

Shirk, Georgette L

From: Cummings, Kevin J
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 10:38 AM
To: Nuebel Kovarik, Kathy; Viger, Steven W; Bernstein, Lauren J; Buono, Paul M; Buten, Elizabeth C
Cc: Parascandola, Ciro A; Law, Robert T; Stiefel, Nathaniel I
Subject: RE: FOR OP&S CLEARANCE - Draft response to question from Rep. Coffman's staff on USCIS Processing of I-129s post Buy American and Hire American Executive Order

We believe this response is fine, Kathy. Not much more we can say really—thanks!

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cummings, Kevin J
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 11:32 AM
To: Nuebel Kovarik, Kathy; Viger, Steven W; Bernstein, Lauren J; Buono, Paul M; Buten, Elizabeth C
Cc: Parascandola, Ciro A; Law, Robert T; Stiefel, Nathaniel I
Subject: RE: FOR OP&S CLEARANCE - Draft response to question from Rep. Coffman's staff on USCIS Processing of I-129s post Buy American and Hire American Executive Order

Sure. Adding Lauren, Paul and Elizabeth too.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nuebel Kovarik, Kathy
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Viger, Steven W
Cc: Parascandola, Ciro A; Law, Robert T; Stiefel, Nathaniel I
Subject: FW: FOR OP&S CLEARANCE - Draft response to question from Rep. Coffman's staff on USCIS Processing of I-129s post Buy American and Hire American Executive Order
Importance: High

Hey team, can you help me review and clear this?

From: Rodriguez, Miguel E
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 11:23 AM
To: Nuebel Kovarik, Kathy; Stiefel, Nathaniel I; Stubbs, Jacob W; Policy-Clearance
Cc: Calkins, Aaron L; Atkinson, Ronald A (Alan); Bonic, Andrew V; Arditti, Avi; Alford, Uvanney J; Beppu, Jennifer M; Brimmer, Deborah A; Levine, Laurence D; Delgado, Daniel
Subject: FOR OP&S CLEARANCE - Draft response to question from Rep. Coffman's staff on USCIS Processing of I-129s post Buy American and Hire American Executive Order
Importance: High

Hi all:

Good morning. Please find for OP&S clearance, a draft response to Rep. Coffman's office.

Brief summary:

Staff from Rep. Coffman's office contacted OLIA originally with a general question regarding "post BAHA" denials of I-129/H-1B renewals that had been approved in the past but which have now been denied. Staff requested that USCIS review and reconsider three specific cases after OLIA requested specific instances in which they believed USCIS erred. The incoming emails from staff are below for your reference.

Due Date:

OLIA is requesting clearance as soon as is possible, so that we may try to respond to staff.

Background:

Below response was provided by SCOPS and cleared by OCC and OLIA leadership.

Clearance:

OCC: Robert Cox
SCOPS: Pam Hutchings and Susan Arroyo
OLIA: Andrew Bonic

Attachments/To be cleared:

Please see OCC cleared draft response below:

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

[Redacted]

Thanks in advance, as always.

Mike

Mike Rodriguez
Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs
USCIS

[Redacted]

(Fax) 202-272-1955

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

Make sure to visit "The Resources Guide for Congress" on our [uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) website at <http://www.uscis.gov/congressionalresources>

This e-mail (including any attachments) is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, your disclosure, copying, distribution or other use of (or reliance upon) the information contained in this email is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. **For all casework inquiries, please attach a signed Privacy Act Release, signed by the person for whom the information is being sought.**

From: Laufer, Tomer [<mailto:Tomer.Laufer@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 3:42 PM
To: Rodriguez, Miguel E
Subject: RE: Question on USCIS Processing of I-129s post Buy American and Hire American Executive Order
CRM:0298220

Good Afternoon Mike,

The company said it would be ok for you guys to take a look at some of their I-129 applications.

In the past, when they were hiring for the same position, they said they didn't have any issues. Like I said over the phone, they've only had this issue in the last two years. They do try to hire locally as much as possible but they've found a shortage of candidates who have the right experience with SAS and certificates necessary for their business. There's a worker shortage here in Colorado and unfortunately, these smaller companies end up suffering the most. They've told me that they continue to try and hire locally and nationally as much as they can but they have an issue finding experienced employees.

Here are some more details:

(b)(6)

[Redacted]



(b)(6)

I was told that these are just three of many that they have encountered or received the same response after they offered a job and submitted an I-129 to USCIS.

Let me know if you need any additional information!

Thank you!

Tomer Laufer

Office of Congressman Mike Coffman (b)(6)

[Redacted] Fax: (720) 748-7680

www.coffman.house.gov

(b)(6)

From: Rodriguez, Miguel [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 9:26 AM

To: Laufer, Tomer <Tomer.Laufer@mail.house.gov>

Cc: Rodriguez, Miguel [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Question on USCIS Processing of I-129s post Buy American and Hire American Executive Order
CRM:0298220

Tomer:

Good morning and thank you again for your email. As we discussed on the phone, this is a very broad question. As for “general guidelines on how we adjudicate I-129s,” here is the link to the USCIS BAHA webpage that may help.

<https://www.uscis.gov/legal-resources/buy-american-hire-american-putting-american-workers-first>

It may also be helpful if your constituent/s could provide you and us with specific instances where they feel an I-129 may have been adjudicated incorrectly so that we may look into that specific case.

We hope this is helpful.

Mike

Mike Rodriguez

Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

USCIS

[Redacted]

(Fax) 202-272-1955

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

Make sure to visit "The Resources Guide for Congress" on our [uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) website at <http://www.uscis.gov/congressionalresources>

This e-mail (including any attachments) is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, your disclosure, copying, distribution or other use of (or reliance upon) the information contained in this email is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. **For all casework inquiries, please attach a signed Privacy Act Release, signed by the person for whom the information is being sought.**

Good Afternoon Sir or Ma'am,

We had a local business reach out to the Congressman asking if there were any changes made to the way I-129 initial and renewal applications are processed. It is my understanding that the Buy American and Hire American Executive Order may have changed the way USCIS processes these applications. It is our understanding that to qualify for these positions it is necessary to have many years of experience in a certain industry in addition to the educational requirements.

I know that without specific information it is difficult to address this organization's concern, however they have requested that we not disclose any information. Would you be able to provide our office with the guidelines that USCIS uses to adjudicate I-129 applications and how that has changed?

Thank you!

Tomer Laufer

(b)(6) Office of Congressman Mike Coffman
Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: (720) 748-7680
www.coffman.house.gov

Shirk, Georgette L

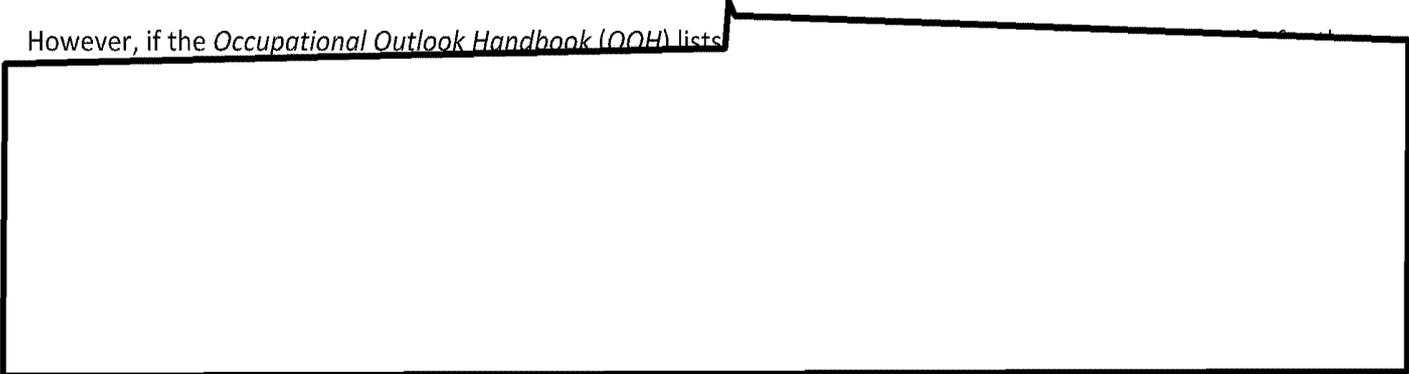
From: Beall, Kevina A
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Nakajima, Simon T; Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

All: (b)(5)

We are good with the document, but wonder if the highlighted portion below may confuse officers. We would suggest removing it for clarity.

However, if the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)* lists



Thanks.

Kevina

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Hi everyone,

SCOPS reviewed the document after the most recent round of edits and have two things we would like to clarify:



Upon clarification of the above, we are good with the document as it currently is drafted. Please let us know if your component is also on board so that we can move this through to leadership as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Nicole

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 4:56 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi folks,

We won't be able to clear today. We're not sure if we are okay with AAO's edits and will have to take another look on Monday morning.

Simon

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 4:54 PM

To: Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

We edited the last paragraph of the "application" section based on our discussions and to be consistent with our decisions.

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:58 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

We are good with it.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:35 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hmm, yep, that's the correct link. When I opened it I saw my edits. But, I attached a copy to this e-mail as well.

Ricky

<< File: SC Internal Guidance - Related Degrees 4.10.18 (BEST Version).docx >>

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:31 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Ricky,

I couldn't see your edits on the ECN. Are we still using the doc at this [link](#)?

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:25 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

I have made the edits I think are appropriate to capture the guidance below. Please review and make any edits by COB today. We would like to run this by leadership at the end of the day.

Thank you for all your input and guidance on this issue.

Ricky

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 1:57 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E;

Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

In order to minimize confusion going forward, and since we all agree that that the OOH's current entry for an MRA

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 1:47 PM

To: Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks everyone. In that case do we need to make further edits to the guidance on the ECN or does that capture the policies that have been chosen?

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 12:41 PM

To: Parascandola, Ciro A; Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Ciro.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Parascandola, Ciro A

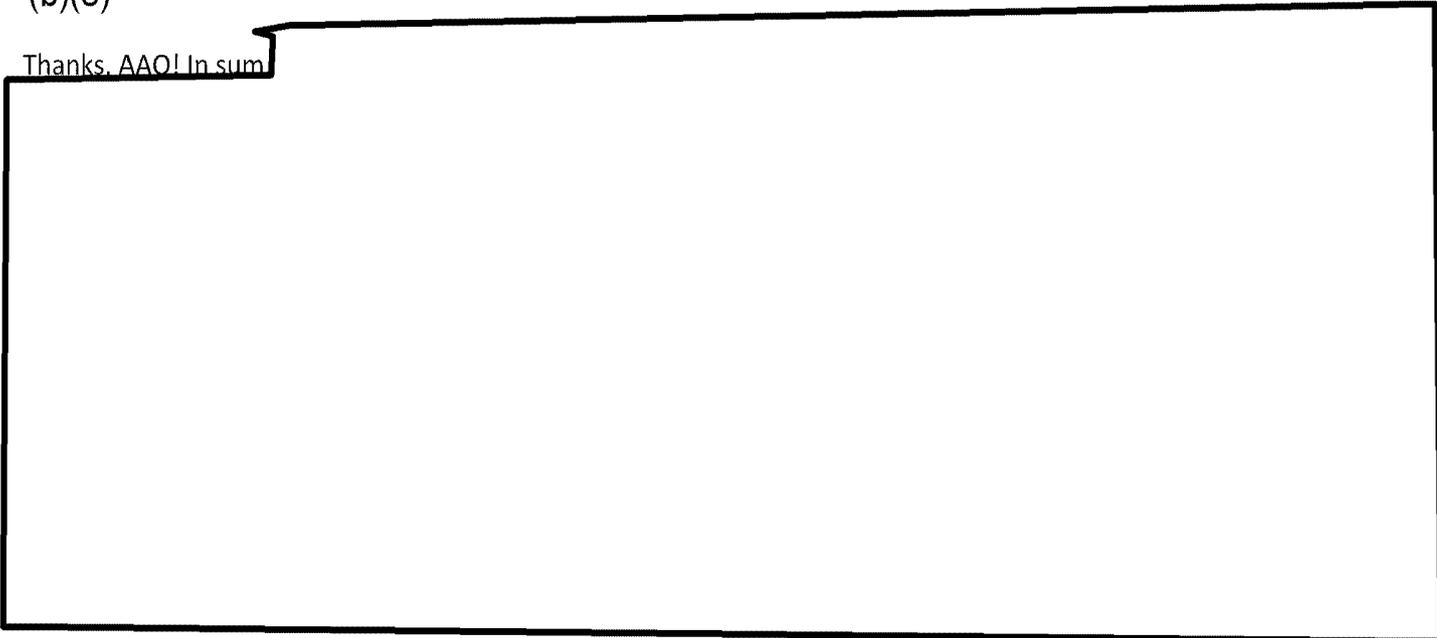
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 12:26 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks. AAO! In sum



Ciro Parascandola

Special Assistant

USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy, DHS

Office

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

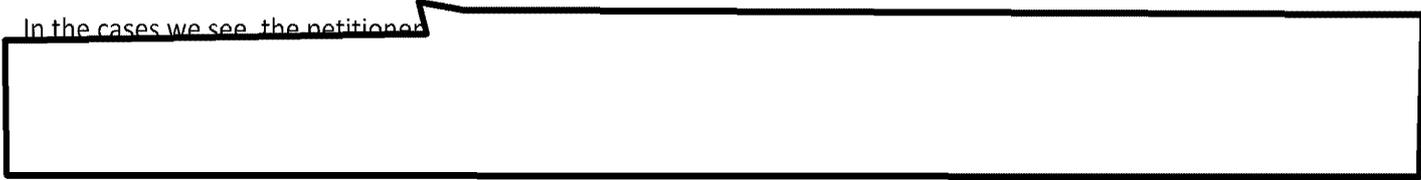
From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:55 AM

To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

In the cases we see, the petitioner



From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:42 AM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

That's a good question

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:26 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Sorry I meant to thank AAO, not "OOH".

