental initiative using a web-based service to help federal, state, territorial, tribal and local benefit-issuing and licensing agencies and other governmental entities determine the immigration status or United States citizenship of applicants for public benefits, licenses, grants, credentials, background investigations, and other lawful purposes, so only entitled applicants receive them. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program verifies immigration status/category and United States citizenship against Department of Homeland Security-accessed records. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program is not a database but queries Department of Homeland Security-accessed federal records to provide registered user agencies with a verification response. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program does not determine an applicant's eligibility for a specific benefit or license, as this is the responsibility of the benefit/license granting agency.

This Privacy Threshold Analysis is being submitted to document multiple updates and planned updates to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program as part of the comprehensive optimization of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure a single, reliable source for verifying immigration status and United States citizenship nationwide. This Privacy Threshold Analysis documents the following key changes: (1) an expanded search capabilities to allow approved Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program user agencies to verify United States citizenship information using Social Security Numbers and other non-Department of Homeland Security enumerators, (2) a new Social Security Administration system connection to support verification of citizenship/immigration status, (3) a new bulk uploader/list processor function that allows user agencies to upload lists of benefit applicants, (4) the use of the Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Verification functionality, (5) the collection of information from the Department of State's Consular Consolidated Database/ American

Citizen Record Query system, and (6) an integration with the Customs and Border Protection TECS (not an acronym) - Travel Documents and Encounter Data system.

After a thorough review of the PTA, the USCIS Office of Privacy continues to designate the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program as a privacy sensitive system/program requiring both Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) and System of Records Notice (SORN) coverage as it collects/uses Personally Identifiable Information (PII) as well as Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (SPII) from members of the public, including legal permanent residents and United States Citizens.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Privacy recommends Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to comply with the eGovernment Act of 2002 as it "collects, maintains, or disseminates information that is in an identifiable form." The information collected, used, stored, and/or disseminated by the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program meets the definition of Personally Identifiable Information ("PII")/Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information ("SPII")[49] as it "permits the identity of an individual to be directly or indirectly inferred, including any other information that is linked or linkable to that individual, regardless of whether that individual is a United States citizen, legal permanent resident, or a visitor to the United States, or employee or contractor to the Department." Specifically, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program involves information from members of the public applying for benefits, licenses, or other authorized purposes which may include (1) United States citizens and legal permanent residents, (2) individuals who are now current United States citizens and legal permanent residents after previously naturalizing or adjusting their status, or (3) individuals who may ultimately naturalize to become United States citizens or adjust their status to receive legal permanent residency in the future. Depending on the eligibility category certain individuals may be eligible to apply for adjustment of status as soon as one (1) year after their initial immigration benefit is granted,[50] therefore the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Privacy recommends requiring Privacy Impact Assessment coverage for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to ensure all current and future United States citizens and legal permanent residents have transparency into how the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services may collect, store, use, and share the information they previously provided to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) coverage is provided by the following:

- DHS/USCIS/PIA-006 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program
    - **For the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be in compliance with the eGovernment Act of 2002, this Privacy Impact Assessment must be**

[49] Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has numerous official definitions, but in general, it is defined as any information that can be used to identify an individual directly or indirectly, such as a name, email address, Social Security Number or IP address. Sensitive PII (SPII) is generally defined as any PII that if lost, stolen, or disclosed without authorization could result in significant harm to an individual.

[50] For more information on eligibility categories please refer to: https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories.

updated to reflect the identified system and programmatic changes along with a privacy risk assessment of these changes including but not limited to new collections of data, new populations impacted including natural born US citizens, new system connections, new data sharing, and a new bulk upload/reporting functionality.

System of Records Notice (SORN) coverage is required as the information in the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program is retrieved by a personal identifier. System of Records Notice coverage is provided by the following:

- DHS/USCIS-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, May 27, 2020 (85 FR 31798)
    - **For the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974, this System of Records Notice must be updated to reflect the identified system and programmatic changes including that the System of Records will now include information on natural born United States citizens in addition to naturalized or acquired United States citizens. Updates to the System of Records Notice should include but are not limited to updates in the Purpose, Categories of Individuals, Categories of Records, and the Sources of Records sections.**
- DHS/CBP-011 Customs and Border Protection Primary and Secondary Processing (TECS (not an acronym)) National SAR Initiative December 19, 2008 (73 Federal Register 77778)
- STATE-26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 Federal Register 15653)
- STATE-39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 Federal Register 61822)
- SSA-60-0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 Federal Register 10025)

While there are currently published SORNs and PIAs associated with the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program, these documents to not sufficiently provide coverage for the recently implemented and planned system and programmatic changes documented in this Privacy Threshold Analysis. Therefore, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program is not in compliance. An updated Privacy Impact Assessment and an updated System of Records Notice must be published for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be brought into compliance.

An action plan has been developed to enable the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program to be brought into compliance with all federal laws, statutes, regulations, and Department of Homeland Security policies. A high-level summary of the action plan is as follows:

- Complete the initial Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Privacy Threshold Analysis.

- Publish an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program Privacy Impact Assessment to the Department of Homeland Security Office of Privacy website.
- Publish an updated Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program System of Records Notice in the Federal Register and address any comments received during the 30-day public comment period.
- Complete a Privacy Threshold Analysis documenting the new Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program information sharing agreement between the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Social Security Administration.
- Determine the applicability of the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 and complete any identified requirements.
- Update the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program Privacy Threshold Analysis and Action Plan as needed to support the ongoing optimization effort.

The Office of Privacy approves this Privacy Threshold Analysis for 3 months to formally document the current privacy posture of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement Program.

On September 10, 2025, USCIS provided the draft Privacy Impact Assessment and System of Records Notice for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program to DHS Privacy. These documents reference the collection, use, maintenance, and sharing of the following:

- Information on natural born United States citizens in addition to naturalized or acquired United States citizens
- Voter registration verification
- Social security numbers, including its truncated format
- Sharing of information with the Social Security Administration.

Interim coverage is provided for three (3) months while the Privacy Impact Assessment and System of Records Notice are being reviewed for approval, signature, and publication by DHS Privacy. This interim coverage is only granted for the programmatic changes documented in the Privacy Impact Assessment and System of Records Notice which are currently pending DHS Privacy review.

Any programmatic changes not included in the scope of this Privacy Threshold Analysis will require an update to the Privacy Threshold Analysis to ensure sufficient privacy risk analysis can be completed and any further compliance documentation update requirements can be identified. Further, any programmatic changes to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program not documented in these two privacy compliance documents, will require additional updates to the Privacy Impact Assessment and System of Records Notice to be completed and submitted to DHS Privacy prior to receiving interim coverage.

the Native American tribal cards as a WHTI-compliant document is conditional on compliance with the MOA and related agreements.

Acceptance and use of the WHTI-compliant Native American tribal cards is voluntary for tribe members. If an individual is denied a WHTI-compliant Native American tribal card, he or she may still apply for a passport or other WHTI-compliant document.

Designation

This notice announces that the Commissioner of CBP designates the Native American tribal card issued by the Colville Tribes in accordance with the MOA and all related agreements between the tribes and CBP as an acceptable WHTI-compliant document pursuant to section 7209 of the IRTPA and 8 CFR 235.1(e). In accordance with these provisions, the approved card, if valid and lawfully obtained, may be used to denote identity and U.S. or Canadian citizenship of Colville Tribes members for the purposes of entering the United States from contiguous territory or adjacent islands at land and sea ports of entry.

Dated: May 21, 2020.

Mark A. Morgan,

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. 2020–11378 Filed 5–26–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

they meet the requirements of section 289 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) [8 U.S.C. 1359]. INA § 289 provides that nothing in this title shall be construed to affect the right of American Indians born in Canada to pass the borders of the United States, but such right shall extend only to persons who possess at least 50 per centum of blood of the American Indian race. While the tribal card may be used to establish a card holder's identity for purposes of INA § 289, it cannot, by itself, serve as evidence of the card holder's Canadian birth or that he or she possesses at least 50% American Indian blood, as required by INA § 289.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. USCIS–2020–0014]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

ACTION: Notice of modified system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposes to modify and reissue a current DHS system of records titled, "DHS/U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program System of Records." This system of records allows DHS/USCIS to collect and maintain records on applicants for public benefits, licenses, grants, governmental credentials, or other statutorily authorized purposes to operate the fee-based SAVE. SAVE allows users agencies to confirm immigration and naturalized and certain derived citizen status information, in order for the user agencies to make decisions related to: Determine eligibility for a Federal, state, tribal, or local public benefit; issue a license or grant; issue a government credential; conduct a background investigation; or for any other lawful purpose within the user agency's jurisdiction. DHS/USCIS is updating this system of records notice to include updates and modifications to the authority for maintenance of the system, the purpose of the system, categories of individuals, categories of records, record source categories, routine uses, and contesting records procedures to better reflect how USCIS operates SAVE and data sharing efforts. Additionally, this notice includes non-substantive changes to simplify the formatting and text of the previously published notice. This modified system will be included in DHS's inventory of record systems.

