U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services *Office of the Director* (MS 2000) Washington, DC 20529-2000



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

September 30, 2019

Ms. Sharvari Dalal-Dheini Director of Government Relations American Immigration Lawyers Association 1331 G Street NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Dalal-Dheini:

Thank you for your August 16, 2019 letter requesting a decision from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) regarding the use of electronic registration for the fiscal year (FY) 2021 H-1B cap filing season and asking about stakeholder engagement opportunities for the H-1B registration tool.

With regard to electronic registration for FY 2021, USCIS intends to implement the registration process for the FY 2021 cap season, subject to continued testing of the system. As stated in the final rule, the Department of Homeland Security will publish a notice in the *Federal Register* to announce the initial implementation of the H-1B registration process in advance of the cap season in which it will first implement the requirement.

As noted in your letter, USCIS has conducted an initial round of usability testing for the H-1B registration tool. We incorporated feedback from those sessions into redesigns of the tool. We conducted testing on the updated designs in early September. After completion of the current development phase, USCIS will conduct further outreach and training prior to the initial implementation of the registration system to allow the public the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the electronic registration process. USCIS will provide guidance on how to use the registration system and prepare registrations prior to opening the registration system for the initial registration period.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. Please feel free to share this information with the co-signers of your letter.

Respectfully,

Ken Cuccinelli II Acting Director