Steven, in that case,

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Simon,

We would say that

Steven Viger

Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518

(b)(6)

Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 10:15 AM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks OP&S and OOH. Can either of you clarify what [REDACTED]

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 9:58 AM

To: Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven:

The AAO is fine with it.

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 6:39 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox,

Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Ok. Here is our attempt to focus this discussion on a few policy points knowing that we will still need to further address the overall issue of specialty occupation at a later time. BFWD agrees with the generally policy in the following statements (not saying this is exact the language we need to follow just the policy related to it):



I would think application of this to the other criteria would be the same. We can discuss that after answering this question. Thanks.

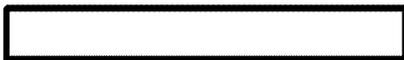
Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

P: [Redacted]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri



This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:24 AM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

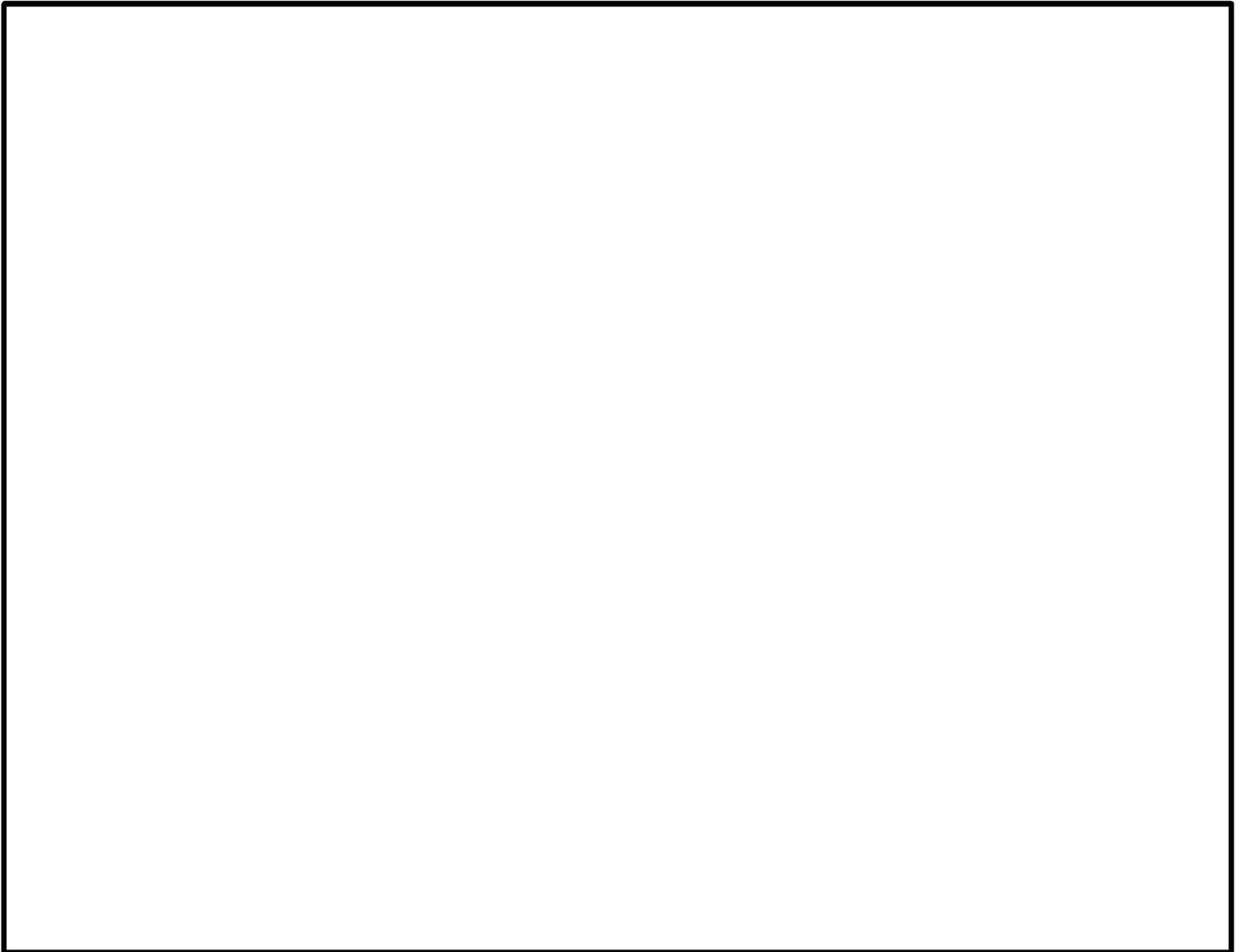
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

Hopefully, this summary is helpful.

(b)(5)

Before talking with the WG the understanding at the centers was generally:



Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox,

Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks Ricky. If we need to move this guidance, then mayb

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 3:36 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Yes, generally our questions are about when

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:56 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks Stephanie/SCOPS. And just to clarify, the misunderstanding is

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:41 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: FW: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Hi Simon,

See the SCOPS SME response in red below. A lot of these questions don't really make sense in the framework in which the centers are operating and don't seem to necessarily relate to where the misunderstanding is at the center level. Generally, we don't think what we are currently doing at the centers should have much impact on this decision

Hope this helps.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 6:40 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks very much everyone. We had some follow up questions below in green. Just trying to understand this better.

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 5:38 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks AAO. I believe Policy agrees with AAO's analysis of the hypothetical. We would need to see what OCC's final opinion is before we give a final "OK". Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Beall, Kevina A

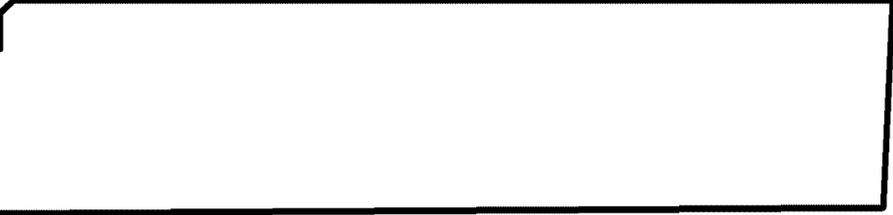
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 5:26 PM

To: Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Just to clarify – we believe that it is possible



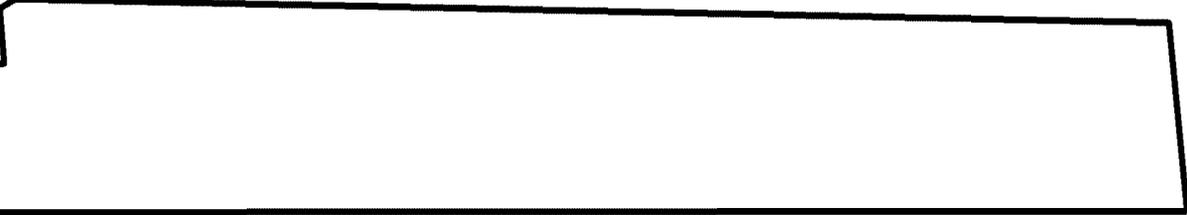
From: Lin, Peggy P

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 5:11 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Yes, it is possible.



From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:40 PM

To: Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Lin, Peggy P; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks Lauren.

Before we respond, I have a general question for the group and admit that the MRA is not the best example for this.



Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518

(b)(6)

Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Aucoin, Lauren J

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:03 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi all,

AAO's response is in the text below.

Thanks,

Lauren

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 2:34 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Please see the response in red below from SCOPS. If there is still disagreement after the responses, this may be a policy call to make.

Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 1:31 PM

To: Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Collins, Richard A; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

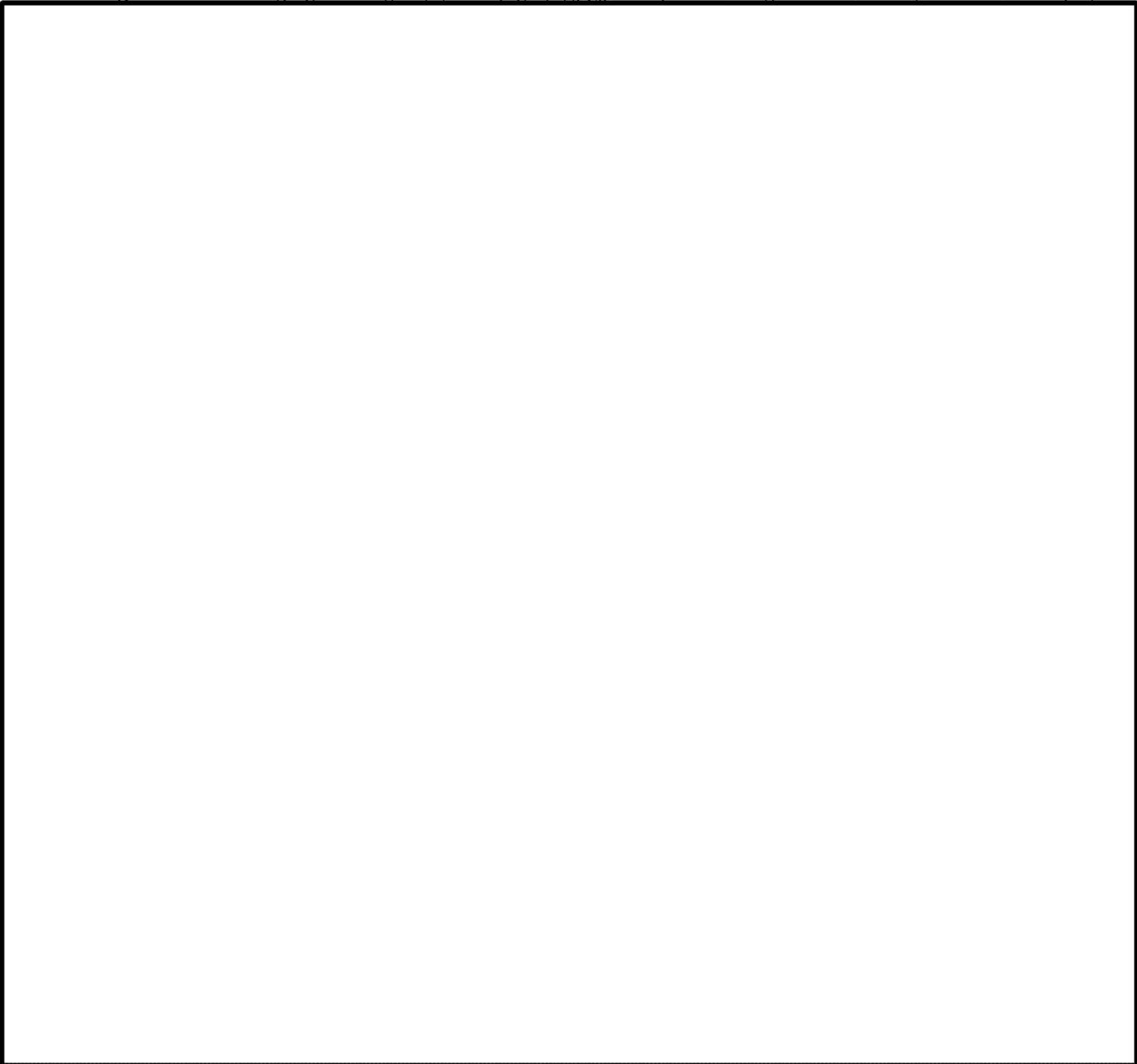
Hi folks,



Is this petition approvable as requested under prong 1?