DATES: Submit comments on or before June 26, 2020. This modified system will be effective upon publication. New or modified routine uses will be effective June 26, 2020.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number USCIS–2020–0014 by one of the following methods:

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–343–4010.
- *Mail:* Constantina Kozanas, Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528–0655.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number USCIS–2020–0014. All comments received will be posted without change to *http://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to *http://www.regulations.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions, please contact: Donald K. Hawkins, (202) 272–8030, *USCIS.PrivacyCompliance@uscis.dhs.gov,* Privacy Officer, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20529. For privacy questions, please contact: Constantina Kozanas, (202) 343–1717, *Privacy@hq.dhs.gov,* Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528–0655.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) proposes to modify and reissue a current DHS system of records titled, "DHS/USCIS–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program System of Records."

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program is a fee-based service designed to assist Federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies, benefit-granting agencies, private entities, institutions, and licensing bureaus authorized by law in determining citizenship and immigration status for the purpose of granting benefits, licenses, and other lawful purposes. Uses of SAVE may include verification of citizenship and immigration status (for naturalized and certain derived citizens) when issuing Social Security benefits, public health care, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), conducting background investigations, armed forces recruitment, REAL ID compliance, or any other purpose authorized by law. SAVE provides citizenship and immigration status to the extent that such confirmation is necessary to enable Federal, state, tribal, or local government agencies to make decisions related to: (1) Determining eligibility for a Federal, state, tribal, or local public benefit; (2) issuing a license or grant; (3) issuing a government credential; (4) conducting a background investigation; or (5) any other lawful purpose. SAVE does not determine an applicant's eligibility for a specific benefit or license; only the benefit-granting agency can make that determination.

A typical SAVE verification involves a registered Federal, state, tribal, or local government benefit or license granting agency verifying the citizenship and immigration status of an immigrant or non-immigrant. The initial SAVE response is derived from information contained in a U.S. government-issued document, such as a Permanent Resident Card (often referred to as a Green Card) or Employment

Authorization Document. Before a SAVE user agency can submit a query, the user agency must collect certain information from the benefit or license applicant's immigration-related document. The verification process is document driven and requires the document's numeric identifier (*e.g.*, Alien Number (A-Number)). The document presented by the individual determines the verification process.

When a user agency submits a case, SAVE queries various DHS-accessed databases for matching records. These databases consist of case management systems used for adjudicating immigration benefits. If SAVE locates a record pertaining to the applicant in any of these DHS databases, SAVE displays that data. The data displayed by SAVE depends on the user agency's authority to use SAVE and the type of benefit provided by the user agency. If SAVE is unable to find a record pertaining to the applicant, it will request additional verification. The user agency may initiate the additional verification procedure, which entails in-depth research in available records by USCIS Status Verifiers Operations Branch to confirm the applicant's citizenship and immigration status.

DHS/USCIS is publishing this modified system of records notice to make several changes for transparency and to describe new initiatives.

Although SAVE provides citizenship and immigration status information to approved and configured user agencies, SAVE currently does not collect benefit determination information. Where SAVE provides immigrant sponsorship information to user agencies for sponsor deeming and agency reimbursement processes governed by Section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1183a, and implementing regulations at 8 CFR part 213a, SAVE does not currently prompt a response from those agencies as to their use of that information in determining the benefit.

On May 23, 2019, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum (PM), *Memorandum on Enforcing the Legal Responsibilities of Sponsors of Aliens,* which placed a renewed focus on adequately enforcing reimbursement and deeming requirements. The PM details requirements related to data collection when determining eligibility for certain sponsored immigrants who seek Federal means-tested public benefits, and directs Federal agencies to take steps necessary to ensure compliance with requirements under the INA and other applicable Federal law. As such, SAVE is amending its processes so if sponsorship information is provided to the benefit-granting agency, SAVE will request to receive the benefit-granting agency's final adjudication determination of the Federal means-tested public benefit. DHS/USCIS is collecting information regarding actions that agencies adjudicating Federal means-tested public benefits take to deem sponsor income as part of applicant income for purposes of Federal means-tested benefits eligibility [1] and to seek reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants. This information will provide the Federal Government with greater visibility into whether and how benefit-granting agencies use the sponsor and household member information that SAVE provides for the deeming and reimbursement processes.

With this information, DHS/USCIS plans to compile and make reports available to Federal means-tested public benefit agencies (*i.e.*, Social Security Administration, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)—Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, HHS—Administration for Children and Families, and U.S. Department of Agriculture—Food and Nutrition Service) that perform oversight, monitoring, and compliance activities regarding Federal deeming and reimbursement rules. These reports will consist of general statistics in addition to case-specific information, so that Federal means-tested public benefit oversight and administrative agencies can see individual cases that did not complete sponsor deeming and/or those cases in which the benefit was not provided due to deeming. These reports will also be made available to the Department of Justice and the Department of Treasury, as necessary and authorized by law, and in coordination with the Federal means-tested public benefit agencies for reimbursement activity. DHS/USCIS will further provide access to relevant reports to approved adjudicating SAVE user agencies to assist them in managing their SAVE cases and monitoring their own compliance with SAVE program rules and the Federal deeming and reimbursement rules.

As part of this change, DHS/USCIS is updating this system of records (SORN) to cite the relevant legal authority to collect benefit determination information. DHS/USCIS is also adding new categories of records collected from benefit-granting agencies relating to actions that agencies adjudicating Federal means-tested public benefits take to deem sponsor income as part of applicant income for purposes of Federal means-tested benefits eligibility and to seek reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants. This includes whether the benefit-granting agency approved or denied the application for the means-tested public benefit; if the benefit-granting agency denied the application, whether the denial was based upon the information that SAVE provided in its response to the citizenship and immigration status verification request from the benefit-granting agency; whether the benefit-granting agency deemed sponsor/household member income and, if not, the exception or reason for not doing so; whether the benefit-granting agency sent the sponsor a reimbursement request letter; whether the sponsor complied with his or her reimbursement obligation; and whether the benefit-granting agency conducted a collection action if the sponsor did not comply with his or her reimbursement obligation. DHS/USCIS is also adding Routine Use J for disclosure to a Federal, state, tribal, or local government agency that oversees or administers Federal means-tested public benefits for purposes of seeking reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants, as well as reporting on overall sponsor deeming and agency reimbursement efforts to appropriate administrative and oversight agencies.

DHS/USCIS is also expanding the purpose of this system to include USCIS bond management processes. Under section 213 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1183, the Secretary of Homeland Security may admit an individual to the United States upon posting a suitable and proper bond. The individual may breach the bond conditions if they receive certain public benefits, as defined in 8 CFR 212.21(b), after adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident, and until the bond is cancelled under 8 CFR 213.1(g). For purposes of managing this bond process, DHS/USCIS may access the Verification Information System (VIS) to review whether USCIS bond submitters may have applied for and

[1] Under Section 421 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1631), agencies adjudicating Federal means-tested public benefits must consider ("deem") the income and assets of a qualified sponsor who has completed a Form I-864 or Form I-864EZ, *Affidavit of Support* (collectively referred to herein as a "Form I-864"), or a qualified household member who has completed a Form I-864A, *Contract Between Sponsor and Household Member*, as available to the sponsored benefit applicant in determining whether he or she is eligible for certain Federal means-tested public benefits.

received public benefits, and to inform potential inquiries related to the receipt of those public benefits.

DHS/USCIS is also modifying the category of individuals covered under this SORN to reflect that the system covers individuals who have filed, for themselves or on the behalf of others, applications or other requests for Federal, state, local, or tribal licenses or benefits; individuals who have been granted naturalized or derived U.S. citizenship; individuals who have applied for or received other immigration benefits pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1103 *et seq.* or other applicable law; individuals subject to certain background investigations; individuals accessing SAVE Case Check; users and administrators who access the system to facilitate citizenship and immigration status verification; and other individuals whose information is verified with SAVE pursuant to a SAVE Memorandum of Agreement or Computer Matching Agreement. DHS/USCIS is also clarifying that the categories of individuals covered by the system include sponsors that have signed either a Form I–864, *Affidavit of Support Under Section 213A of the Act*, Form I–864EZ, *Affidavit of Support Under Section 213A of the Act*, or household members that have signed a Form I–864A, *Contract Between Sponsor and Household Member*. The previous SORN only covered the I–864 and not the I–864EZ or I–864A.

DHS/USCIS is also expanding the categories of records to clarify the data elements that USCIS collects from the applicant by the benefit-granting agency to facilitate citizenship and immigration status verification, from the benefit-granting agency users who access the system to facilitate citizenship and immigration status verification, and the individual information that may be used by SAVE to verify citizenship and immigration status and provide a SAVE response.

DHS/USCIS is updating the record source categories to reflect information collected from USCIS, DHS, and other Federal agency systems of records.

DHS/USCIS is also modifying the routine use section of this SORN, including updating Routine Use E and adding Routine Use F to comply with requirements set forth by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M–17–12, "Preparing for and Responding to a Breach of Personally Identifiable Information," (Jan. 3, 2017).

DHS/USCIS is updating the contesting record procedures to remove references to InfoPass, which has been phased out. Additionally, this notice includes non-substantive changes, including re-lettering routine uses, to simplify the formatting and text of the previously published notice.

Consistent with DHS's information sharing mission, information stored in DHS/USCIS–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program System of Records may be shared with other DHS Components that have a need to know the information to carry out their national security, law enforcement, immigration, intelligence, or other homeland security functions. In addition, DHS/USCIS may share information with appropriate Federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, foreign, or international government agencies consistent with the routine uses set forth in this system of records notice.

This modified system will be included in DHS's inventory of record systems.

