# Worksite Enforcement and Raid Response Training



### Presented by:

Clete P. Samson

Of Counsel Omaha Clete.Samson@KutakRock.com (402) 661-8665

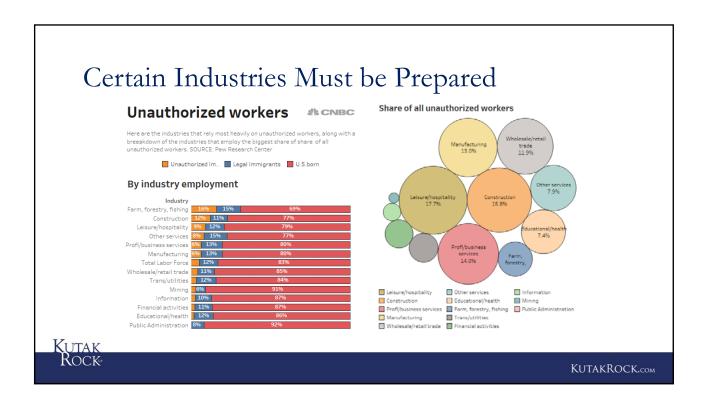


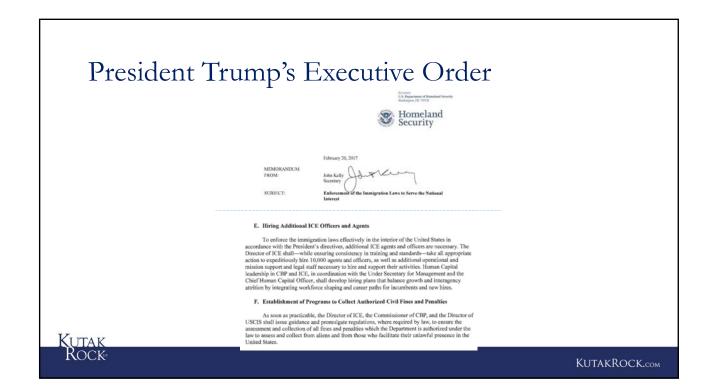
Atlanta | Chicago | Denver | Fayetteville | Irvine | Kansas City | Little Rock | Los Angeles | Minneapolis | Oklahoma City | Omaha | Philadelphia | Richmond | Rogers | Scottsdale | Spokane | Washington, D.C. | Wichita

# Unprecedented Times in Immigration









# History of Worksite Enforcement

- Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA) made it unlawful to knowingly hire or continue to employ an unauthorized alien, and required all employers to examine documents from new hires to verify identity and work authorization. Created the I-9 requirement and employer sanctions
- Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA) further defined what documents are acceptable for employers to review to verify identity and employment authorization



KUTAKROCK.com

# ICE's Worksite Enforcement Strategy

- Criminal prosecutions
- Egregious worksite violators
- Administrative processes to encourage compliance
- Form I-9 inspections
- Designed to protect and target critical infrastructure sectors
- Transition to Trump



### Form I-9 Audits and Related Violations

- Civil / Administrative
- Knowing hire of unauthorized aliens
- Knowingly continued employment of unauthorized aliens
- Verification violators



KUTAKROCK.com

# Knowing Hire of Unauthorized Aliens

- INA Knowingly Hiring Unauthorized Aliens
- INA § 274A(a)(1)(A)
- Employer has an affirmative defense if it complied in good faith with INA  $\$  274A(b) examined documents and properly completed the Form I-9
- ICE's burden to prove the employer had actual or constructive knowledge of the alien's unauthorized status *at the time of hire*
- The Code of Federal Regulations defines "knowing" as including not only actual
  knowledge but also knowledge that fairly may be inferred through notice of certain facts
  and circumstances which would lead a person, through the exercise of reasonable care,
  to know about a certain condition
- Ex. Employee sworn statements



# Knowingly Continued Employment

- · Knowingly Continued Employment of an Unauthorized Alien
- INA § 274A(a)(2)
- No affirmative defense
- Examples of employers acquiring knowledge of the alien's unauthorized status includes: expired EADs, non-action in response to Notice of Suspect Document letter, non-action in response to Social Security No-Match Letters, etc.
- Child Support collection, tax issues, individual correspondence or calls, anonymous tips



KUTAKROCK.com

### Civil Penalties for Knowingly Employing Unauthorized Workers, Document Fraud and Discrimination

Offense	Penalty ***	
1st Level	\$539 - \$4,313	
2nd Level	\$4,313 - \$10,781	
3rd Level	\$6,469 - \$21,563	

\*\*\* Fine amounts effective August 1, 2016



# Form I-9 Paperwork Violations

- Form violations = \$216 \$2,156\*\*\*
- Violation percentage
- Technical vs. Substantive
- Enhancement matrix