OP&S:





From: Lin, Peggy P

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 1:12 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,

The AAO suggests the



From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:51 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Robert. Let us know when you're done.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

[Redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:46 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

I just made some edits to clarify, and will make a few more shortly

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:26 PM

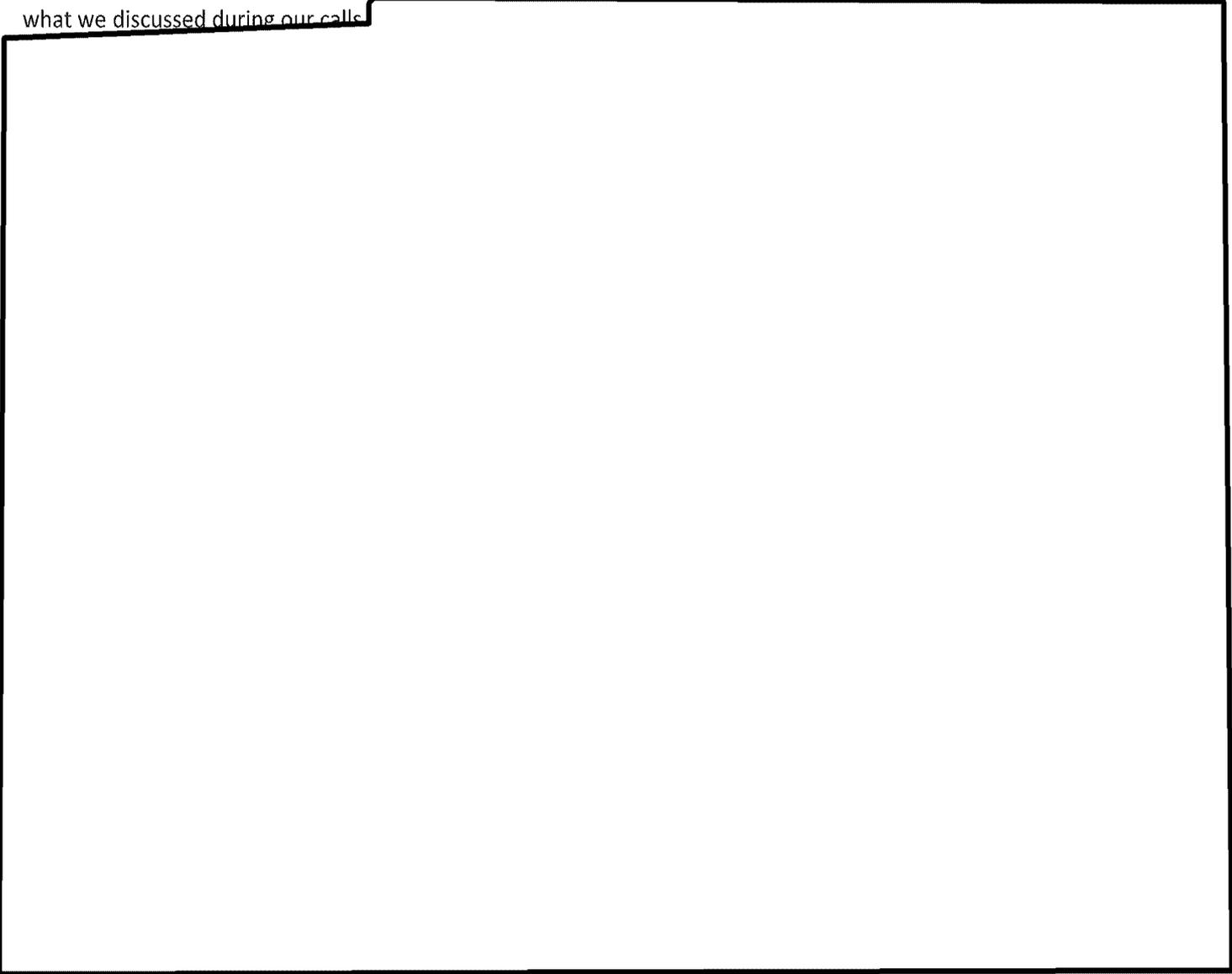
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,

(b)(5)

We wanted to reach out to because from our perspective, it seems like some of the recent edits are moving away from what we discussed during our calls.



Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi – I edited the language based on my understanding of how we are/will approach these cases under prong 1. Please take a look and let me know if I am off. Thanks.

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 4:00 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola,

Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,

Thanks again for calling in this afternoon to discuss further. Please check out the most recent edits based on our call (link to document: [SC Internal Guidance – Related Degrees](#)).

We'll check for any additional comments/edits later this evening and first thing in the morning as we're looking to move this forward as soon as possible.

Thanks!

From: Beall, Kevina A
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Works for me too.

From: Choi, Hae-Jin
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:05 PM
To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Works for me.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Is everyone able to hop on a call at 2:30? I think having another group discussion would be helpful since some of emails our emails our crossing.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:52 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Things keep changing so I get confused. If our interpretation is that

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:45 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks Simon. Isn't that what we've been saying that the

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J;

Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks. So at the end of the day,

[Redacted]

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:32 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

That is what I tried to mention earlier

[Redacted]

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [Redacted]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:29 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I think before Robert drafts any language, we need someone to say whether or not the approach he mentions is something even possible.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:24 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Robert,

I just spoke with a few folks on my team. Would you mind providing some verbiage that you think would better address the issue? I think we are having a hard time fully grasping what we should add to this paragraph to address the concern and some suggestions would be helpful.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:15 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi – I have a question pertaining to the latest edits. I added it to the comment bubble in the document.

Thanks,
Robert

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:59 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

We responded to the comments requiring a response. Please take a second look at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:27 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call (b)(5)

Thanks Simon. I think the suggested language is fine.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518 (b)(6)
Telework: Mon and Fri

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:09 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I responded to an issue that AAO raised, which needs to be resolved before this can really be finalized and cleared.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:22 AM
To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E;

Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Nicole,

Policy is fine with this draft. Thanks.

Steven Viger

Adjudications Officer (Policy)

Office of Policy and Strategy

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Department of Homeland Security

20 Massachusetts Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:21 AM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi all,

Just a reminder of the below deadline for concurrence by COB today.

Thanks and hope everyone had a nice weekend!

-Nicole

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 2:11 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call
Importance: High

Hi everyone,

Thanks so much to everyone who was able to call in for the discussion on private wage surveys. We found it really productive and helpful and appreciate everyone's time.

After we discussed the proposed certification case, we had a few minutes left on the call so we took the opportunity to go over a few of the outstanding comments on the Related Degrees guidance which is located on the ECN here at [SC Internal Guidance – Related Degrees](#).

AAO/ Lauren and Peggy – we apologize that you weren't on the line for that part of the discussion but we thought it might be a good chance to hash out the 2 OCC comments that were outstanding. The above link is cleaned up but 2 comments remain – the first is an OCC comment and response and the second is a comment from AAO. Through our brief discussion, the group available on the line thought it would be best to avoid putting the AAO suggested bullet in this particular guidance and instead flag it for later inclusion in some sort of communication or guidance.

As Stephanie mentioned on the call, cap cases are expected to hit the floor for adjudication midweek and we really want to have this guidance available for the centers when processing this year's cap cases. Please review the guidance and elevate to your leadership ASAP. We are looking for concurrence by COB Monday so that this can be distributed to the centers prior to cap processing.

Thanks!

Nicole

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 10:11 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Our schedules are pretty wide open tomorrow, although I think SCOPS was looking to schedule a different call around 11.

(b)(6)

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Cox, Robert H <[redacted]>; Nakajima, Simon T <[redacted]>; Doumani, Stephanie M <[redacted]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]>; McMahon, Matthew E <[redacted]>; Bump, Micah N <[redacted]>; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]>; Buten, Elizabeth C <[redacted]>; Cummings, Kevin J <[redacted]>; Parascandola, Ciro A <[redacted]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]>; Renwick, William K (Ken) <[redacted]>; Lin, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C <[redacted]>; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]>; Collins, Richard A <[redacted]>
Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

What time is best tomorrow for OCC?

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [redacted]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[redacted]

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Unfortunately 1:00pm today does not work for me, and I think Simon and Micah also have other meetings scheduled at that time.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Cox, Robert H <[redacted]>; Nakajima, Simon <[redacted]>; Doumani, Stephanie M <[redacted]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]>; McMahon, Matthew E <[redacted]>; Bump, Micah N <[redacted]>; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]>; Buten, Elizabeth <[redacted]>; Cummings, Kevin J <[redacted]>; Parascandola, Ciro A <[redacted]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]>; Renwick, William K (Ken) <[redacted]>; Lin, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C <[redacted]>; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]>; Collins, Richard A <[redacted]>
Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(6)

Thanks Robert. Can we do a call around 1:10 – 2:00? I am pretty much booked the rest of the day. Thanks.

Steven Viger

Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [redacted] (b)(6)
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

[redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 9:59 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven,

We have completed our initial review. We defer to you all as to whether a call is needed to discuss the various comments/edits.

Thanks,
Robert

From: Viger, Steven W (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:33 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T <[redacted]>; Doumani, Stephanie M <[redacted]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]>; McMahon, Matthew E <[redacted]>; Bump, Micah N <[redacted]>; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]>; Buten, Elizabeth C <[redacted]>; Cummings, Kevin J <[redacted]>; Parascandola, Ciro A <[redacted]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]>; Renwick, William K (Ken) <[redacted]>; Lin, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C <[redacted]>; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]>; Collins, Richard A <[redacted]>
Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I apologize that I forgot about this. Has OCC reviewed this? Let me know if we need a call or can decide on edits over email. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW (b)(6)
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:11 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Tuesday is better for OCC. Thanks

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 11:10 AM
To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

What day is better for OCC and AAO to have time to review? Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 11:00 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven,

(b)(5)

We've added the draft and our comments to our ECN. It can be found here: [SC Internal Guidance - Related Degrees 4.10.18](#)

We inserted some additional text and made a few modifications so that the guidance is specifically [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are happy to discuss further once everyone has had an opportunity to review. Since we would like to finalize this by early next week for leadership review, can you please set up a call for us on either Monday or Tuesday to discuss any lingering issues?

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 10:18 AM
To: Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks AAO.

SCOPS: Let us know if you want/prefer the longer guidance or the shorter one. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Choi, Hae-Jin
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 5:08 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

AAO has reviewed and added comments.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:24 PM
To: McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Choi, Hae-Jin; Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Here is a link to a portion of the relevant PM section:

<http://ecn.uscis.dhs.gov/team/ops/bfwd/layouts/WordViewer.aspx?id=/team/ops/bfwd/Shared%20Docs%20Executive%20Action/Degree%20in%20a%20specific%20specialty.docx&Source=http%3A%2F%2Fecn%2Euscis%2Edhs%2Egov%2Fteam%2Fops%2Fbfwd%2Fshared%2520Docs%2520Executive%2520Action%2FForms%2FAllItems%2Easpx%3FView%3D%7B65bb79b9%2Dc296%2D48a0%2D82b1%2Dae2332dacb00%7D%26SortField%3DModified%26SortDir%3DDesc&DefaultItemOpen=1&DefaultItemOpen=1>

I also added a few bullets at the end based on today's discussion. There is not a lot there but it gives us a place to start. Please add to and edit the bullets. Let me know how much of this PM section we should include in the guidance. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518 (b)(6)
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: McMahon, Matthew E

Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 10:06 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Viger, Steven W; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Choi, Hae-Jin; Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M

Cc: Beall, Kevina A; Nguyen, Carolyn Q

Subject: H-1B working group call

When: Thursday, April 05, 2018 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Call In (BEST 1): 866 813 5391, Participant Code: 38988125

Rescheduling the call for TH at 1 to ensure attendance by all participants. If Friday works better, kindly advise. Thank you.