II. Privacy Act

The Privacy Act embodies fair information practice principles in a statutory framework governing the means by which Federal Government agencies collect, maintain, use, and disseminate individuals' records. The Privacy Act applies to information that is maintained in a "system of records." A "system of records" is a group of any records under the control of an agency from which information is retrieved by the name of an individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual. In the Privacy Act, an individual is defined to encompass U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents. Additionally, and similarly, the Judicial Redress Act (JRA) provides covered persons with a statutory right to make requests for access and amendment to covered records, as defined by the JRA, along with judicial review for denials of such requests. In addition, the JRA prohibits disclosures of covered records, except as otherwise permitted by the Privacy Act.

Below is the description of the DHS/USCIS–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program System of Records.

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(r), DHS has provided a report of this system of records to the Office of Management and Budget and to Congress.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)-004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program System of Records.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Records are maintained at USCIS Headquarters in Washington, DC, and at DHS/USCIS field offices. Electronic records are stored in the Verification Information System (VIS).

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Chief, Verification Division, *SAVE.help@uscis.dhs.gov*, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 131 M Street NE, Suite 200, Mail Stop 2620, Washington, DC 20529.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

Authority for having a system for verification of citizenship and immigration status is found in Immigration and Nationality Act, Public Law 82–414, 66 Stat. 163 (1952), as amended, Immigration Reform and Control Act, Public Law 99–603, 100 Stat. 3359 (1986); Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, Public Law 104–193, 110 Stat. 2105 (1996); Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, Public Law 104–208, 110 Stat. 3009 (1997); the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109–13, 119 Stat. 231 (2005); Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111–148, 124 Stat. 119 (Mar. 23, 2010), as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111–152, 124 Stat. 1029 (Mar. 30, 2010); and the FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016, Public Law 114–190, 130 Stat. 615 (July 15, 2016), 8 CFR Part 213a (Affidavits of Support on Behalf of Immigrants).

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The purpose of this system is to provide a fee-based service that assists Federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies, benefit-granting agencies, private entities, institutions, and licensing bureaus for any legally mandated purpose in accordance with an authorizing statute to confirm immigration and naturalized and certain derived citizen status information, and to otherwise efficiently administer their programs, to the extent that such disclosure is necessary to enable these agencies and entities to make decisions related to (1) determining eligibility for a Federal, state, tribal, or local public benefit; (2) issuing a license or grant; (3) issuing a government credential; (4) conducting a background investigation; or (5) any other lawful purpose. This system is also used for USCIS bond management purposes under sec. 213 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Categories of individuals covered by this system include: (1) Individuals who have filed, for themselves or on the behalf of others, applications or other requests for Federal, state, local or tribal licenses or benefits; (2) individuals who have been granted naturalized or derived U.S. citizenship; (3) individuals who have applied for or received other immigration benefits pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1103 *et seq.* or other applicable law; (4) sponsors [2] and household members listed on the Form I–864 or I–864EZ, *Affidavit of Support Under Section 213A of the Act* or Form I–864A, *Contract Between Sponsor and Household Member;* (5) individuals subject to certain background investigations; (6) individuals accessing SAVE Case Check; (7) users and administrators who access the system to facilitate citizenship and immigration status verification; and (8) other individuals whose information is verified with SAVE pursuant to a SAVE Memorandum of Agreement or Computer Matching Agreement.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Information collected from the benefit applicant by the user agency to facilitate citizenship and immigration status verification may include the following:

- Full Name;
- Date of birth;
- Citizenship or nationality;
- Country of birth;
- Alien Number (A-Number);
- Social Security number (SSN) (in very limited circumstances using the Form G–845, *Document Verification Request*);
- Receipt number;
- Admission number (I–94 number);
- User Agency Case number;
- Agency DUNS number;
- Visa number;
- DHS Document type;
- DHS Document Expiration date;
- Government-issued identification (*e.g.*, passport):
  - Document type;
  - Country of issuance (COI);
  - Document number;
  - Expiration date; and
  - Benefit requested (*e.g.*, unemployment insurance, educational assistance, driver license).
- Copies of original immigration documents;
- U.S. Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) Student and Exchange Visitor Identification System (SEVIS) ID number; and
- Other immigration number (*e.g.*, Employment Authorization Document card number, naturalization number, citizenship certificate number).

Information collected from agency user who accesses the system to facilitate citizenship and immigration status verification may include the following:

- Agency name;
- Address;
- Names of Agency Point(s) of Contact;
- Title of Agency Point(s) of Contact;
- Contact telephone number;
- Fax number;
- Email address;
- User ID; and
- Type of license/benefit(s) the agency issues (*e.g.*, Unemployment Insurance, Educational Assistance, Driver Licensing, and Social Security Enumeration).

System-generated responses as a result of the SAVE verification process may include:

- Verification Case Number; and
- SAVE response.

Information collected from the benefit-granting agency about actions that an agency adjudicating Federal means-tested public benefits takes to deem sponsor income as part of applicant income for purposes of Federal means-tested benefits eligibility and to seek reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants may include:

- Whether the benefit-granting agency approved or denied the application for the means-tested public benefit;
- If the benefit-granting agency denied the application, whether the denial was based upon the information that SAVE provided in its response to the citizenship and immigration status verification request from the benefit-granting agency;
- Whether the benefit-granting agency deemed sponsor/household member income and, if not, the exception or reason for not doing so;
- Whether the benefit-granting agency sent the sponsor a reimbursement request letter (yes/no);
- Whether the sponsor complied with his or her reimbursement obligation; and
- Whether the benefit-granting agency conducted a collection action or other proceeding if the sponsor did not comply with his or her reimbursement obligation (yes/no and if yes, the status, court or forum, and docket or matter number).

Individual information that may be used by SAVE to verify citizenship and immigration status and provide a SAVE response includes:

- Full Name;
- Date of birth;
- Country of birth;
- A-Number;
- SSN;
- Photograph;
- Government-issued identification (*e.g.*, foreign passport):
  - Document type;
  - Country of issuance (COI);
  - Document number; and
  - Expiration date.
- Visa number;
- Form numbers (*e.g.*, Form I–551, *Lawful Permanent Resident Card*, Form I–766, *Employment Authorization Document*);
- Other unique identifying numbers (*e.g.*, SEVIS Identification Number (SEVIS ID number), Admission number (I–94 number));
- Entry/Departure date;
- Port of entry;
- Alien Status Change date;
- Naturalization date;
- Date admitted until;
- Country of citizenship;
- Document Grant date;
- Document Receipt number;
- Codes (*e.g.*, class of admission, file control office, provision of law cited for employment authorization);
- Employment Authorization Document (EAD) history;
- Beneficiary information (*e.g.*, Full Name, A-Number, Date of birth, Country of birth, SSN);
- Petitioner information (*e.g.*, Full Name, A-Number, SSN, Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, Naturalization Certificate number);
- Sponsor(s) and household member(s) information (*e.g.*, Full Name, Address, SSN);
- Spouse information (*e.g.*, Full Name, A-Number, Date of birth, Country of birth, Country of citizenship, Class of admission, Date of admission, Receipt number, Phone number, Marriage date and location, Naturalization date and location);
- Children information (*e.g.*, Full Name, A-Number, Date of birth, Country of birth, Class of admission);
- Employer information (*e.g.*, Full Name, Address, Supervisor's name, Supervisor's Phone number); and
- Individuals associated with background checks information (*e.g.*, Full Name, A-Number, Date of birth, Country of birth).

Case history information may include:

- Alert(s);
- Case summary comments;
- Case category;
- Date of encounter;
- Encounter information;

[2] All references to "sponsor" or "sponsors" include sponsors, joint sponsors, and substitute sponsors, as defined in the regulations at 8 CFR part 213a.

- Custody actions and decisions;
- Case actions and decisions;
- Bonds;
- Photograph;
- Asylum applicant receipt date;
- Airline and flight number;
- Country of residence;
- City (*e.g.*, where boarded, where visa was issued);
- Date visa issued;
- Address in United States;
- Nationality;
- Decision memoranda; Investigatory reports and materials compiled for the purpose of enforcing immigration laws;
- Exhibits;
- Transcripts; and
- Other case-related papers concerning aliens, alleged aliens, or lawful permanent residents brought into the administrative adjudication process.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Records are obtained from several sources including: (A) Agencies and entities seeking to determine immigration or naturalized or derived citizenship status; (B) Individuals seeking public licenses, benefits, or credentials; (C) Other DHS components assisting with enrollment and system maintenance processes; (D) Information created by SAVE; and (E) Information collected from USCIS, DHS, and other Federal agency systems of records:

- DHS/USCIS/ICE/CBP–001 Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records, September 18, 2017 (82 FR 43556);
- DHS/USCIS–007 Benefits Information System, October 10, 2019 (84 FR 54622);
- DHS/USCIS–010 Asylum Information and Pre-Screening System of Records, November 30, 2015 (80 FR 74781);
- DHS/USCIS–018 Immigration Biometric and Background Check (IBBC) Records System of Records, July 31, 2018 (83 FR 36950);
- DHS/CBP–005 Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), March 13, 2015 (80 FR 13407);
- DHS/CBP–006 Automated Targeting System, May 22, 2012 (77 FR 30297);
- DHS/CBP–007 CBP Border Crossing Information (BCI), December 13, 2016 (81 FR 89957);
- DHS/CBP–011 U.S. Customs and Border Protection TECS, December 19, 2008 (73 FR 77778);
- DHS/CBP–016 Nonimmigrant Information System, March 13, 2015 (80 FR 13398);
- DHS/CBP–021 Arrival and Departure Information System (ADIS), November 18, 2015 (80 FR 72081);
- DHS/ICE–001 Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, January 5, 2010 (75 FR 412);
- DHS/ICE–011 Criminal Arrest Records and Immigration Enforcement Records (CARIER) System of Records, October 19, 2016 (81 FR 72080);
- DHS/ALL–003 Department of Homeland Security General Training Records, November 25, 2008 (73 FR 71656);
- DHS/ALL–016 Correspondence Records, September 26, 2018 (83 FR 48645);
- JUSTICE/EOIR–001 Records and Management Information System, May 11, 2004 (69 FR 26179); including routine use updates in 82 FR 24147 (May 25, 2017);
- STATE–05 Overseas Citizens Services Records and Other Overseas Records, September 8, 2016 (81 FR 62235);
- STATE–26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 FR 15653); and
- STATE–39 Visa Records, June 15, 2018 (83 FR 28062).

