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Immigration

DHS Issues Proposed Rule to Expand Biometrics Collection

Legal Update

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This article was prepared with the assistance of ABIL, the Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers, of which Loan Huynh, Fredrikson Immigration Department Chair, is a member.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposes to "permit collection of biometrics from aliens departing from airports, land ports, seaports, or any other authorized point of departure." In addition, to enable U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to verify identity by using facial recognition technology, DHS proposes "to amend the regulations to provide that all aliens may be required to be photographed upon entry and/or departure."

U.S. citizens may voluntarily opt out of participating in CBP's biometric verification program.

Comments are due by December 21, 2020.