3/28 update:

(b)(5)

VSC has submitted another

We've

extended the meeting to an hour to facilitate the additional case.

<< File: AAO decision on CSA Level 3 with Business and Engineering listed as degr....pdf >> << File: AAO brief.pdf >> << File: AAO file Petitioner support letter in original submission (2).pdf >> << File: VSC AAO Inquiry Denial Copy.pdf >> << File: VSC AAO Inquiry RFE Copy.pdf >> << File: MRA SUSTAIN.PDF >>

3/27 update:

AAO is not able to call in tomorrow, so rescheduling for 1 PM, Wednesday, April 4th.

Good afternoon H-1B Working Group,

We'd like to schedule a call this Wednesday to discuss a recent AAO decision that VSC has identified as a potential

VSC has asked for clarification in advance of cap season, so that they can enter the season with the correct understanding of the issue.

We know this is a busy time of year but hope that at least one person from each office can call in to discuss.

Thank you,

Matt

<< File: MRA BRIEF.PDF >> << File: MRA DENIAL.PDF >> << File: MRA EVIDENCE.PDF >> << File: MRA DUTIES.PDF >>
<< File: MRA TRANSCRIPT.PDF >>

Shirk, Georgette L

From: Collins, Richard A
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 11:26 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

(b)(5)

Hi everyone,

We wanted to reach out to because from our perspective, it seems like some of the recent edits are moving away from what we discussed during our calls. The recent edits seem to argue that the

Thank you,

Ricky

Shirk, Georgette L

From: Buten, Elizabeth C
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 11:38 AM
To: Parascandola, Ciro A; Cummings, Kevin J
Subject: RE: Questions/Answers on the Rescission memo for Ombudsman Conference
Attachments: Wage memo questions.docx

Thank you! I went and ahead and cleaned them up.

Kevin – please see the attached questions and answers. I also pasted them below in case you need to read them on your phone tomorrow. Please let us know if you think of any other questions.

Elizabeth

(b)(5)

From: Parascandola, Ciro A
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Buten, Elizabeth C
Subject: RE: Questions/Answers on the Rescission memo for Ombudsman Conference

Thanks. I don't have any talking points, except those that were issued by USCIS after the memo was released. I made some edits.

Ciro Parascandola

Special Assistant
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy, DHS

Office: [redacted]

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Buten, Elizabeth C
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 11:58 AM
To: Parascandola, Ciro A
Subject: Questions/Answers on the Rescission memo for Ombudsman Conference

Kevin asked that I work with you to try and come up with a few questions that may come up tomorrow on the Rescission/Wage leveling memo and some proposed answers. Do you have any talking points available on this? I listed below a few that came from the calls with Carrie from the Ombudsman office on this issue. Feel free to edit and let me know if you have any additional points to add.

(b)(5)

[redacted]

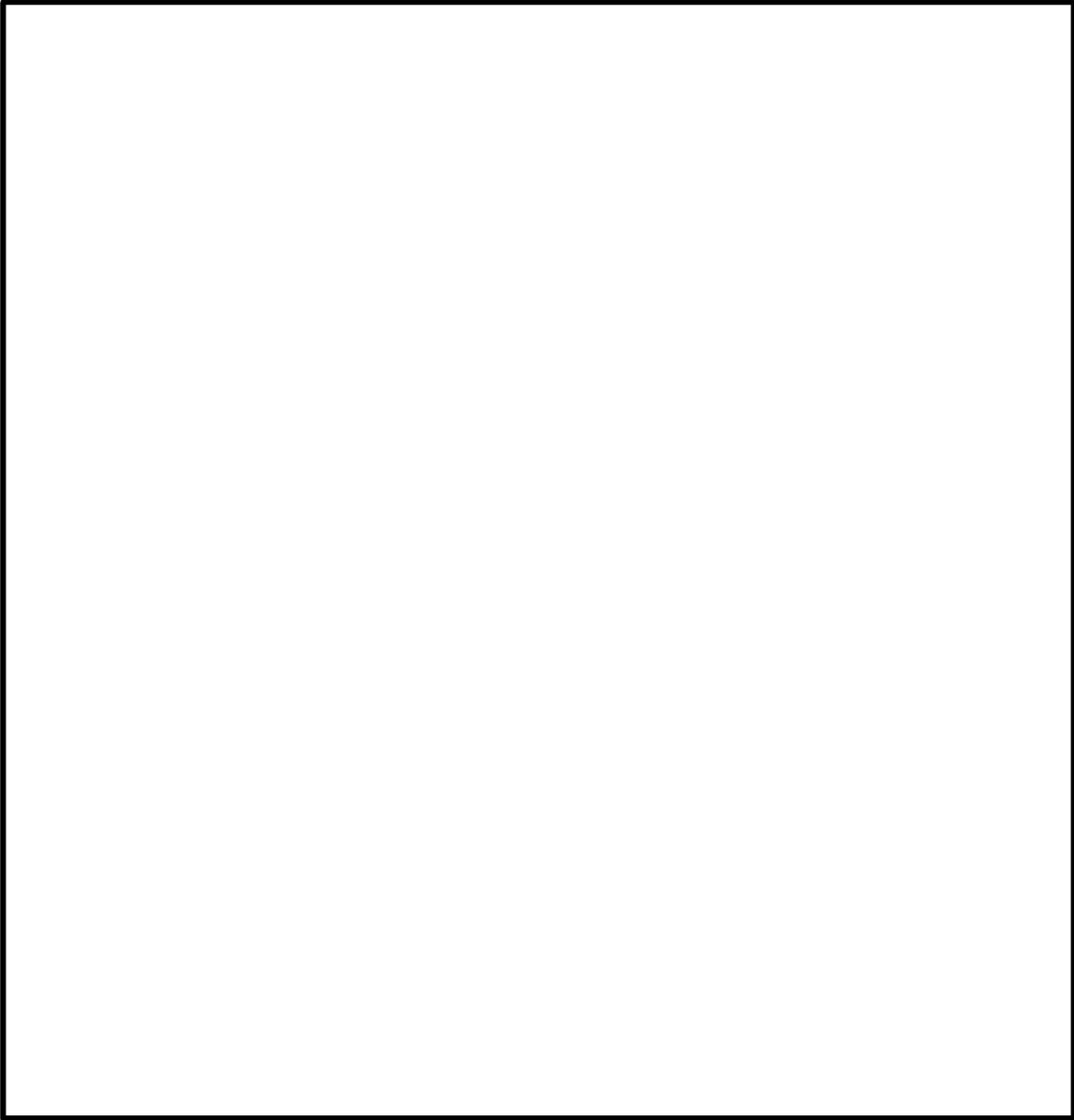
Elizabeth Buten

[redacted]

Business and Foreign Workers Division (b)(6)
Office of Policy and Strategy
US Citizenship and Immigration Services

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies.

(b)(5)



on
It
n
n

Shirk, Georgette L

From: Buten, Elizabeth C
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Viger, Steven W
Cc: Parascandola, Ciro A
Subject: RE: H-1B question

(b)(5)

Here's what Ciro sent out on Monday, as a suggested answer to such inquiries:



I think we'd probably be fine with just the first paragraph to answer this inquiry.

From: Cummings, Kevin J
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Buten, Elizabeth C
Cc: Parascandola, Ciro A
Subject: FW: H-1B question

Please check this out and advise accordingly. Thanks!

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Gwathmey, Carolyn S (CeCe)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 6:38 PM
To: Cummings, Kevin J
Subject: FW: H-1B question

Kevin,
I don't recall seeing a final consensus on this yesterday, but here is another specific media query we would appreciate assistance with.

From: Carter, Jeffrey T (Jeff)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 4:34:25 PM
To: Gwathmey, Carolyn S (CeCe)
Cc: USCIS.Media
Subject: FW: H-1B question

CeCe:

Please take for action.

Thanks,

Jeff

Jeff Carter
Chief, Media Relations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[redacted] office)
[redacted] cell) (b)(6)

Please visit www.uscis.gov for news and information.

From: Lapan, David
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 4:33 PM
To: Kim Hart
Cc: USCIS.Media; Carter, Jeffrey T (Jeff)
Subject: RE: H-1B question

Hi Kim, adding my USCIS colleagues to assist.

Regards,
Dave

David Lapan
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Affairs
Department of Homeland Security

[redacted] (b)(6)

From: Kim Hart [mailto:kim@axios.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Lapan, David <[redacted]>
Subject: H-1B question

Hi David,

I think you're probably not the right person to be contacting about this, but hoping you can steer me in the right direction about a follow up story I'm working on about May 31 USCIS memo regarding computer programmer positions.

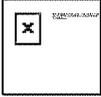
My understanding is that the new guidance gives application adjudicators the ability to apply more scrutiny to computer programmer positions as well as the wages attached to these applications. However, I've also been told by a few that the memo actually has relatively little impact as it does not represent new policy.

The story I wrote on this topic yesterday got a lot of pick-up and I'm working on a follow-up piece for tomorrow. I want to make sure I am characterizing the impact correctly. A few people suggested I call DHS and I was hoping someone could help me on background. I'm at [REDACTED]

For reference, this is the story from yesterday: <https://www.axios.com/computer-programmers-may-no-longer-be-eligible-for-h-1b-visas-2342531251.html>

Thanks in advance for any guidance you can provide.

Thanks,
Kim

| | |
|--|--|
|  | <p>Kim Hart Technology Editor kim@axios.com [REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|

(b)(6)

Shirk, Georgette L

From: Collins, Richard A
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 11:26 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi everyone,

(b)(5)

We wanted to reach out to because from our perspective, it seems like some of the recent edits are moving away from what we discussed during our calls. The recent edits seem to argue that

Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi – I edited the language based on my understanding of how we are/will approach these cases under prong 1. Please take a look and let me know if I am off. Thanks.

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 4:00 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,

Thanks again for calling in this afternoon to discuss further. Please check out the most recent edits based on our call (link to document: [SC Internal Guidance – Related Degrees](#)).

We'll check for any additional comments/edits later this evening and first thing in the morning as we're looking to move this forward as soon as possible.

Thanks!

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:06 PM

To: Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Works for me too.

From: Choi, Hae-Jin

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:05 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Works for me.

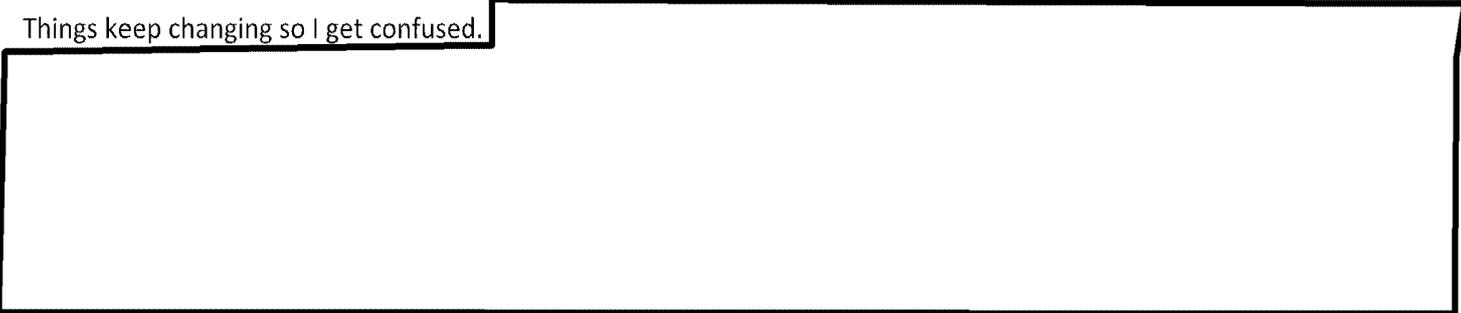
From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Is everyone able to hop on a call at 2:30? I think having another group discussion would be helpful since some of emails our emails our crossing.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:52 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call (b)(5)

Things keep changing so I get confused.



From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:45 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Simon. Isn't that what we've been saying that



Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks. So at the end of the day

[REDACTED]

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:32 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

That is what I tried to mention earlier.