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, all or a portion of the records or information contained in this system may be disclosed outside DHS as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3) as follows:

A. To the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the U.S. Attorneys Offices, or other Federal agencies conducting litigation or proceedings before any court, adjudicative, or administrative body, when it is relevant or necessary to the litigation and one of the following is a party to the litigation or has an interest in such litigation:

1. DHS or any component thereof;
2. Any employee or former employee of DHS in his/her official capacity;
3. Any employee or former employee of DHS in his/her individual capacity, only when DOJ or DHS has agreed to represent the employee; or
4. The United States or any agency thereof.

B. To a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from that congressional office made at the request of the individual to whom the record pertains.

C. To the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) or General Services Administration pursuant to records management inspections being conducted under the authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

D. To an agency or organization for the purpose of performing audit or oversight operations as authorized by law, but only such information as is necessary and relevant to such audit or oversight function.

E. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) DHS suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (2) DHS has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, DHS (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with DHS's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

F. To another Federal agency or Federal entity, when DHS determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (1) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (2) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach.

G. To an appropriate Federal, state, tribal, local, international, or foreign law enforcement agency or other appropriate authority charged with investigating or prosecuting a violation or enforcing or implementing a law, rule, regulation, or order, when a record, either on its face or in conjunction with other information, indicates a violation or potential violation of law, which includes criminal, civil, or regulatory violations and such disclosure is proper and consistent with the official duties of the person making the disclosure.

H. To contractors and their agents, grantees, experts, consultants, and others performing or working on a contract, service, grant, cooperative agreement, or other assignment for DHS, when necessary to accomplish an agency function related to this system of records. Individuals provided information under this routine use are subject to the same Privacy Act requirements and limitations on disclosure as are applicable to DHS officers and employees.

I. To approved Federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies for any legally mandated purpose in accordance with their authorizing statute or law and when an approved Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Computer

Matching Agreement (CMA) is in place between DHS and the entity.

J. To a Federal, state, tribal, or local government agency that oversees or administers Federal means-tested public benefits for purposes of seeking reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants, as well as reporting on overall sponsor deeming and agency reimbursement efforts to appropriate administrative and oversight agencies.

K. To airport operators to determine the eligibility of individuals seeking unescorted access to any Security Identification Display Area of an airport, as required by the FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016.

L. To the news media and the public, with the approval of the Chief Privacy Officer in consultation with counsel, when there exists a legitimate public interest in the disclosure of the information, when disclosure is necessary to preserve confidence in the integrity of DHS, or when disclosure is necessary to demonstrate the accountability of DHS's officers, employees, or individuals covered by the system, except to the extent the Chief Privacy Officer determines that release of the specific information in the context of a particular case would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

DHS/USCIS stores records in this system electronically or on paper in secure facilities in a locked drawer behind a locked door. The records may be stored on magnetic disc, tape, and digital media.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

DHS/USCIS retrieves records by name of applicant or other unique identifier to include: Verification Case Number, A-Number, I–94 Number, Social Security number, Passport number, Visa number, SEVIS ID number, or by the submitting agency name.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

SAVE records are covered by NARA-approved records retention and disposal schedule, N1–566–08–07. Records collected in the process of enrolling in SAVE and in verifying citizenship or immigration status are stored and retained in SAVE for ten (10) years from the date of the completion of verification. However, if the records are part of an ongoing investigation, they will be retained until completion of the investigation and pursuant to the records retention schedule associated with the investigation. This initial 10-year period is based on the statute of limitations for most types of misuse or fraud possible using SAVE (under 18 U.S.C. 3291, the statute of limitations for false statements or misuse regarding passports, citizenship, or naturalization documents).

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

DHS/USCIS safeguards records in this system according to applicable rules and policies, including all applicable DHS automated systems security and access policies. USCIS has imposed strict controls to minimize the risk of compromising the information that is being stored. Access to the computer system containing the records in this system is limited to those individuals who have a need to know the information for the performance of their official duties and who have appropriate clearances or permissions.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Individuals seeking access to and notification of any record contained in this system of records, or seeking to contest its content, may submit a request in writing to the Chief Privacy Officer and to the USCIS FOIA/Privacy Act Officer whose contact information can be found at *http://www.dhs.gov/foia* under "Contacts Information." If an individual believes more than one component maintains Privacy Act records concerning him or her, the individual may submit the request to the Chief Privacy Officer and Chief Freedom of Information Act Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528–0655. Even if neither the Privacy Act nor the Judicial Redress Act (JRA) provide a right of access, certain records about him or her may be available under the Freedom of Information Act.

When an individual is seeking records about himself or herself from this system of records or any other Departmental system of records, the individual's request must conform with the Privacy Act regulations set forth in 6 CFR part 5. The individual must first verify his/her identity, meaning that the individual must provide his/her full name, current address, and date and place of birth. The individual must sign the request, and the individual's signature must either be notarized or submitted under 28 U.S.C. 1746, a law that permits statements to be made under penalty of perjury as a substitute for notarization. While no specific form is required, an individual may obtain forms for this purpose from the Chief Privacy Officer and Chief Freedom of Information Act Officer, *http://www.dhs.gov/foia* or 1–866–431–0486. In addition, the individual should:

- Explain why the individual believes the Department would have information on him/her;
- Identify which component(s) of the Department the individual believes may have the information about him/her;
- Specify when the individual believes the records would have been created; and
- Provide any other information that will help the FOIA staff determine which DHS component agency may have responsive records;

If an individual's request is seeking records pertaining to another living individual, the first individual must include a statement from the second individual certifying his/her agreement for the first individual to access his/her records.

Without the above information, the component(s) may not be able to conduct an effective search, and the individual's request may be denied due to lack of specificity or lack of compliance with applicable regulations.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

For records covered by the Privacy Act or covered JRA records, see "Record Access Procedures" above. For records not covered by the Privacy Act or Judicial Redress Act, individuals may still amend their records at a USCIS Field Office by contacting the USCIS Contact Center at 1–800–375–5283 to request an appointment.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

See "Record Access Procedures."

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None. However, when this system receives a record from another system exempted in that source system under 5 U.S.C. 552a, DHS will claim the same exemptions for those records that are claimed for the original primary systems of records from which they originated.

HISTORY:

81 FR 78619 (November 8, 2016); 76 FR 183 (September 21, 2011); 73 FR 75445 (December 11, 2008); 73 FR 10793 (February 28, 2008); 72 FR 17569 (April 9, 2007); 67 FR 64134 (October 17, 2002); and 66 FR 174 (September 7, 2001).

Constantina Kozanas,

Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2020–11390 Filed 5–26–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–97–P

Protection Agency, 109 TW Alexander Drive, RTP, NC 27711; telephone number: (919) 541–3649; email address: *houyoux.marc@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through October 31, 2025. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on June 5, 2025, during a 60-day comment period (90 FR 23932). This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. Supporting documents, which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting, are available in the public docket for this ICR. The supporting documents include a response to comments document that compiles and responds to comments received in the first notice. The docket can be viewed online at *www.regulations.gov* or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202–566–1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, *visit http://www.epa.gov/dockets*.

Abstract: The EPA promulgated the Air Emissions Reporting Requirements (AERR) (40 CFR part 51, subpart A) to coordinate emissions inventory reporting requirements. Under this reporting, 54 State and territorial air quality agencies, including the District of Columbia, as well as an estimated 9 local air quality agencies, must submit emissions data every 3 years for all point sources and some non-point, on-road mobile, and non-road mobile sources of volatile organic compounds, oxides of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter less than or equal to 10 micrometers in diameter, particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers in diameter, ammonia, and lead. In addition, the air quality agencies must submit annual emission data for point sources for a subset of point sources every year. An estimated 5 Tribal air agencies voluntarily submit point and nonpoint sources in triennial years.

The data collected from the emission reporting is necessary to compile and make publicly available a national inventory of air pollutant emissions. The information collected supports both EPA's implementation of the CAA, and State/Local/Tribal air agencies in fulfilling their requirements under CAA sections 110(a), 172, 182, 187, and 189 to implement primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). A comprehensive inventory updated at regular intervals is essential to allow the EPA to fulfill its mandate to monitor and plan for the attainment and maintenance of the NAAQS established for criteria pollutants in the CAA.