\*\*\* Fine amounts effective August 1, 2016



KUTAKROCK.com

## Criminal Violations

- **Pattern and Practice** \$3,000 for each unauthorized employee, 6 months in prison for an employer engaging in a pattern or practice of hiring, recruiting or referring for a fee unauthorized aliens
- Transporting, Harboring, Inducing, Employing Smuggled Aliens
   INA § 274(a), 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)
- Inducement Any person or entity that encourages or induces an alien to enter, or reside in the United States, knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that entry or residence is in violation of the law



### Criminal Violations, cont'd

- Harboring Knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the alien is in the United States in violation of the law, the employer conceals, harbors, or shields from detection, or attempts to conceal, harbor or shield from detection
- Knowing Hiring Aliens for Employment An employer can be criminally liable if the employer employs at least 10 aliens within 12 months with actual knowledge that the aliens are unauthorized and that the aliens were brought to the United States in violation of the smuggling statue
- Document Fraud Prohibits forging or counterfeiting of any documents or the use or acceptance of such documents for the purpose of complying with the employment verification requirements

KUTAK ROCK

KUTAKROCK.com

# Pre-Inspection Tips

- Pre-employment inquiries "Less is more"
  - Employer should limit information it obtains before actual hiring regarding citizenship status or national origin
  - Permissible Inquiries (OSC)
    - "Are you authorized to work in the U.S.?"
  - Impermissible Inquiries
    - "Are you a U.S. citizen?"
- **I-9 Problems** duty to investigate suspicious circumstances
  - An employer is not expected to be an expert, but if an employer has constructive knowledge that an employee is unauthorized to work, it must engage in further inquiry



### Form I-9 Retention

- Duration:
  - · Length of employment plus 1 year, or
  - 3 years
  - (whichever is later)
- Use of separate files
  - Production for inspection
  - Re-verification
  - Auditing
  - Privacy
  - Purging
- Use 3 separate files
  - Current Employees no re-verification required
  - Terminated Employees
  - · Employees with expiring work authorization verification required



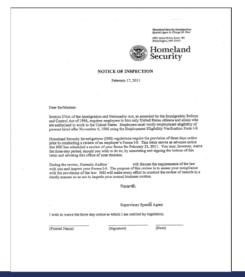
KUTAKROCK.com

### What to Expect When Audited by ICE

- Process
  - ICE serves a Notice of Inspection (NOI) upon the employer <u>3 business days</u> notice
  - Upon 3 days' prior notice employers are required to make Forms I-9 available for inspection
  - All current employees
  - All employees from the previous 3 years
  - All employees terminated within the last year
  - No subpoena or warrant is required but administrative subpoenas are often included with an NOI requesting further documentation
- After receipt of the I-9s, ICE agents and auditors conduct a Form I-9 audit



# What to Expect When ICE Arrives



KUTAK ROCK

KUTAKROCK.com

# What to Expect During an Audit

- Notice of Suspect Documents
  - Employee determined unauthorized
- Notice of Discrepancies
  - HSI unable to determine authorization or identity



# What to Expect During an Audit, cont'd

- Notice of Technical Procedural Failures
  - Errors HSI identifies as correctible
  - 10 business days to correct
  - · Not fined if corrected, but fineable if not timely corrected



KUTAKROCK.com

# What to Expect From an Audit

- Final Actions
  - Warning Notice
  - Notice of Intent to Fine
  - Notice of Compliance this is our goal!



# Best Practices During an Audit

- Cooperate, cooperate
- Immediately call Clete Samson (402) 661-0768
- Negotiation on Scope of Audit
- We will review requested I-9 forms and conduct an aggressive selfaudit before we submit to ICE
- Compile requested documentation
- Copy all submitted forms and documents

KUTAK ROCK We will have three business days to respond

KUTAKROCK.com

### Best Practices Before an Audit

- Train personnel on best practices for preparing Form I-9s
- Perform annual internal self-audits
- Ask questions of your immigration counsel on any issues that come up during I-9 completion



# Best Practices for Completion

- Completion by / before first day
- Accept only the documents needed
- Photocopy employee documents used to meet Form I-9 requirements
- Calendar notification system for re-verifications and destruction
- Annual Internal Audit



KUTAKROCK.com

# Form I-9 Inglestoned Englishy Verification Dynamic of Resident Fugure Dyna

### Form I-9 Documents

- Form I-9 (Rev. 11/14/2016N)\*
- Handbook for Employers (Form M-274) (Rev. 01/22/2017)\*
- \* Always confirm at <a href="www.uscis.gov/I-9Central">www.uscis.gov/I-9Central</a>



KUTAKROCK.com

### Problem Areas – Section 1

- Social Security Number
  - If the employer uses E-Verify, must be completed, but documentation proving the SSN may <u>not</u> be requested or required
- E-mail Address and Telephone Number
  - Voluntary but should not be left blank (N/A)