[REDACTED]

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:29 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I think before Robert drafts any language, we need someone to say whether or not the approach he mentions is something even possible.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:24 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Robert,

I just spoke with a few folks on my team. Would you mind providing some verbiage that you think would better address the issue? I think we are having a hard time fully grasping what we should add to this paragraph to address the concern and some suggestions would be helpful.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:15 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi – I have a question pertaining to the latest edits. I added it to the comment bubble in the document.

Thanks,
Robert

From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:59 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

We responded to the comments requiring a response. Please take a second look at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:27 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks Simon. I think the suggested language is fine. I would say that it

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:09 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I responded to an issue that AAO raised, which needs to be resolved before this can really be finalized and cleared.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:22 AM
To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Nicole,

Policy is fine with this draft. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:21 AM
To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi all,

Just a reminder of the below deadline for concurrence by COB today.

Thanks and hope everyone had a nice weekend!

-Nicole

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 2:11 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Importance: High

Hi everyone,

Thanks so much to everyone who was able to call in for the discussion on private wage surveys. We found it really productive and helpful and appreciate everyone's time.

After we discussed the proposed certification case, we had a few minutes left on the call so we took the opportunity to go over a few of the outstanding comments on the Related Degrees guidance which is located on the ECN here at [SC Internal Guidance – Related Degrees](#).

AAO/ Lauren and Peggy – we apologize that you weren't on the line for that part of the discussion but we thought it might be a good chance to hash out the 2 OCC comments that were outstanding. The above link is cleaned up but 2 comments remain – the first is an OCC comment and response and the second is a comment from AAO. Through our brief discussion, the group available on the line thought it would be best to avoid putting the AAO suggested bullet in this particular guidance and instead flag it for later inclusion in some sort of communication or guidance.

As Stephanie mentioned on the call, cap cases are expected to hit the floor for adjudication midweek and we really want to have this guidance available for the centers when processing this year's cap cases. Please review the guidance and elevate to your leadership ASAP. We are looking for concurrence by COB Monday so that this can be distributed to the centers prior to cap processing.

Thanks!

Nicole

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 10:11 AM

To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Our schedules are pretty wide open tomorrow, although I think SCOPS was looking to schedule a different call around 11.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Cox, Robert H <[REDACTED]>; Nakajima, Simon T <[REDACTED]>ov>; Doumani, Stephanie M <[REDACTED]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[REDACTED]> McMahon, Matthew E <[REDACTED]>; Bump, Micah N <[REDACTED]> Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) <[REDACTED]>; Buten, Elizabeth <[REDACTED]>; Cummings, Kevin J <[REDACTED]>; Parascandola, Ciro A <[REDACTED]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[REDACTED]>; Renwick, William K (Ken) <[REDACTED]> Lin, Peggy P <[REDACTED]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C <[REDACTED]>; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[REDACTED]>; Collins, Richard A <[REDACTED]> >
Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call (b)(6)

What time is best tomorrow for OCC?

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Unfortunately 1:00pm today does not work for me, and I think Simon and Micah also have other meetings scheduled at that time.

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:46 AM

To: Cox, Robert H <[redacted]>; Nakajima, Simon T <[redacted]>; Doumani, Stephanie M <[redacted]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]>; McMahon, Matthew E <[redacted]>; Bump, Micah N <[redacted]>; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]>; Buten, Elizabeth C <[redacted]>; Cummings, Kevin J <[redacted]>; Parascandola, Ciro A <[redacted]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]>; Renwick, William K (Ken) <[redacted]>; Lin, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C <[redacted]>; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]>; Collins, Richard A <[redacted]>
Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call (b)(6)

Thanks Robert. Can we do a call around 1:10 – 2:00? I am pretty much booked the rest of the day. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [redacted]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[redacted]

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 9:59 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven,

We have completed our initial review. We defer to you all as to whether a call is needed to discuss the various comments/edits.

Thanks,
Robert

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:33 AM

To: Nakajima, Simon T <[redacted]> Doumani, Stephanie M

<[redacted]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]> McMahon, Matthew E
<[redacted]>; Cox, Robert H <[redacted]> Bump, Micah N
<[redacted]>; Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]> Buten, Elizabeth C
<[redacted]> Cummings, Kevin J <[redacted]> Parascandola, Ciro A
<[redacted]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]> Renwick, William K (Ken)
<[redacted]> Lin, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C
<[redacted]> Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]> Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[redacted]>

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(6)

I apologize that I forgot about this. Has OCC reviewed this? Let me know if we need a call or can decide on edits over email. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

P: [redacted]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:11 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Tuesday is better for OCC. Thanks

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 11:10 AM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

What day is better for OCC and AAO to have time to review? Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518

(b)(6)

Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 11:00 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven,

We've added the draft and our comments to our ECN. It can be found here: [SC Internal Guidance - Related Degrees 4.10.18](#)

We inserted some additional text and made a few modifications so that the guidance is specifically [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are happy to discuss further once everyone has had an opportunity to review. Since we would like to finalize this by early next week for leadership review, can you please set up a call for us on either Monday or Tuesday to discuss any lingering issues?

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 10:18 AM
To: Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I also added a few bullets at the end based on today's discussion. There is not a lot there but it gives us a place to start. Please add to and edit the bullets. Let me know how much of this PM section we should include in the guidance. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: McMahon, Matthew E

Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 10:06 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Viger, Steven W; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Choi, Hae-Jin; Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M

Cc: Beall, Kevina A; Nguyen, Carolyn Q

Subject: H-1B working group call

When: Thursday, April 05, 2018 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Call In (BEST 1): 866 813 5391, Participant Code: 38988125

Rescheduling the call for TH at 1 to ensure attendance by all participants. If Friday works better, kindly advise. Thank you.

(b)(5)

3/28 update:

VSC has submitted another [REDACTED]

<< File: AAO decision on CSA Level 3 with Business and Engineering listed as degr....pdf >> << File: AAO brief.pdf >> << File: AAO file Petitioner support letter in original submission (2).pdf >> << File: VSC AAO Inquiry Denial Copy.pdf >> <<

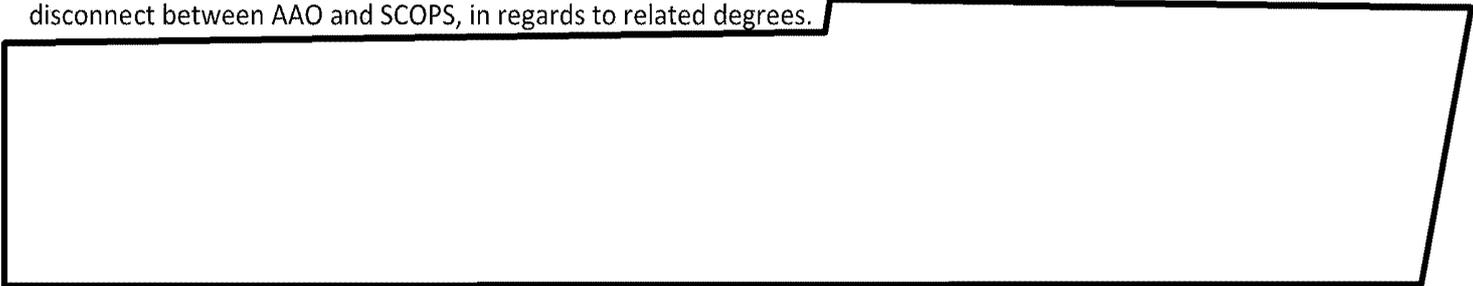
3/27 update:

AAO is not able to call in tomorrow, so rescheduling for 1 PM, Wednesday, April 4th.

(b)(5)

Good afternoon H-1B Working Group,

We'd like to schedule a call this Wednesday to discuss a recent AAO decision that VSC has identified as a potential disconnect between AAO and SCOPS, in regards to related degrees.



VSC has asked for clarification in advance of cap season, so that they can enter the season with the correct understanding of the issue.

We know this is a busy time of year but hope that at least one person from each office can call in to discuss.

Thank you,

Matt

<< File: MRA BRIEF.PDF >> << File: MRA DENIAL.PDF >> << File: MRA EVIDENCE.PDF >> << File: MRA DUTIES.PDF >>
<< File: MRA TRANSCRIPT.PDF >>

Shirk, Georgette L

From: Beall, Kevina A
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Nakajima, Simon T; Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

(b)(5)

All:

We are good with the document, but wonder if the highlighted portion below may confuse officers. We would suggest removing it for clarity.



Thanks.

Kevina

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,

SCOPS reviewed the document after the most recent round of edits and have two things we would like to clarify:



Upon clarification of the above, we are good with the document as it currently is drafted. Please let us know if your component is also on board so that we can move this through to leadership as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Nicole

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 4:56 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi folks,

We won't be able to clear today. We're not sure if we are okay with AAO's edits and will have to take another look on Monday morning.

Simon

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 4:54 PM

To: Cummings, Kevin J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

We edited the last paragraph of the "application" section based on our discussions and to be consistent with our decisions.

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:58 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

We are good with it.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:35 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hmm, yep, that's the correct link. When I opened it I saw my edits. But, I attached a copy to this e-mail as well.

Ricky

<< File: SC Internal Guidance - Related Degrees 4.10.18 (BEST Version).docx >>

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:31 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Beall, Kevina A; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Ricky,

I couldn't see your edits on the ECN. Are we still using the doc at this [link](#)?

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 3:25 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

I have made the edits I think are appropriate to capture the guidance below. Please review and make any edits by COB today. We would like to run this by leadership at the end of the day.

Thank you for all your input and guidance on this issue.

Ricky

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 1:57 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E;

Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

In order to minimize confusion going forward, and since we all agree that that

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 1:47 PM

To: Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks everyone. In that case do we need to make further edits to the guidance on the ECN or does that capture the policies that have been chosen?

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 12:41 PM

To: Parascandola, Ciro A; Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Ciro.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Parascandola, Ciro A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 12:26 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Thanks, AAO! In sum,

[Redacted]

Ciro Parascandola

Special Assistant

USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy, DHS

Office: [Redacted]

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:55 AM

To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

In the cases we see, the petitioner

[Redacted]

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:42 AM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

That's a good question

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [redacted]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:26 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

Sorry I meant to thank AAO, not "OOH".

Steven, in that case, [redacted]

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Beall, Kevina A; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Simon,

We would say [redacted]

Steven Viger

(b)(5)

Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

P [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

(b)(5)

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 10:15 AM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks OP&S and OOH. Can either of you clarify [REDACTED]

From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 9:58 AM

To: Viger, Steven W; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven:

The AAO is fine with it.

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 6:39 PM

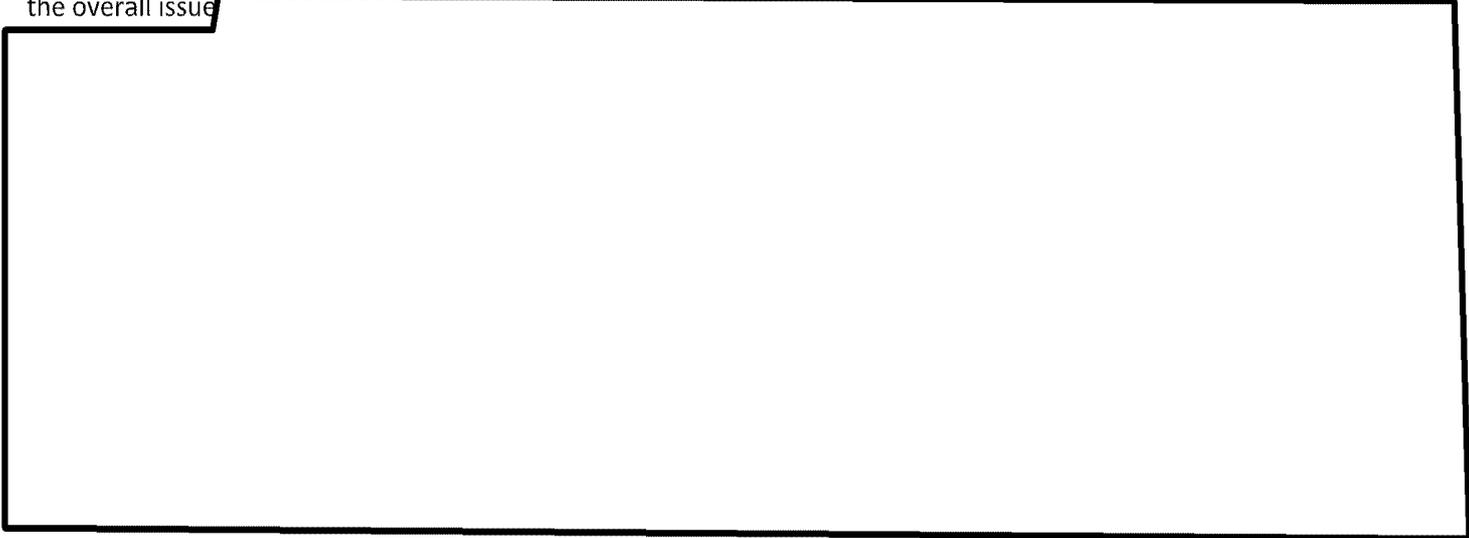
To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox,