Form Numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this collection request are generally State, territorial, and local government air quality managements programs. Tribal governments are not affected unless they have sought and obtained "Treatment as a State" (TAS) status under the Tribal Authority Rule and, on that basis, are authorized to implement and enforce the AERR rule. For the most recent 2023 triennial inventory, no Tribes have TAS for emissions inventory reporting, and 2 Tribal agencies voluntarily reported to the NEI.

Additionally, State and local agencies collect data from owners/operators to be able to provide it to the EPA. The EPA seeks information from State and local air agencies to indicate the degree to which emissions data collection is due to the AERR rather than something that these agencies would impose even in the absence of the AERR.

Respondent's obligation to respond: This information is collected under 23 U.S.C. 101; 42 U.S.C. 7401–7671q, and the authority of the AERR. This information is mandatory and, as specified, cannot be treated as confidential by the EPA.

Estimated number of respondents: 68 (total including voluntarily reporting) State, local and Tribal agencies and 12,379 owners/operators reporting to State and local agencies.

Frequency of response: Annual.

Total estimated burden: 53,482 hours (per year) including 7,865 voluntary hours (per year) for State, local, and Tribal air agencies and 145,077 hours (per year) for owners/operators including 84 voluntary hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

Total estimated cost: $19,854,038 (per year) for State, local, and Tribal air agencies, which includes $712,432 for voluntary activities and $15,130,399 annualized capital or operation and maintenance costs. $16,578,243 (per year) for owners/operators.

Changes in the estimates: There is an increase of 4,780 hours in the total estimated respondent burden for State, local, and Tribal air agencies and an increase of 145,077 hours for owners/operators compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB. This increase for State, local, and Tribal air agencies is due to improvements in the way the EPA estimates the burden. The increase for owners/operators is due to including the burden on owners/operators for the first time in the approach.

Courtney Kerwin,

Director, Information Engagement Division.

[FR Doc. 2025–19733 Filed 10–30–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. USCIS–2025–0337]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

ACTION: Notice of a modified system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposes to modify and reissue a DHS system of records notice (SORN) titled, "Department of Homeland Security/U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE)." As described in this modified SORN, USCIS, an agency within DHS, collects and maintains records on applicants for public benefits, licenses, grants, governmental credentials, and other statutorily authorized purposes through the SAVE program. SAVE allows registered user agencies to verify the immigration status/category ("immigration status") and U.S. citizenship (including for U.S. citizens by birth, naturalized and certain acquired citizens) of individuals applying for or receiving a public benefit, license or other authorized purpose ("benefit"). "Acquired citizenship" refers to U.S. citizenship conveyed to children through the naturalization of parents or, under certain circumstances, at birth to foreign-born children of U.S. citizens, provided certain conditions are met. DHS/USCIS is updating this SORN to include updates and modifications to the (1) purpose(s) of the system, (2) categories of individuals covered by the system, (3) categories of records in the system, (4) records source categories, and (5) routine uses of records maintained in the system. Additionally, this notice includes non-substantive changes to simplify the formatting and text of the previously published notice.

This modified system will be included in DHS's inventory of record systems.

DATES: Submit comments on or before December 1, 2025. This modified system will be effective upon publication. New or modified routine uses will be effective December 1, 2025.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number USCIS–2025–0337 by one of the following methods:

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–343–4010.
- *Mail:* Roman Jankowski, Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528–0655.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number USCIS–2025–0337. All comments received will be posted without change to *http://www.regulations.gov*, including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to *http://www.regulations.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions, please contact: Angela Y. Washington, 240–721–3705, Privacy Officer, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, USCIS Headquarters, 5900 Capital Gateway Dr., Camp Springs, MD 20746. For privacy questions, please contact: Roman Jankowski, (202) 343–1717, Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528–0655.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is proposing to modify and reissue a current DHS SORN titled, "DHS/USCIS–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program System of Records."

This modified SORN is being published to update the purpose of SAVE to include the addition of expanded search functionality for registered SAVE user agencies to verify the U.S. citizenship of U.S. citizens by birth and to clarify use of SAVE for voter verification.

This SORN modification also clarifies and informs the public that SAVE has removed transaction charges for all state, local, tribal, and territorial government agencies that use the system. Federal agencies are still charged a fee to use SAVE.

DHS/USCIS is adding individuals that are U.S. citizens by birth to the categories of individuals covered by the system.

DHS/USCIS is updating the categories of records in the system to include collecting both full and truncated (last four digits) Social Security number (other than those collected on Form G–845, Verification Request), U.S. passport number, driver's license number, and information from the Social Security Administration.

DHS/USCIS is revising the record source categories to add SSA–60–0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders, Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 FR 10025) and state or other national agencies that issue or maintain driver's license information.

DHS/USCIS is amending the routine uses section of the SORN to include adding Routine Use L, to support sharing with Social Security Administration and other federal organizations, and Routine Use M, to support sharing with federal agencies (*e.g.*, the Department of Health and Human Services) to support auditing of federal programs administered by state, local, and tribal governments (*e.g.*, Medicaid).

Additionally, this notice includes non-substantive changes, including reorganizing of categories of records, change in the use of terms such as from "derived" citizen/citizenship to "acquired" citizen/citizenship, and spelling out of form names from the previously published system of records notice.

Consistent with DHS's information sharing mission, information stored in DHS/USCIS SAVE may be shared with other DHS Components that have a need to know of the information to carry out their national security, law enforcement, immigration, intelligence, or other homeland security functions. In addition, DHS/USCIS may share information with appropriate federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, foreign, or international government agencies consistent with the routine uses set forth in this system of records notice. Information in SAVE, including records submitted by the user agency, is not to be used for administrative (non-criminal) immigration enforcement purposes. *See* Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA), Public Law 99–603, Part C, Section 121(c)(1) (Nov. 6, 1986).

This modified system will be included in DHS's inventory of record systems. USCIS administers SAVE. SAVE is an online intergovernmental service designed to help federal, state, territorial, tribal, local government agencies, benefit-granting agencies, other authorized entities (*e.g.*, Airport Operators under the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Extension, Safety and Security Act of 2016), and licensing bureaus, as authorized by law (collectively, "SAVE user agencies"), determine the U.S. citizenship and immigration status of individuals within their jurisdiction for the purpose of granting benefits, licenses, and other lawful purposes. Uses of SAVE may include verification of immigration status or category and U.S citizenship, including U.S. citizens by birth as well as naturalized and certain acquired citizens, when issuing benefits such as Social Security numbers, public health care, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program payments, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program; conducting background investigations, armed forces recruitment, REAL ID compliance; or any other purpose authorized by law, including verification of registrants and registered voters in voter registration and voter list maintenance processes. Prior to accessing SAVE, an agency must register as a user and enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with DHS/USCIS. The prospective user provides the legal authorities requiring or permitting verification of immigration status or U.S. citizenship as part of issuing a benefit. SAVE does not determine a benefit applicant's eligibility for a specific benefit. Only the user agency makes that determination.

A typical SAVE verification involves a registered federal, state, territorial, tribal, or local government benefit or license-granting agency verifying the immigration status or U.S. citizenship of a benefit applicant. SAVE is not a database for immigration status and citizenship information. Rather, SAVE accesses the USCIS Verification Data Integration Service which searches multiple government databases or systems to provide a SAVE response. The initial SAVE response is derived from information contained in government systems accessed by SAVE using information from U.S. government-issued documents, such as a Social Security card, Permanent Resident Card (often referred to as a Green Card) or an Employment Authorization Document. For a SAVE user agency to create a SAVE case, the agency must collect and enter certain identifiers from the benefit applicant's identity document(s). The verification process is driven by identifiers generally

located on immigration documents (*e.g.*, Alien Registration Number (Alien Number or A-Number)/USCIS Number, Card Number/I–797 Receipt Number, or Citizenship/Naturalization Certificate Number) or other government-issued documents (*e.g.*, a Social Security number). The identifier presented by the individual determines the verification process.

SAVE user agencies input data elements pertaining to the applicant through SAVE. SAVE then connects to the internal USCIS Verification Data Integration Service to process the request using the user agency provided data. These data elements may include last name, first name, middle name, date of birth, Social Security number, passport number, driver's license number, one or more DHS immigration enumerators (*e.g.*, Alien Registration Number/USCIS Number, Arrival-Departure Record I–94 Number, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification Number, Certificate of Naturalization Number, Certificate of Citizenship Number, or Unexpired Foreign Passport Number), and other information from immigration documentation (*e.g.*, country of birth, date of entry, or employment authorization category). If the USCIS Verification Data Integration Service locates a corresponding record, it will convey a response to SAVE, and SAVE will send a SAVE case response that includes the data elements used to create the case. It may add one or more additional data elements such as a verification case number, U.S. citizenship or immigration data (*e.g.*, U.S. citizenship, immigration status or category, immigration class of admission and/or employment authorization.), grant date, and sponsorship data. SAVE's responses are based upon the user agency's authority to use SAVE and the type of benefit administered by the user agency.

If SAVE is unable to provide an initial automated response verifying the benefit applicant's immigration status or U.S. citizenship, SAVE will provide instructions on actions the user agency may take, including requesting additional verification. Users may also request additional verification when they have questions about a SAVE response or when requested by the benefit applicant. SAVE additional verification procedures generally entail in-depth electronic and manual research in available records (including both electronic records as well as paper Alien Files (A-Files), when necessary) by USCIS status verification staff to verify the benefit applicant's immigration status or U.S. citizenship.