U.S. Social Security Number	E-mail Address	Telephone Number



### Problem Areas – Section 1, cont'd Status Box – ALL employees must complete I attest, under penalty of perjury, that I am (check one of the following): A citizen of the United States A noncitizen national of the United States (See instructions) A lawful permanent resident (Alien Registration Number/USCIS Number): \_\_\_ . Some aliens may write "N/A" in this field. An alien authorized to work until (expiration date, if applicable, mm/dd/yyyy) For aliens authorized to work, provide your Alien Registration Number/USCIS Number OR Form I-94 Admission Number: Alien Registration Number/USCIS Number: 3-D Barcode OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number: If you obtained your admission number from CBP in connection with your arrival in the United States, include the following: Foreign Passport Number: Some aliens may write "N/A" on the Foreign Passport Number and Country of Issuance fields. (See instructions)

### Problem Areas – Section 2

• Employer must print employee's name at beginning of Section 2

Section 2. Employer or Authorized Representative Review and Verification
(Employers or their authorized representative must complete and sign Section 2 within 3 business days of the employee's first day of employment. You must physically examine one document from List A OR examine a combination of one document from List B and one document from List C as listed on the Lists of Acceptable Documents' on the next page of this form. For each document you review, record the following information: document title, issuing authority, document number, and expiration date, if any.)

Employee Last Name, First Name and Middle Initial from Section 1:

• Employer must examine original, unexpired documents



KUTAK ROCK

KUTAKROCK.com

### Problem Areas – Section 2, cont'd

• Blank First Day of Employment

Certification

I attest, under penalty of perjury, that (1) I have examined the document(s) presented by the above-named employee, (2) the above-listed document(s) appear to be genuine and to relate to the employee named, and (3) to the best of my knowledge the employee is authorized to work in the United States.

The employee's first day of employment (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_\_ (See instructions for exemptions.)



KUTAKROCK.com

# Preparing and Retaining Electronic I-9s

- Employers may sign and retain the Form I-9 electronically
- Standards for electronic retention
  - 8 CFR § 274a.2(e)
- Documentation / Audit trails
  - 8 CFR § 274a.2(f)(1)(iii)
- Security standards
  - 8 CFR § 274a.2(g)(1)(iv)



# Suspension and Debarment

- Administrative actions which render companies and individuals ineligible to receive federal contracts and federal benefits (e.g., FHA loans, trucking licenses, import/export licenses) if they lack "present responsibility"
- Basis can be a criminal indictment, execution of a search warrant, a judgment and conviction (J&C), civil judgment or any other evidence which supports a basis for action
  - 48 C.F.R. Part 9, subpart 9.4, Debarment, Suspension and Ineligibility
  - For Benefits 2 C.F.R. Part 180



KUTAKROCK.com

# Raid Response Plans

- Designate one ICE point person per shift
- Determine potential impact if employees are pulled off jobs where is company most vulnerable to financial impact
- Develop ICE Response Phone Tree
- Know pre-raid signals
- Know the difference between raids with or without criminal search warrants
- Know how to handle media inquiries
- Develop Post-Raid Procedures for contacting employee family members and monitoring impact on your business



# Worksite Enforcement and Raid Response Training



### Presented by:

Clete P. Samson

Of Counsel
Omaha
Clete.Samson@KutakRock.com
(402) 661-8665



Atlanta | Chicago | Denver | Fayetteville | Irvine | Kansas Giry | Little Rock | Los Angeles | Minneapolis | Oklahoma Giry | Omaha | Philadelphia | Richmond | Rogers | Scottsdale | Spokane | Washington, D.C. | Wichita





Clete P. Samson
Of Counsel

Kutak Rock—Omaha 1650 Farnam Street Omaha, NE 68102

p (402) 661-8665e Clete.Samson@KutakRock.com

Mr. Samson focuses his practice in immigration law, worksite compliance, employment law, and litigation. Having previously served for seven years as a federal trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Mr. Samson has extensive knowledge of the Immigration and Nationality Act and the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, including the proper preparation and maintenance of the Form I-9, the civil penalties for improper compliance, the civil and criminal penalties for hiring and employing individuals without employment authorization, worksite enforcement and other related issues. Mr. Samson also has experience in P-1B visas for internationally recognized entertainment groups performing in the United States. He has been a frequent presenter on a variety of immigration and worksite compliance issues.

Mr. Samson provides clients with key preventative advice to help them avoid liability associated with improper I-9 compliance; and if there has been an action filed by a governmental agency, he represents clients to ensure the government action is lawful and the matter is resolved fairly and expeditiously. Mr. Samson also has extensive knowledge in the areas of immigration removal and custody proceedings, criminal/immigration matters, and visa compliance. His experience includes commercial litigation.