(b)(5)

Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Ok. Here is our attempt to focus this discussion on a few policy points knowing that we will still need to further address the overall issue



I would think application of this to the other criteria would be the same. We can discuss that after answering this question. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)



This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

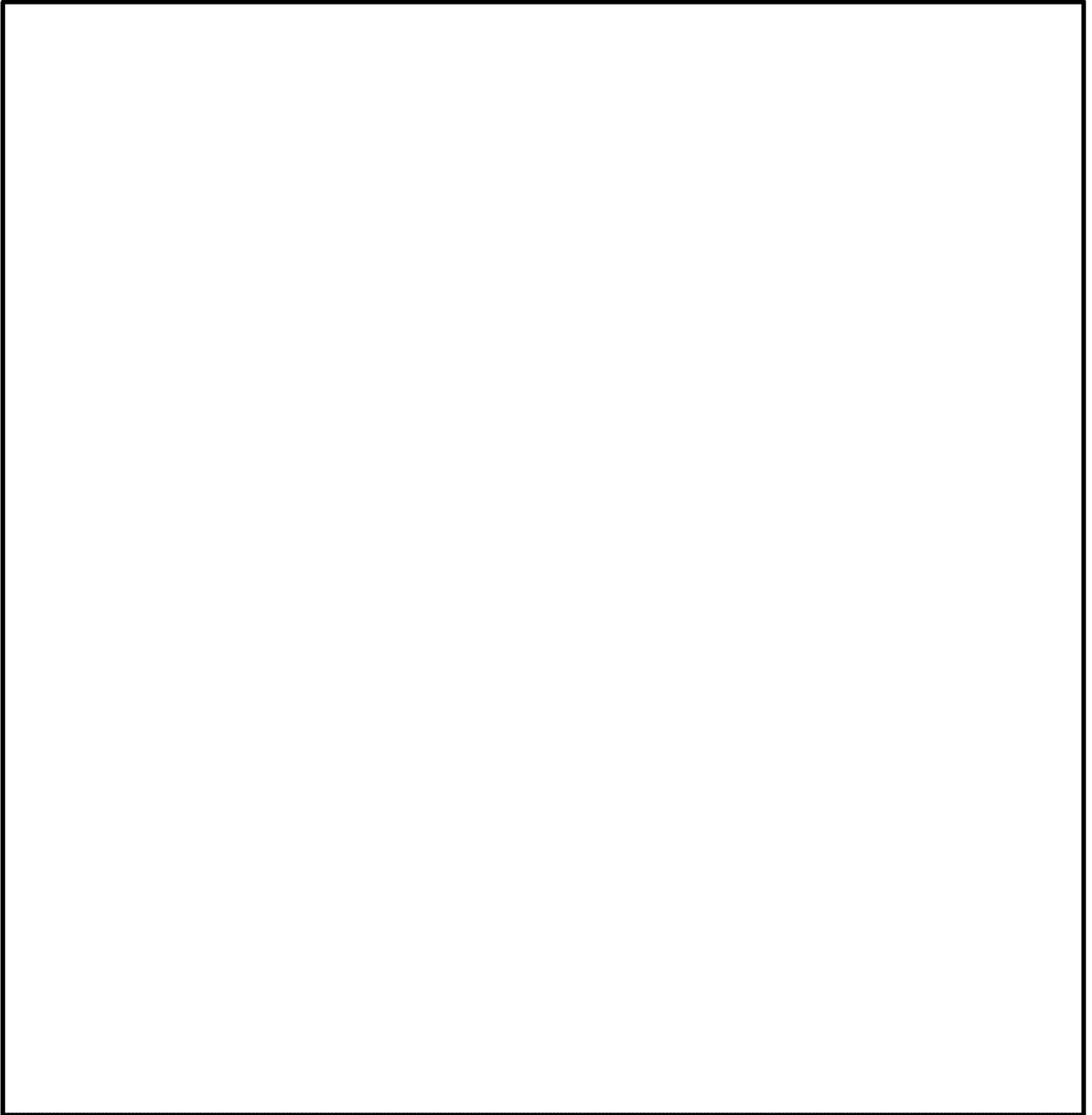
From: Collins, Richard A
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:24 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

Hopefully, this summary is helpful.

(b)(5)

Before talking with the WG the understanding at the centers was generally:



Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox,

(b)(5)

Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Ricky. If we need to move this guidance, then maybe we can state outright that

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 3:36 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Yes, generally our questions are about when the

Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:56 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Stephanie/SCOPS. And just to clarify, the misunderstanding is what

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:41 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: FW: H-1B working group call

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Hi Simon,

See the SCOPS SME response in red below. A lot of these questions don't really make sense in the framework in which the centers are operating and don't seem to necessarily relate to where the misunderstanding is at the center level. Generally, we don't think what we are currently doing at the centers should have much impact on this decision.

Hope this helps.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 6:40 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks very much everyone. We had some follow up questions below in green. Just trying to understand this better.

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 5:38 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Lin, Peggy P; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks AAO. I believe Policy agrees with AAO's analysis of the hypothetical. We would need to see what OCC's final opinion is before we give a final "OK". Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

(b)(5)

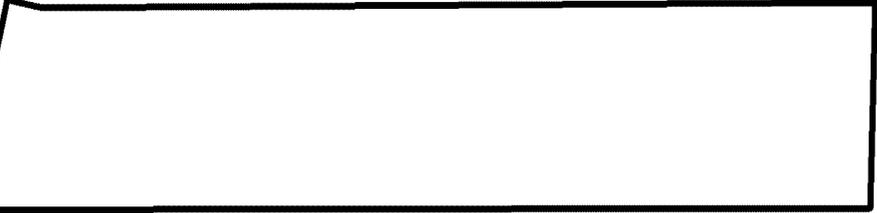
From: Beall, Kevina A

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 5:26 PM

To: Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Just to clarify – we believe that it is possible for



From: Lin, Peggy P

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 5:11 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Yes, it is possible.



From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:40 PM

To: Aucoin, Lauren J; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Lin, Peggy P; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Lauren.

Before we respond, I have a general question for the group and admit that the MRA is not the best example for this.



Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW

(b)(5)

Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Aucoin, Lauren J

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 3:03 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi all,

AAO's response is in the text below.

Thanks,

Lauren

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 2:34 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Please see the response in red below from SCOPS. If there is still disagreement after the responses, this may be a policy call to make.

Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

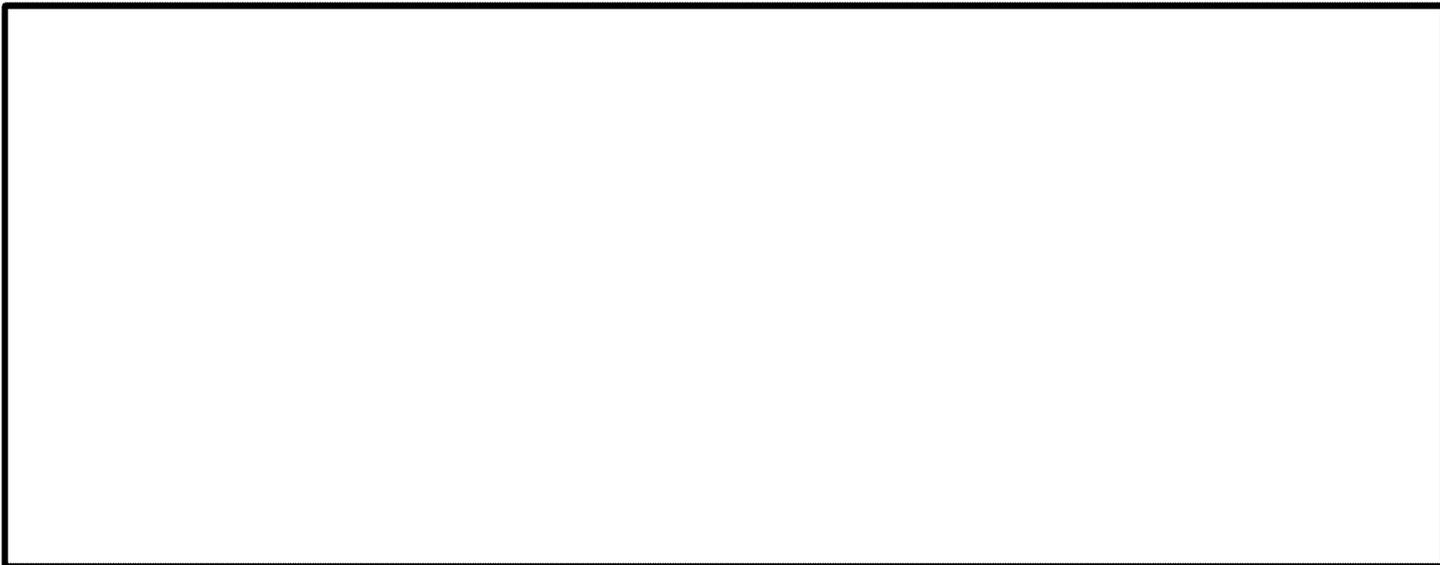
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 1:31 PM

To: Lin, Peggy P; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Collins, Richard A; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

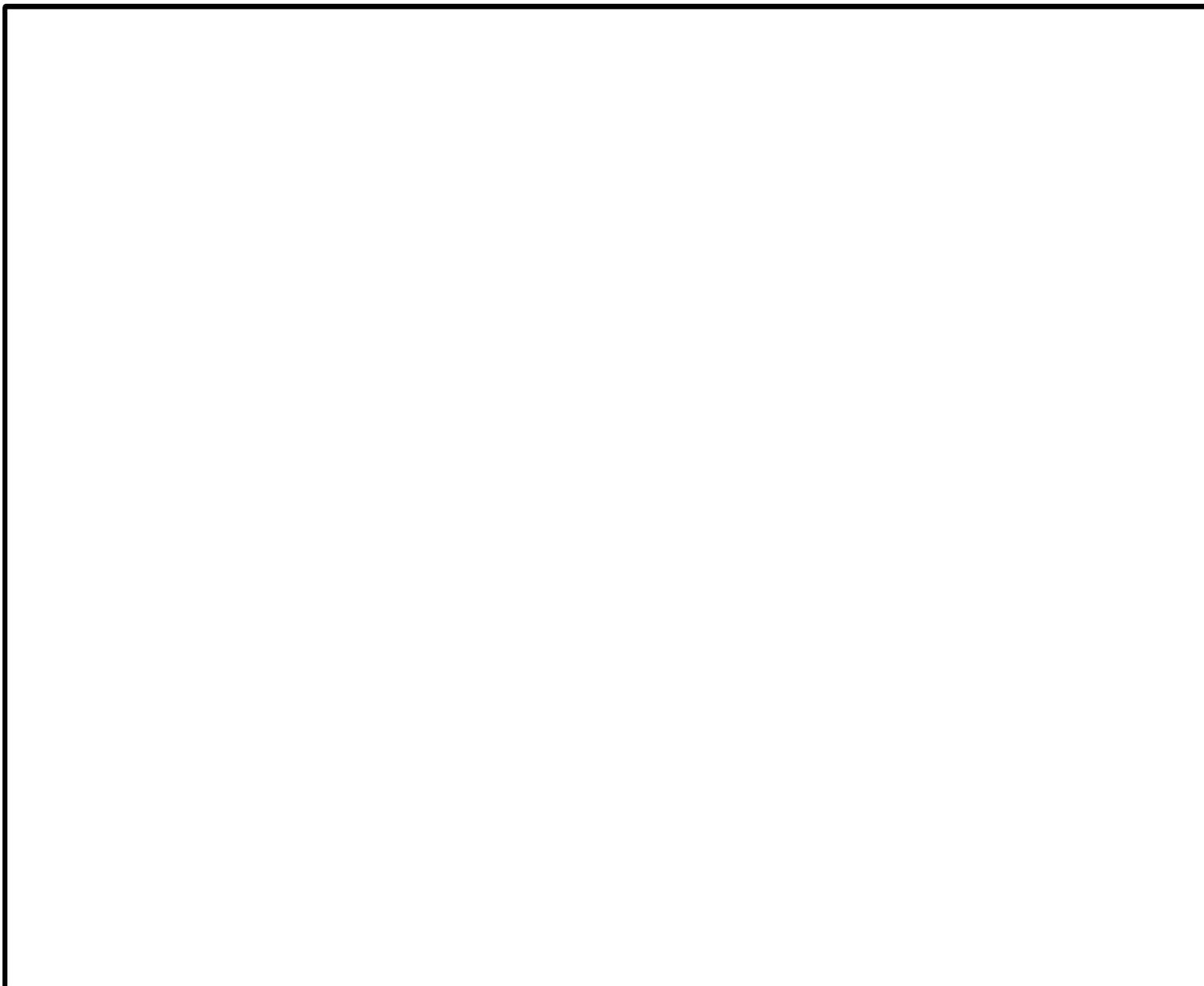
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