On January 20, 2025, and March 25, 2025, respectively, the President issued Executive Orders 14159, *Protecting the American People Against Invasion* and 14248, *Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections.* Executive Order 14159 requires the Secretary to "promptly issue guidance to ensure maximum compliance by [DHS] personnel with the provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1373 and 8 U.S.C. 1644 and ensure that state and local governments are provided with the information necessary to fulfill law enforcement, U.S citizenship, or immigration status verification requirements authorized by law." Executive Order 14248 provides:

> . . . Federal laws, such as the National Voter Registration Act (Pub. L. 103–31) and the Help America Vote Act (Pub. L. 107–252), require States to maintain an accurate and current Statewide list of every legally registered voter in the State. And the Department of Homeland Security is required to share database information with States upon request so they can fulfill this duty. See 8 U.S.C. 1373(c).

Executive Order 14159 directs the Secretary to "ensure that state and local officials have, without the requirement of the payment of a fee, access to appropriate systems for verifying the citizenship or immigration status of individuals registering to vote or who are already registered."

Pursuant to these Executive Orders, DHS personnel must timely provide verification of U.S. citizenship and immigration status information in response to inquiries from federal, state, and local government agencies to verify or ascertain the U.S. citizenship or immigration status of individuals within the jurisdiction of the State or local government agency for any purpose authorized by law. DHS personnel will comply with these requirements, to the maximum extent possible and permissible under law, considering federal statutory requirements, including the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a and 8 U.S.C. 1367 (special protected class information); as well as other applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies, and requirements regarding verification, information sharing, and confidentiality.

To respond to these requirements, USCIS has incorporated a feature to allow SAVE user agencies to create a SAVE case using a full or partial Social Security number and other government-issued enumerators (*e.g.*, passport number; driver's license number). This allows SAVE user agencies to utilize enumerators that are often more readily available and to verify U.S. citizenship for individuals who do not have an immigration enumerator.

1. Enumerators and Source Systems

a. Social Security Number (Social Security Administration Enumeration System)

When creating a case in SAVE, the user agency must always enter the individual's first and last name, date of birth, and at least one enumerator, which may now include a full 9-digit or partial Social Security number. The ability to create a SAVE case using a full or partial Social Security number is initially limited to users who log into SAVE via a web browser but will eventually be expanded to user agencies who use a system-to-system connection with SAVE via web services.

Where a user uses a full or partial Social Security number to create a SAVE case, USCIS now provides this information to the Social Security Administration Enumeration System for search and response. The Social Security Administration provides the following responses to USCIS:

- Social Security number match (True/False);
- Name match (True/False);
- Date of birth match (True/False);
- Citizenship indicator;
  - "A"—U.S. Citizen;
  - "B"—Legal alien, eligible to work;
  - "C"—Legal alien, not eligible to work;
  - "D"—Other;
  - "E"—Alien Student—restricted work authorized; and
  - "F"—Conditionally legalized alien.
- Foreign born indicator (Citizenship code is not present, but individual was foreign born);
- State/Country code;
- American Samoa indicator (True/False);
- Alien Registration Number (Alien Number or A-Number) (where applicable);
- Death indicator (Yes/No); and
- Error code descriptions (transaction and record levels).

This search functionality allows SAVE the capability to verify the Social Security number and U.S. citizen indicators of many U.S. citizens by birth, as found in the Enumeration System. This is an expansion from the previous SAVE functionality, which limited U.S. citizenship verification to DHS records of naturalized and certain acquired U.S. citizens.

b. U.S. Passport Number (Department of State)

SAVE has added the ability for user agencies to verify acquired citizenship

for individuals using a search by name, date of birth, and passport number. USCIS will compare this information against information available in DHS-accessed systems to provide a match or no match response. Prior to having access to passport records, SAVE could only verify acquired U.S. citizens if the individual applied for and received a Certificate of Citizenship from USCIS or if the U.S. Department of State provided USCIS with a record of the passport citizenship adjudication and, if applicable, USCIS will update the individual's record.

c. Driver's License Number (State Records)

Driver's licenses are the most widely used form of identification. By working with state driver's licensing agencies and national agencies that store driver's license information for legal purposes (such as the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS)), SAVE will use driver's license and state identification card numbers to check and confirm identity information. When the agency provides a driver's license or state identification card number as the enumerator to verify the identity of the applicant, SAVE will use state driver's licensing agencies or another source (such as NLETS) to validate the information and gain access to other government enumerators. This will allow SAVE to match against other sources to verify immigration status and U.S. citizenship, which will improve accuracy and efficiency for SAVE user agencies. It must be noted that the Driver's license number search functionality is not live at the time of publication but will be in the foreseeable future.

2. List Processor Feature

User agencies now have the capability to create cases in SAVE by uploading a file with a list of multiple cases. This provides greater efficiency, because the user agency no longer has to enter cases into SAVE one at a time. Initially, only users who log into SAVE using a web browser will have access to this feature, but USCIS may extend this feature to other users in the future.

After file upload and acceptance of the data, SAVE, through an automated process, creates front-end single-record cases for each entry; this is not batch processing but SAVE creating each case individually for the user agency. Initially, the creation of cases using this feature is limited to cases created using an Alien Registration Number, Citizenship or Naturalization Certificate number, or Social Security number. Agencies are not prompted to institute additional verification when using this process but are instructed to resubmit with additional information when the process is unable to return a response. Expansion of this feature in the future may include the ability to create cases with additional enumerators and the ability to request configured information not automatically selected for the benefit type.

User agencies can access each case created using the list processor feature in SAVE as normal, by viewing the individual case status and response. SAVE also has a feature available to all user agencies to generate a report that will list all the cases created, the status of an individual case, and the SAVE response. Access to generate the report, including what cases are included, vary depending upon the user's permissions. USCIS provides this verification service for all benefit requests.

3. Auditing Verification Records To Support Oversight Organizations

SAVE will support organizations that have entered into required agreements with USCIS and have legal oversight authority over a program or benefit type supported by SAVE through reporting capabilities for auditing purposes. User agencies with a legal authority to monitor and audit benefits granted or voter registration records may view relevant case data such as biographic data, enumerators, case submission date/time, and SAVE response information. Reporting options exist for individual user agencies and their case data.

Additionally, user agencies with appropriate legal authority may now view, within SAVE, other user agencies' case data through a linking mechanism based on either benefit type granted (*e.g.*, Medicare) or by state. This new account type will have reporting options to view case data.

Other account types enable user agencies to create cases within SAVE to verify applicants' current eligibility for benefits previously granted. This will allow organizations, such as federal and state oversight agencies, to ensure user agencies that they legally monitor, and audit are properly verifying immigration status or citizenship status before making an eligibility determination and to ensure previously approved applicants remain eligible for the benefits they are receiving.

4. Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance

Through this SORN, DHS/USCIS is administratively clarifying the purpose of this system of records by reinserting voter registration that was previously published in 76 FR 58525 (September 21, 2011) and updating to the term "voter verification" to include verification of U.S. citizens by birth through Social Security number matching. Also, DHS/USCIS is expanding the purpose to include the additional search functionality to verify the citizenship of U.S. citizens by birth for all registered benefits and licenses by registered SAVE user agencies.

II. Privacy Act

The Privacy Act embodies fair information practice principles in a statutory framework governing the means by which Federal Government agencies collect, maintain, use, and disseminate individuals' records. The Privacy Act applies to information that is maintained in a "system of records." A "system of records" is a group of any records under the control of an agency from which information is retrieved by the name of an individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual. In the Privacy Act, an individual is defined to encompass U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents. Additionally, and similarly, the Judicial Redress Act provides covered persons with a statutory right to make requests for access and amendment to covered records, as defined by the Judicial Redress Act, along with judicial review for denials of such requests. In addition, the Judicial Redress Act prohibits disclosures of covered records, except as otherwise permitted by the Privacy Act.

Below is the description of the DHS/USCIS–004 SAVE Program System of Records. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(r), DHS has provided a report of this system of records to the Office of Management and Budget and to Congress.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)–004 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program System of Records.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Records are maintained at the USCIS Headquarters in Camp Springs, MD and at DHS/USCIS field offices. Electronic records for Verification Data Integration Service are stored in a secure, cloud hosted environment.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Chief, Verification Division, *SAVE.help@uscis.dhs.gov*, U.S.

Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop 2620, Camp Springs, MD 20588–0009.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

Authority for having a system for verification of citizenship and immigration status is found in Immigration and Nationality Act, Public Law 82–414, 66 Stat. 163 (June 27, 1952), as amended, Immigration Reform and Control Act, Public Law 99–603, 100 Stat. 3359 (Nov. 6, 1986); Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, Public Law 104–193, 110 Stat. 2105 (Aug. 22, 1996); Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, Public Law 104–208, 110 Stat. 3009 (Sept. 30, 1996); (8 U.S.C. 1373(c)); the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109–13, 119 Stat. 231 (May 11, 2005); Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111–148, 124 Stat. 119 (Mar. 23, 2010), as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111–152, 124 Stat. 1029 (Mar. 30, 2010); and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016, Public Law 114–190, 130 Stat. 615 (July 15, 2016), 8 CFR part 213a (Affidavits of Support on Behalf of Immigrants).

