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New Developments at The Department of Homeland Security

Shareholders Laura Reiff and Dawn Lurie attended The Department of Homeland Security's 2009 Symposium today where DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano was joined by ICE Assistant Secretary John Morton and USCIS Director Alejandro Mayorkas in announcing the new "I E-Verify" campaign to recognize the approximately 170,000 businesses nationwide that use E-Verify. This new campaign highlights the commitment of employers to work with DHS to ensure a legal workforce.

Secretary Napolitano stressed that employers should be rewarded for maintaining a legal workforce and that employers who work with illegal and cheaper labor should be held accountable. The Secretary emphasized that employers who knowingly hire unauthorized workers will be held accountable. Secretary Napolitano also underscored the need for DHS to provide the tools to employers to maintain a legal workforce. The Secretary promised a commitment to employers and noted that E-Verify and IMAGE will be the centerpiece in all efforts. She also pointed out the value of such approaches and invited all businesses to join up and "follow the law."

In addition to updating the public on the results of this Summer's 654 ICE Form I-9 audits, Worksite Unit Chief Brett Dreyer announced that [1000 Form I-9 Notices of Inspection \(NOIs\) are being served today](#). The focus of these audits is on businesses that work in areas of national security and critical infrastructure. Please review the July 2009 Alert [Is That ICE Knocking At Your Door?](#), which discusses what to do if your company receives an NOI.

GT will keep you updated on the developments regarding the I E-verify campaign and ICE enforcement actions.

This GT Alert was written by Dawn Lurie and Laura Reiff. Questions about this information can be directed to Ms. Lurie (luried@gtlaw.com; 703.903.7527) or Ms. Reiff (reiff@gtlaw.com; 703.749.1372) or to your immigration professional listed below.

OMB No. 1615-0047; Expires 08/31/12
Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification

Do not complete this form.

Do not hire unauthorized individuals. Employers CANNOT hire an unauthorized individual because the documents have a date expiration date (see at the time employment begins.)

First Name	Maiden Name
Date of Birth (month/day/year)	
Social Security #	

Greenberg Traurig's Business Immigration and Compliance Group has extensive experience in advising multinational corporations on how to minimize exposure and liability regarding a variety of employment-related issues, particularly I-9 employment eligibility verification matters. In addition to assisting in H-1B (Labor Condition Application) audits, GT develops immigration-related compliance strategies and programs and performs internal I-9 compliance inspections. GT has also successfully defended businesses involved in large-scale government worksite enforcement actions and Department of Labor Wage and Hour investigations. GT attorneys provide counsel on a variety of compliance-related issues, including penalties for failure to act in accordance with government regulations, IRCA anti-discrimination laws, and employers' responsibilities upon receiving Social Security Administration "No-Match" letters.

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