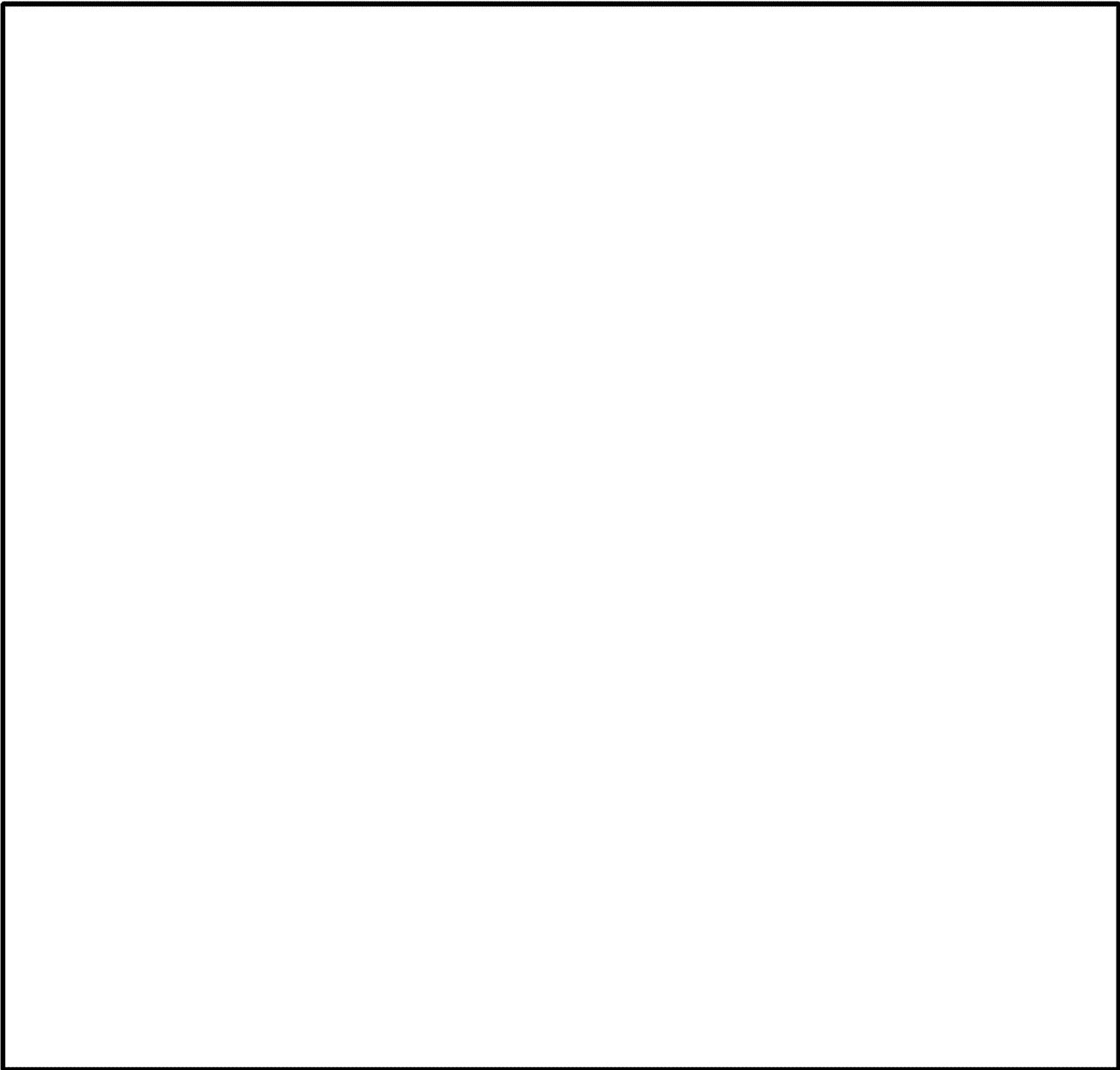
Hi folks,

(b)(5)



OP&S:





From: Lin, Peggy P

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 1:12 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,
The AAO suggests the



From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:51 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Robert. Let us know when you're done.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

(b)(5)

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:46 PM

To: Collins, Richard A; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I just made some edits to clarify, and will make a few more shortly

[REDACTED]

From: Collins, Richard A

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:26 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim)

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone, (b)(5)

Thank you,

Ricky

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi – I edited the language based on my understanding of how we are/will approach these cases under prong 1. Please take a look and let me know if I am off. Thanks.

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 4:00 PM

To: Beall, Kevina A; Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola,

Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi everyone,

Thanks again for calling in this afternoon to discuss further. Please check out the most recent edits based on our call (link to document: [SC Internal Guidance – Related Degrees](#)).

We'll check for any additional comments/edits later this evening and first thing in the morning as we're looking to move this forward as soon as possible.

Thanks!

From: Beall, Kevina A
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Choi, Hae-Jin; Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Works for me too.

From: Choi, Hae-Jin
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:05 PM
To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Works for me.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Viger, Steven W; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Is everyone able to hop on a call at 2:30? I think having another group discussion would be helpful since some of emails our emails our crossing.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Nakajima, Simon T

(b)(5)

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:52 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Things keep changing so I get confused. If our interpretation is that

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:45 PM

To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Simon. Isn't that what we've been saying that the OOH is an authoritative source but not conclusive on whether the occupation is a specialty occupation? It still comes down to the duties the beneficiary will perform even if the occupation is generally viewed as a specialty occupation. Does that work for the lawyer example?

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

I [redacted]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

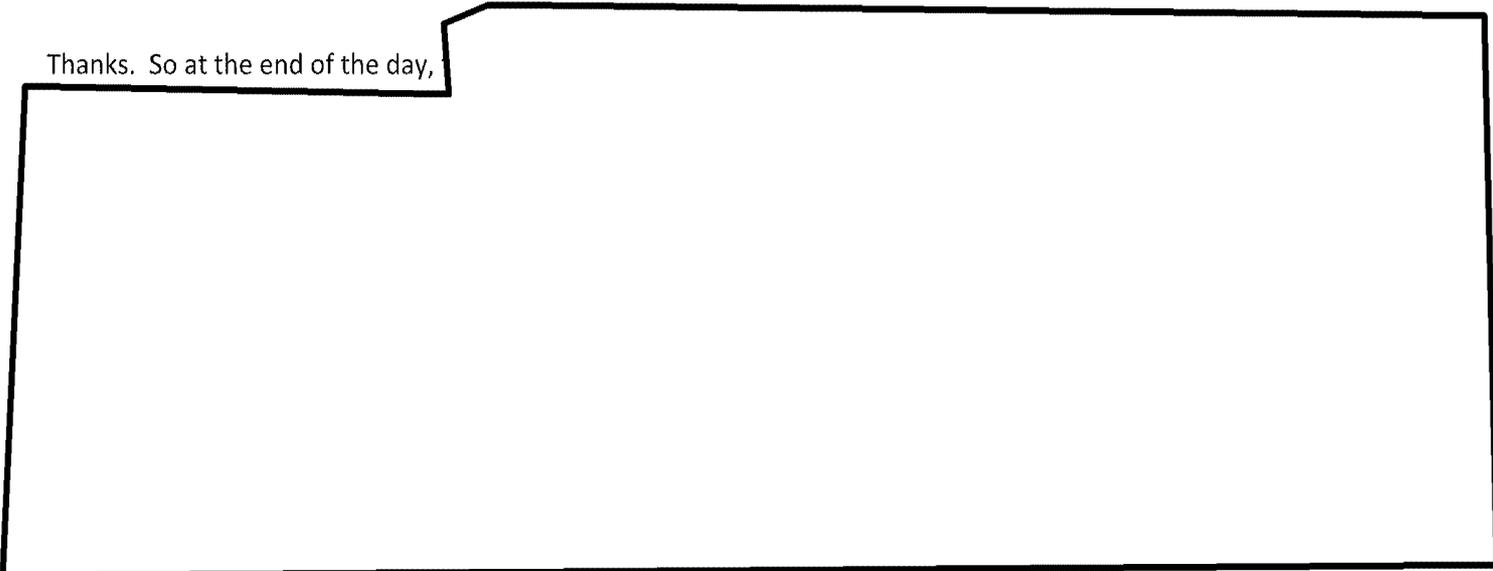
From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J;

Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A (b)(5)
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks. So at the end of the day,



From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:32 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

That is what I tried to mention earlier. If the petitioner actually lists all the degrees from the OOH, they need to show that they all relate. But it ultimately falls to what the petitioner lists as their degree requirements, which may be fewer degrees than what is listed in the OOH.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
I [redacted]
F: (202) 272-8518 (b)(6)
Telework: Mon and Fri
[redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:29 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I think before Robert drafts any language, we need someone to say whether or not the approach he mentions is something even possible.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:24 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Robert,

I just spoke with a few folks on my team. Would you mind providing some verbiage that you think would better address the issue? I think we are having a hard time fully grasping what we should add to this paragraph to address the concern and some suggestions would be helpful.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:15 PM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi – I have a question pertaining to the latest edits. I added it to the comment bubble in the document.

Thanks,
Robert

From: Doumani, Stephanie M

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:59 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

We responded to the comments requiring a response. Please take a second look at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:27 PM
To: Nakajima, Simon T; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call (b)(5)

Thanks Simon. I think the suggested language is fine. I would say that it should only apply to what the petitioner lists whether that be a cut and paste of the [REDACTED]

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri (b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:09 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I responded to an issue that AAO raised, which needs to be resolved before this can really be finalized and cleared.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:22 AM
To: Nicklaw, Nicole C; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E;

Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Nicole,

Policy is fine with this draft. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri
[REDACTED]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:21 AM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi all,

Just a reminder of the below deadline for concurrence by COB today.

Thanks and hope everyone had a nice weekend!

-Nicole

From: Nicklaw, Nicole C

Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 2:11 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call
Importance: High

Hi everyone,

Thanks so much to everyone who was able to call in for the discussion on private wage surveys. We found it really productive and helpful and appreciate everyone's time.

After we discussed the proposed certification case, we had a few minutes left on the call so we took the opportunity to go over a few of the outstanding comments on the Related Degrees guidance which is located on the ECN here at [SC Internal Guidance – Related Degrees](#).

AAO/ Lauren and Peggy – we apologize that you weren't on the line for that part of the discussion but we thought it might be a good chance to hash out the 2 OCC comments that were outstanding. The above link is cleaned up but 2 comments remain – the first is an OCC comment and response and the second is a comment from AAO. Through our brief discussion, the group available on the line thought it would be best to avoid putting the AAO suggested bullet in this particular guidance and instead flag it for later inclusion in some sort of communication or guidance.

As Stephanie mentioned on the call, cap cases are expected to hit the floor for adjudication midweek and we really want to have this guidance available for the centers when processing this year's cap cases. Please review the guidance and elevate to your leadership ASAP. We are looking for concurrence by COB Monday so that this can be distributed to the centers prior to cap processing.

Thanks!