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The purpose of this system is to provide a service (fee-based for federal agencies) that assists federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local benefit-granting agencies, licensing bureaus, and other authorized entities for any legally mandated purpose in accordance with an authorizing statute to verify the U.S. citizenship and immigration status of individual, to include naturalized, derived, and U.S. citizens by birth, within their jurisdiction applying for benefits, and to otherwise efficiently administer their programs, to the extent that such disclosure is necessary to enable these agencies and entities to make decisions related to (1) determining eligibility for a federal, state, territorial, tribal, or local public benefit; (2) issuing a license or grant; (3) issuing a government credential; (4) conducting a background investigation; (5) voter verification or (6) any other lawful purpose. This system is also used for USCIS bond management purposes under section 213 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Categories of individuals covered by this system include: (1) individuals who have filed, for themselves or on the behalf of others, applications or other requests for federal, state, territorial, tribal or local licenses or benefits; (2) individuals who are U.S. citizens, including those who are U.S. citizens by birth, and naturalized or acquired U.S. citizens; (3) individuals who have applied for or received other immigration benefits pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1103 *et seq.* or other applicable law; (4) sponsors and household members listed on the Form I–864 or I–864EZ, *Affidavit of Support Under C Member; Section 213A of the Act* or Form I–864A, *Contract Between Sponsor and Household Member;* (5) individuals subject to certain background investigations; (6) individuals accessing SAVE Case Check; (7) users and administrators who access the system to facilitate U.S citizenship and immigration status verification; and (8) other individuals whose information is verified with SAVE pursuant to an agreement between a user agency and SAVE (*e.g.*, SAVE Memorandum of Agreement). All references to "sponsor" or "sponsors" include sponsors, joint sponsors, and substitute sponsors, as defined in the regulations at 8 CFR part 213a.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Information collected from the benefit applicant by the user agency to facilitate U.S citizenship and immigration status verification may include the following:

- Individual's full name (maiden name if applicable);
- Date of birth;
- Country of birth;
- Citizenship or nationality;
- Alien Registration Number (A-Number)/USCIS number;
- Other immigration number/enumerator (*e.g.*, Employment Authorization Document card number, naturalization certificate number, citizenship certificate number);
- Form I–94, Arrival/Departure Record number;
- Visa number;
- Receipt number/card number;
- Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification number;
- Foreign Passport number and country of issuance;
- Social Security number (full and truncated) or other alternate number issued by the SSA (*e.g.*, Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN);
- U.S Passport number;
- Driver's license number;
- Agency Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number;
- Benefit type sought (*e.g.*, background check, driver's license/state identification, education grant/loan/work study, Employment Authorization, housing assistance, Medicaid/Medical Assistance, Social Security number issuance, and voter verification); and
- Copies of original immigration documents.

Information collected from the user agency who accesses the system to facilitate U.S citizenship and immigration status verification may include the following:

- Agency name;
- Address;
- Names of agency points(s) of contact;
- Title of agency point(s) of contact;
- Contact telephone number;
- Fax number;
- Email address;
- User identification; and
- Type of license/benefit(s) the agency issues (*e.g.*, Unemployment Insurance, Educational Assistance, Driver Licensing, and Social Security Enumeration)

Information collected from the Social Security Administration used by SAVE to verify U.S. citizenship or immigration status of an applicant on behalf of a SAVE user agency:

- Social Security number match (True/False);
- Name match (True/False);
- Date of birth match (True/False);
- Death indicator (Yes Deceased/Not Deceased);
- Citizenship indicator;
  - "A"—U.S. citizen;
  - "B"—Legal alien, eligible to work;
  - "C"—Legal alien, not eligible to work;
  - "D"—Other;
  - "E"—Alien student-restricted work authorized; and
  - "F"—Conditionally legalized alien.
- Foreign Born Indicator (Citizenship code is not present, but individual was foreign born);
- Alien Registration Number (Alien Number or A-Number) (where applicable); and
- Error code descriptions (transaction and record levels).

System-generated responses because of the SAVE verification process may include:

- Verification case number; and
- SAVE response.

Information collected from the benefit-granting agency about actions that an agency adjudicating Federal means-tested public benefits takes to deem sponsor income as part of applicant income for purposes of Federal means-tested benefits eligibility and to seek reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants may include:

• Whether the benefit-granting agency approved or denied the application for the means-tested public benefit;

• If the benefit-granting agency denied the application, whether the denial was based upon the information that SAVE provided in its response to the citizenship and immigration status verification request from the benefit-granting agency;

• Whether the benefit-granting agency deemed sponsor/household member income and, if not, the exception or reason for not doing so;

• Whether the benefit-granting agency sent the sponsor a reimbursement request letter (yes/no);

• Whether the sponsor complied with his or her reimbursement obligation; and

• Whether the benefit-granting agency conducted a collection action or other proceedings if the sponsor did not comply with his or her reimbursement obligation (yes/no and if yes, the status, court or forum, and docket or matter number).

Individual information that may be used by SAVE to verify U.S citizenship and immigration status and provide a SAVE response includes:

• Full name;
• Date of birth;
• Country of birth;
• Alien Registration Number (Alien Number or A-Number);
• Social Security number;
• Photograph;
• U.S. passport;
• Driver's license number or State identification number;
• Receipt number/card number (*e.g.*, Form I–551, *Lawful Permanent Resident Card*, Form I–766, *Employment Authorization Document*);
• Other unique identifying numbers (*e.g.*, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification number, Form I–94 number, etc.);
• Visa number;
• Government-issued identification (*e.g.*, foreign passport);
  ○ Document type;
  ○ Country of issuance (COI);
  ○ Document number; and
  ○ Expiration date.
• Entry/Departure date;
• Port of entry;
• Alien status change date;
• Naturalization date;
• Date admitted until;
• Country of citizenship;
• Document grant date;
• Document receipt number;
• Codes (*e.g.*, class of admission, file control office, provision of law cited for employment authorization);
• Employment Authorization Document (EAD) history;
• Beneficiary information (*e.g.*, full name, Alien Registration Number, date of birth, country of birth, Social Security number);
• Petitioner information (*e.g.*, full name, Alien Registration Number, Social Security number, Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, Naturalization Certificate number); and
• Sponsor(s) and household member(s) information (*e.g.*, Full Name, Address, Social Security number).

SAVE may also access immigration case history for other individuals, including:

• Spouse information (*e.g.*, full name, Alien Registration Number, date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship, class of admission, date of admission, receipt number, phone number, marriage date and location, naturalization date and location);
• Children information (*e.g.*, full name, Alien Registration Number, date of birth, country of birth, class of admission);
• Employer information (*e.g.*, full name, address, supervisor's name, supervisor's phone number); and
• Individuals associated with background checks information (*e.g.*, full name, Alien Registration Number, date of birth, country of birth).

Case history information may include:

• Alert(s);
• Case summary comments;
• Case category;
• Date of encounter;
• Encounter information;
• Custody actions and decisions;
• Case actions and decisions;
• Bonds;
• Photograph;
• Asylum applicant receipt date;
• Airline and flight number;
• Country of residence;
• City (*e.g.*, where boarded, where visa was issued);
• Date visa issued;
• Address in United States;
• Nationality;
• Decision memoranda; investigatory reports and materials compiled for the purpose of enforcing immigration laws;
• Exhibits;
• Transcripts; and
• Other case-related papers concerning aliens, alleged aliens, or lawful permanent residents brought into the administrative adjudication process.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Records are obtained from several sources including: (A) agencies and entities seeking to determine U.S citizenship or immigration status of benefit applicants; (B) individuals seeking public licenses, benefits, or credentials; (C) other DHS components assisting with enrollment and system maintenance processes; (D) information created by SAVE; (E) state or national organizations issuing and maintaining driver's license or state identification information such as the NLETS; and (F) information collected and covered by the following USCIS, DHS, and other federal agency systems of records:

• DHS/USCIS/ICE/CBP–001 Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records, September 18, 2017 (FR 82 FR 43556);
• DHS/USCIS–007 Benefits Information System, October 10, 2019 (84 FR 54622);
• DHS/USCIS–010 Asylum Information and Pre-Screening System of Records, November 30, 2015 (80 FR 74781);
• DHS/USCIS–018 Immigration Biometric and Background Check (IBBC) Records System of Records, July 31, 2018 (83 FR 36950);
• DHS/CBP–005 Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), March 13, 2015 (80 FR 13407);
• DHS/CBP–006 Automated Targeting System, May 22, 2012 (77 FR 30297);
• DHS/CBP–007 CBP Border Crossing Information (BCI), December 13, 2016 (81 FR 89957);
• DHS/CBP–011 U.S. Customs and Border Protection TECS, December 19, 2008 (73 FR 77778);
• DHS/CBP–016 Nonimmigrant Information System, March 13, 2015 (80 FR 13398);
• DHS/CBP–021 Arrival and Departure Information System (ADIS), November 18, 2015 (80 FR 72081);
• DHS/ICE–001 DHS/ICE–001 Student and Visitor Exchange Program (SEVP), December 8, 2021 (86 FR 69663);
• DHS/ICE–011 Criminal Arrest Records and Immigration Enforcement Records (CARIER) System of Records, July 5, 2024 (89 FR 55638);
• DHS/ALL–003 Department of Homeland Security General Training Records, November 25, 2008 (73 FR71656);
• DHS/ALL–016 Correspondence Records, September 26, 2018 (83 FR 48645);
• JUSTICE/EOIR–002, Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO) Case Management System (CMS) August 16, 2019 (84 FR 42016);
• STATE–05 Overseas Citizens Services Records and Other Overseas Records, November 20, 2023 (88 FR 80804);
• STATE–26 Passport Records, March 24, 2015 (80 FR 15653);
• STATE–39 Visa Records, November 8, 2021 (86 FR 61822) and

• SSA–60–0058 Master Files of Social Security Number Holders and Social Security Number Applications, February 20, 2025 (90 FR 10025)

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, all or a portion of the records or information contained in this system may be disclosed outside DHS as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3) as follows:

A. To the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the U.S. Attorneys Offices, or other federal agency conducting litigation or proceedings before any court, adjudicative, or administrative body, when it is relevant or necessary to the litigation and one of the following is a party to the litigation or has an interest in such litigation:

1. DHS or any component thereof;
2. Any employee or former employee of DHS in his/her official capacity;
3. Any employee or former employee of DHS in his/her individual capacity, only when DOJ or DHS has agreed to represent the employee; or
4. The United States or any agency thereof.