Nicole

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 10:11 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevin A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Our schedules are pretty wide open tomorrow, although I think SCOPS was looking to schedule a different call around 11.

(b)(6)

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Cox, Robert H [redacted]; Nakajima, Simon T [redacted]; Doumani, Stephanie M [redacted]; Choi, Hae-Jin [redacted]; McMahon, Matthew E [redacted]; Bump, Micah N [redacted]; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) [redacted]; Buten, Elizabeth [redacted]; Cummings, Kevin J [redacted]; Parascandola, Ciro A [redacted]; Aucoin, Lauren J [redacted]; Renwick, William K (Ken) [redacted]; Lin, Peggy P [redacted]; Nicklaw, Nicole C [redacted]; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) [redacted]; Collins, Richard A [redacted]
Cc: Beall, Kevin A [redacted]
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

What time is best tomorrow for OCC?

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [redacted] (b)(6)

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

[redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H

Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:49 AM

To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Unfortunately 1:00pm today does not work for me, and I think Simon and Micah also have other meetings scheduled at that time.

(b)(6)

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:46 AM

To: Cox, Robert H <[redacted]>; Nakajima, Simon <[redacted]>; Doumani, Stephanie M <[redacted]>; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]>; McMahon, Matthew E <[redacted]>; Bump, Micah N <[redacted]>; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]>; Buten, Elizabeth C <[redacted]>; Cummings, Kevin J <[redacted]>; Parascandola, Ciro A <[redacted]>; Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]>; Renwick, William K (Ken) <[redacted]>; Lin, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C <[redacted]>; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]>; Collins, Richard A <[redacted]>

Cc: Beall, Kevina A <[redacted]>

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks Robert. Can we do a call around 1:10 – 2:00? I am pretty much booked the rest of the day. Thanks.

Steven Viger

Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

P: [redacted]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

[redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Cox, Robert H
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 9:59 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; Nakajima, Simon T; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven,

We have completed our initial review. We defer to you all as to whether a call is needed to discuss the various comments/edits.

Thanks,
Robert

(b)(6)

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:33 AM
To: Nakajima, Simon T [redacted]; Doumani, Stephanie M
[redacted]; Choi, Hae-Jin <[redacted]>; McMahon, Matthew E
>; Cox, Robert H <[redacted]>; Bump, Micah N
Heesun S (Sunny) <[redacted]>; Buten, Elizabeth C
mmings, Kevin J <[redacted]>; Parascandola, Ciro A
Aucoin, Lauren J <[redacted]>; Renwick, William K (Ken)
n, Peggy P <[redacted]>; Nicklaw, Nicole C
rn, Kimberly M (Kim) <[redacted]>; Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A [redacted]
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

I apologize that I forgot about this. Has OCC reviewed this? Let me know if we need a call or can decide on edits over email. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Nakajima, Simon T

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:11 PM

To: Viger, Steven W; Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Tuesday is better for OCC. Thanks

From: Viger, Steven W

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 11:10 AM

To: Doumani, Stephanie M; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A

Cc: Beall, Kevina A

Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

What day is better for OCC and AAO to have time to review? Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529

P: [REDACTED]

F: (202) 272-8518

Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Doumani, Stephanie M
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 11:00 AM
To: Viger, Steven W; Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hi Steven,

(b)(5)

We've added the draft and our comments to our ECN. It can be found here: [SC Internal Guidance - Related Degrees 4.10.18](#)

We inserted some additional text and made a few modifications so that the guidance is specifically tailored to the [REDACTED]. We are happy to discuss further once everyone has had an opportunity to review. Since we would like to finalize this by early next week for leadership review, can you please set up a call for us on either Monday or Tuesday to discuss any lingering issues?

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 10:18 AM
To: Choi, Hae-Jin; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Thanks AAO.

SCOPS: Let us know if you want/prefer the longer guidance or the shorter one. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Choi, Hae-Jin
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 5:08 PM
To: Viger, Steven W; McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Hello,

AAO has reviewed and added comments.

From: Viger, Steven W
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:24 PM
To: McMahon, Matthew E; Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Choi, Hae-Jin; Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M
Cc: Beall, Kevina A
Subject: RE: H-1B working group call

Here is a link to a portion of the relevant PM section:

<http://ecn.uscis.dhs.gov/team/ops/bfwd/layouts/WordViewer.aspx?id=/team/ops/bfwd/Shared%20Docs%20Executive%20Action/Degree%20in%20a%20specific%20specialty.docx&Source=http%3A%2F%2Fecn%2Euscis%2Edhs%2Egov%2Fteam%2Fops%2Fbfwd%2Fshared%2520Docs%2520Executive%2520Action%2FForms%2FAllItems%2Easpx%3FView%3D%7B65bb79b9%2Dc296%2D48a0%2D82b1%2Dae2332dacb00%7D%26SortField%3DModified%26SortDir%3DDesc&DefaultItemOpen=1&DefaultItemOpen=1>

I also added a few bullets at the end based on today's discussion. There is not a lot there but it gives us a place to start. Please add to and edit the bullets. Let me know how much of this PM section we should include in the guidance. Thanks.

Steven Viger
Adjudications Officer (Policy)
Office of Policy and Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20529
P: [REDACTED]
F: (202) 272-8518
Telework: Mon and Fri

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: McMahon, Matthew E

Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 10:06 PM

To: Cox, Robert H; Nakajima, Simon T; Bump, Micah N; Choi, Heesun S (Sunny); Buten, Elizabeth C; Viger, Steven W; Cummings, Kevin J; Parascandola, Ciro A; Aucoin, Lauren J; Renwick, William K (Ken); Choi, Hae-Jin; Lin, Peggy P; Nicklaw, Nicole C; Stern, Kimberly M (Kim); Collins, Richard A; Doumani, Stephanie M

Cc: Beall, Kevina A; Nguyen, Carolyn Q

Subject: H-1B working group call

When: Thursday, April 05, 2018 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Call In (BEST 1): 866 813 5391, Participant Code: 38988125

Rescheduling the call for TH at 1 to ensure attendance by all participants. If Friday works better, kindly advise. Thank you.

(b)(5)

3/28 update:

VSC has submitted another

<< File: AAO decision on CSA Level 3 with Business and Engineering listed as degr....pdf >> << File: AAO brief.pdf >> << File: AAO file Petitioner support letter in original submission (2).pdf >> << File: VSC AAO Inquiry Denial Copy.pdf >> << File: VSC AAO Inquiry RFE Copy.pdf >> << File: MRA SUSTAIN.PDF >>

3/27 update:

AAO is not able to call in tomorrow, so rescheduling for 1 PM, Wednesday, April 4th.

(b)(5)

Good afternoon H-1B Working Group,

We'd like to schedule a call this Wednesday to discuss a recent AAO decision that VSC has identified as a potential disconnect between AAO and SCOPS, in regards to related degrees. The case involves a

VSC has asked for clarification in advance of cap season, so that they can enter the season with the correct understanding of the issue.

We know this is a busy time of year but hope that at least one person from each office can call in to discuss.

Thank you,

Matt

<< File: MRA BRIEF.PDF >> << File: MRA DENIAL.PDF >> << File: MRA EVIDENCE.PDF >> << File: MRA DUTIES.PDF >>
<< File: MRA TRANSCRIPT.PDF >>

Shirk, Georgette L

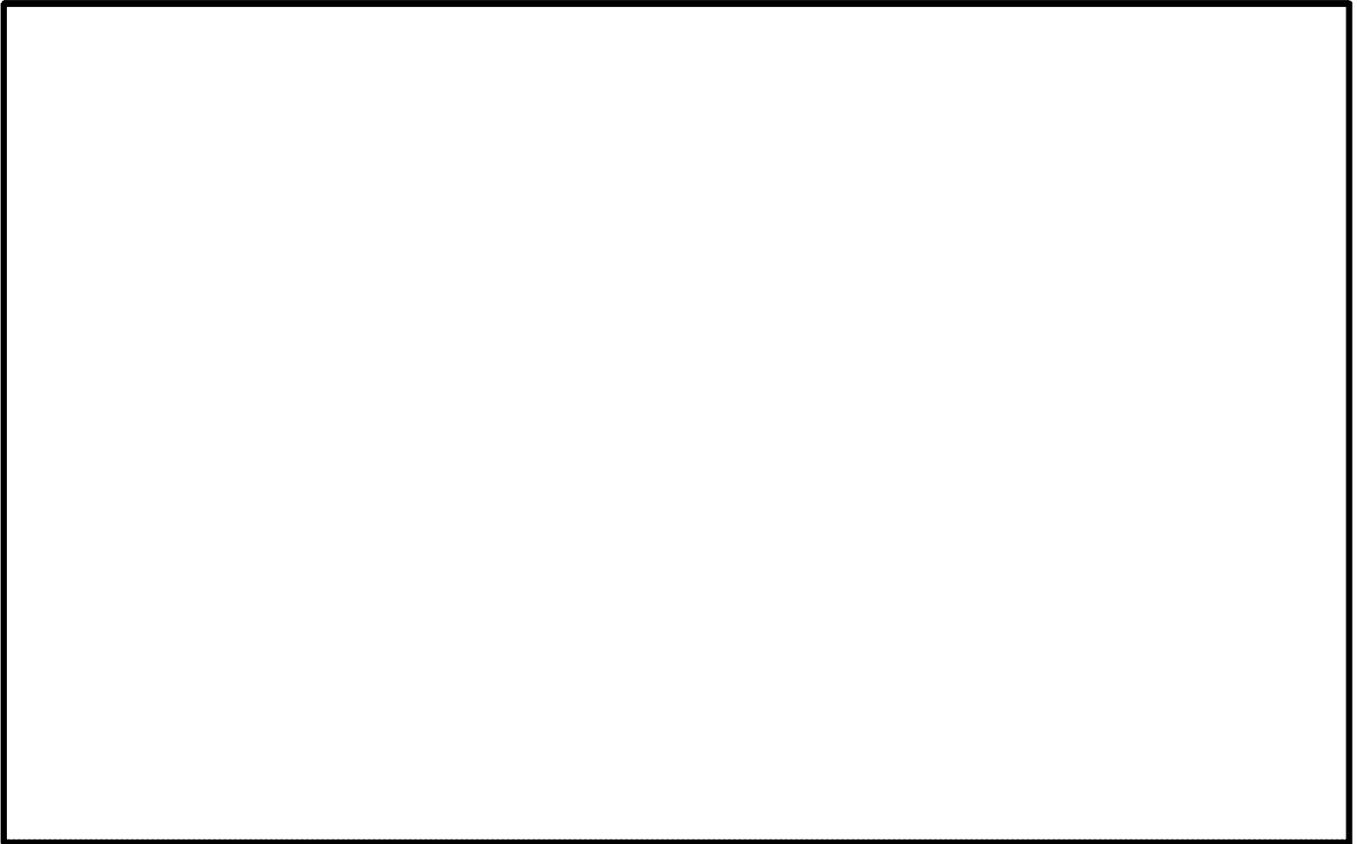
From: Buten, Elizabeth C
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 11:38 AM
To: Parascandola, Ciro A; Cummings, Kevin J
Subject: RE: Questions/Answers on the Rescission memo for Ombudsman Conference
Attachments: Wage memo questions.docx

Thank you! I went and ahead and cleaned them up.

Kevin – please see the attached questions and answers. I also pasted them below in case you need to read them on your phone tomorrow. Please let us know if you think of any other questions.

Elizabeth

(b)(5)



From: Parascandola, Ciro A
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Buten, Elizabeth C
Subject: RE: Questions/Answers on the Rescission memo for Ombudsman Conference

Thanks. I don't have any talking points, except those that were issued by USCIS after the memo was released. I made some edits.

Ciro Parascandola

Special Assistant
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy, DHS
Office [redacted]

(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Buten, Elizabeth C
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 11:58 AM
To: Parascandola, Ciro A
Subject: Questions/Answers on the Rescission memo for Ombudsman Conference

Kevin asked that I work with you to try and come up with a few questions that may come up tomorrow on the Rescission/Wage leveling memo and some proposed answers. Do you have any talking points available on this? I listed below a few that came from the calls with Carrie from the Ombudsman office on this issue. Feel free to edit and let me know if you have any additional points to add.

(b)(5)

[Large redacted area]

Elizabeth Buten

(b)(6)

[redacted]
Business and Foreign Workers Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
US Citizenship and Immigration Services

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies.

(b)(5)