B. To a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from that congressional office made at the request of the individual to whom the record pertains.

C. To the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) or General Services Administration pursuant to records management inspections being conducted under the authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

D. To an agency or organization for the purpose of performing audit or oversight operations as authorized by law, but only such information as is necessary and relevant to such audit or oversight function.

E. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) DHS suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (2) DHS has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, DHS (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with DHS's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

F. To another Federal agency or Federal entity, when DHS determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (1) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (2) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach.

G. To an appropriate federal, state, territorial, tribal, local, international, or foreign law enforcement agency or other appropriate authority charged with investigating or prosecuting a violation or enforcing or implementing a law, rule, regulation, or order, when a record, either on its face or in conjunction with other information, indicates a violation or potential violation of law, which includes criminal, civil, or regulatory violations and such disclosure is proper and consistent with the official duties of the person making the disclosure.

H. To contractors and their agents, grantees, experts, consultants, and others performing or working on a contract, service, grant, cooperative agreement, or other assignment for DHS, when necessary to accomplish an agency function related to this system of records. Individuals provided information under this routine use are subject to the same Privacy Act requirements and limitations on disclosure as are applicable to DHS officers and employees.

I. To approved federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local government agencies for any legally mandated purpose (*e.g.*, benefits, licensing, voter verification) in accordance with their authorizing statute or law and when an approved agreement (*e.g.*, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Computer Matching Agreement (CMA) is in place between DHS and the entity.

J. To a federal, state, territorial, tribal, or local government agency that oversees or administers Federal means-tested public benefits for purposes of seeking reimbursement from sponsors for the value of benefits provided to sponsored applicants, as well as reporting on overall sponsor deeming and agency reimbursement efforts to appropriate administrative and oversight agencies.

K. To airport operators to determine the eligibility of individuals seeking unescorted access to any Security Identification Display Area of an airport, as required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016.

L. To the Social Security Administration and other federal, state, tribal, territorial, local, governments and other authorized entities to assist user agencies determine U.S. citizenship and immigration status of an individual when a DHS approved agreement is in place between DHS and the entity.

M. To federal, state, territorial, tribal, local, and other entities that have legal authority to provide oversight to programs and benefits supported by SAVE for auditing of program requirements and when a DHS-approved agreement (*e.g.*, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Computer Matching Agreement (CMA)) is in place between DHS and the entity.

N. To the news media and the public, with the approval of the Chief Privacy Officer in consultation with counsel, when there exists a legitimate public interest in the disclosure of the information, when disclosure is necessary to preserve confidence in the integrity of DHS, or when disclosure is necessary to demonstrate the accountability of DHS's officers, employees, or individuals covered by the system, except to the extent the Chief Privacy Officer determines that release of the specific information in the context of a particular case would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

DHS/USCIS stores records in this system electronically or on paper in secure facilities in a locked drawer behind a locked door. The records may be stored on magnetic discs, tapes, and digital media. Additionally, information is located within the USCIS Verification Data Integration Service SAVE Program.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS

DHS/USCIS retrieves records by name of applicant or other unique identifier including, but not limited to Verification Case Number, Alien Registration Number (Alien Number or A-Number), I–94 Number, Social Security number, Passport number, Driver's license number, Visa number, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Identification number, or by the submitting agency name.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

SAVE records are covered by NARA-approved records retention and disposal schedule, N1–566–08–07. Records collected in the process of enrolling in SAVE and in verifying U.S. citizenship or immigration status are stored and retained in SAVE for ten (10) years from the date of the completion of

verification. However, if the records are part of an ongoing investigation, they will be retained until completion of the investigation and pursuant to the records retention schedule associated with the investigation. This initial 10-year period is based on the statute of limitations for most types of misuse or fraud possible using SAVE (under 18 U.S.C. 3291, the statute of limitations for false statements or misuse regarding passports, citizenship, or naturalization documents).

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

DHS/USCIS safeguards records in this system according to applicable rules and policies, including all applicable DHS automated systems security and access policies. USCIS has imposed strict controls to minimize the risk of compromising the information that is being stored. Access to the computer system containing the records in this system is limited to those individuals who have a need to know the information for the performance of their official duties and who have appropriate clearances or permissions.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Absent an authorized exception for disclosure exists, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security protects and withholds the Privacy Act of 1974/ Judicial Redress Act of 2015 covered records by law for U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, and Judicial Redress Act covered persons from covered countries.

Individuals seeking access to and notification of any record contained in this system of records, or seeking to contest its content, may submit a request online at *https://first.uscis.gov/* or submit a request in writing to the Chief Privacy Officer and to the USCIS FOIA/Privacy Act Officer whose contact information can be found at *http://www.dhs.gov/foia* under "Contacts Information." If an individual believes more than one component maintains Privacy Act records concerning him or her, the individual may submit the request to the Chief Privacy Officer and Chief Freedom of Information Act Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528–0655. Even if neither the Privacy Act nor the Judicial Redress Act provide a right of access, certain records about him or her may be available under the Freedom of Information Act.

When an individual is seeking records about himself or herself from this system of records or any other Departmental system of records, the individual's request must conform with the Privacy Act regulations set forth in 6 CFR part 5. The individual must first verify his/her identity, meaning that the individual must provide his/her full name, current address, and date and place of birth. The individual must sign the request, and the individual's signature must either be notarized or submitted under 28 U.S.C. 1746, a law that permits statements to be made under penalty of perjury as a substitute for notarization. While no specific form is required, an individual may obtain forms for this purpose from the Chief Privacy Officer and Chief Freedom of Information Act Officer, *http://www.dhs.gov/foia* or 1–866–431–0486. In addition, the individual should:

- Explain why the individual believes the Department would have information on him/her;
- Identify which component(s) of the Department the individual believes may have the information about him/her;
- Specify when the individual believes the records would have been created; and
- Provide any other information that will help the FOIA staff determine which DHS component agency may have responsive records.

If an individual's request is seeking records pertaining to another living individual, the first individual must include a statement from the second individual certifying his/her agreement for the first individual to access his/her records.

Without the above information, the component(s) may not be able to conduct an effective search, and the individual's request may be denied due to lack of specificity or lack of compliance with applicable regulations.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

For records covered by the Privacy Act or covered the Judicial Redress Act records, see "Record Access Procedures" above. For records not covered by the Privacy Act or Judicial Redress Act, individuals may still amend their records at a USCIS Field Office by contacting the USCIS Contact Center at 1–800–375–5283 (TTY 800–767–1833) to request an appointment.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

See "Record Access Procedures."

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None. However, when this system receives a record from another system exempted in that source system under 5 U.S.C. 552a, DHS will claim the same exemptions for those records that are claimed for the original primary systems of records from which they originated.

HISTORY:

85 FR 31798 (May 27, 2020); 81 FR 78619 (November 8, 2016); 76 FR 58525 (September 21, 2011); 73 FR 75445 (December 11, 2008); 73 FR 10793 (February 28, 2008); 72 FR 17569 (April 9, 2007); 67 FR 64134 (October 17, 2002); and 66 FR 46812 (September 7, 2001).

* * * * *

Roman Jankowski,

Chief Privacy Officer, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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BILLING CODE 9111–97–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Indian Gaming Commission

Fee Rate and Fingerprint Fees

AGENCY: National Indian Gaming Commission, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Indian Gaming Commission has adopted its annual fee rates of 0.00% for tier 1 and 0.08% (.0008) for tier 2, which maintain the current fee rates. These rates shall apply to all assessable gross revenues from each gaming operation under the jurisdiction of the Commission. If a tribe has a certificate of self-regulation, the fee rate on Class II revenues shall be 0.04% (.0004) which is one-half of the annual fee rate. The annual fee rates are effective November 1, 2025, and will remain in effect until new rates are adopted. The National Indian Gaming Commission has also adopted its fingerprint processing fee of $44 per card which remains the same as current fingerprint processing fee. The fingerprint processing fee is effective November 1, 2025, and will remain in effect until the Commission adopts a new rate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Yvonne Lee, National Indian Gaming Commission, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop #1621, Washington, DC 20240; telephone (202) 632–7003; fax (202) 632–7066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) established the National Indian Gaming Commission, which is charged with regulating gaming on Indian lands.

Commission regulations (25 CFR 514) provide for a system of fee assessment and payment that is self-administered by gaming operations. Pursuant to those regulations, the Commission is required to adopt and communicate assessment