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This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the points of agreement between the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and _____ (Employer) regarding the Employer's participation in the Employment Eligibility Verification Program (E-Verify). This MOU explains certain features of the E-Verify program and enumerates specific responsibilities of DHS, the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Employer. E-Verify is a program that electronically confirms an employee's eligibility to work in the United States after completion of the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9). For covered government contractors, E-Verify is used to verify the employment eligibility of all newly hired employees and all existing employees assigned to Federal contracts or to verify the entire workforce if the contractor so chooses.

Authority for the E-Verify program is found in Title IV, Subtitle A, of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), Pub. L. 104-208, 110 Stat. 3009, as amended (8 U.S.C. § 1324a note). Authority for use of the E-Verify program by Federal contractors and subcontractors covered by the terms of Subpart 22.18, "Employment Eligibility Verification", of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) (hereinafter referred to in this MOU as a "Federal contractor with the FAR E-Verify clause") to verify the employment eligibility of certain employees working on Federal contracts is also found in Subpart 22.18 and in Executive

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by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552a), the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1306(a)), and SSA regulations (20 CFR Part 401).

4. SSA agrees to provide a means of automated verification that is designed (in conjunction with DHS's automated system if necessary) to provide confirmation or tentative nonconfirmation of U.S. citizens' employment eligibility within 3 Federal Government work days of the initial inquiry.

5. SSA agrees to provide a means of secondary verification (including updating SSA records as may be necessary) for employees who contest SSA tentative nonconfirmations that is designed to provide final confirmation or nonconfirmation of U.S. citizens' employment eligibility and accuracy of SSA records for both citizens and non-citizens within 10 Federal Government work days of the date of referral to SSA, unless SSA determines that more than 10 days may be necessary. In such cases, SSA will provide additional verification instructions.

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1. After SSA verifies the accuracy of SSA records for employees through E-Verify, DHS agrees to provide the Employer access to selected data from DHS's database to enable the Employer to conduct, to the extent authorized by this MOU:

- Automated verification checks on employees by electronic means, and
- Photo verification checks (when available) on employees.

2. DHS agrees to provide to the Employer appropriate assistance with operational problems that may arise during the Employer's participation in the E-Verify program. DHS agrees to provide the Employer names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers of DHS representatives to be contacted during the E-Verify process.

3. DHS agrees to make available to the Employer at the E-Verify Web site and on the E-Verify Web browser, instructional materials on E-Verify policies, procedures and requirements for both SSA and DHS, including restrictions on the use of E-Verify. DHS agrees to provide training materials on E-Verify.

4. DHS agrees to provide to the Employer a notice, which indicates the Employer's participation in the E-Verify program. DHS also agrees to provide to the Employer anti-discrimination notices issued by the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC), Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

5. DHS agrees to issue the Employer a user identification number and password that permits the Employer to verify information provided by employees with DHS's database.

6. DHS agrees to safeguard the information provided to DHS by the Employer, and to limit access to such information to individuals responsible for the verification of employees' employment eligibility and for evaluation of the E-Verify program, or to such other persons or entities as may be authorized by applicable law. Information will be used only to verify the accuracy of Social Security Numbers and employment eligibility, to enforce the Immigration and

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and written information. The employer will use the photocopy to verify the photo and to assist DHS with its review of photo non-matches that are contested by employees. Note that employees retain the right to present any List A, or List B and List C, documentation to complete the Form I-9. DHS may in the future designate other documents that activate the photo screening tool.

6. The Employer understands that participation in E-Verify does not exempt the Employer from the responsibility to complete, retain, and make available for inspection Forms I-9 that relate to its employees, or from other requirements of applicable regulations or laws, including the obligation to comply with the antidiscrimination requirements of section 274B of the INA with respect to Form I-9 procedures, except for the following modified requirements applicable by reason of the Employer's participation in E-Verify: (1) identity documents must have photos, as described in paragraph 5 above; (2) a rebuttable presumption is established that the Employer has not violated section 274A(a)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) with respect to the hiring of any individual if it obtains confirmation of the identity and employment eligibility of the individual in good faith compliance with the terms and conditions of E-Verify; (3) the Employer must notify DHS if it continues to employ any employee after receiving a final nonconfirmation, and is subject to a civil money penalty between \$550 and \$1,100 for each failure to notify DHS of continued employment following a final nonconfirmation; (4) the Employer is subject to a rebuttable presumption that it has knowingly employed an unauthorized alien in violation of section 274A(a)(1)(A) if the Employer continues to employ an employee after receiving a final nonconfirmation; and (5) no person or entity participating in E-Verify is civilly or criminally liable under any law for any action taken in good faith based on information provided through the automation system. DHS reserves the right to conduct Form I-9 and E-Verify system compliance inspections during the course of E-Verify, as well as to conduct any other enforcement activity authorized by law.

7. The Employer agrees to initiate E-Verify verification procedures for new employees within 3 Employer business days after each employee has been hired (but after the Form I-9 has been completed), and to complete as many (but only as many) steps of the E-Verify process as are necessary according to the E-Verify User Manual, or in the case of Federal contractors with the FAR E-Verify clause, the E-Verify User Manual for Federal Contractors. The Employer is prohibited from initiating verification procedures before the employee has been hired and the Form I-9 completed. If the automated system to be queried is temporarily unavailable, the 3-day time period is extended until it is again operational in order to accommodate the Employer's attempting, in good faith, to make inquiries during the period of unavailability. Employers may initiate verification by notating the Form I-9 in circumstances where the employee has applied for a Social Security Number (SSN) and completed the

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uses the E-Verify system for any purpose other than as authorized by this MOU, the Employer may be subject to appropriate legal action and termination of its access to SSA and DHS information pursuant to this MOU.

9. The Employer agrees to follow appropriate procedures (see Article III. below) regarding tentative nonconfirmations, including notifying employees in private of t

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whether or not assigned to the contract. Once the Employer begins verifying new hires, such verification of new hires must be

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Article II.C.5, the employee's work authorization has not expired, and the Employer has reviewed the information reflected in the Form I-9 either in person or in communications with the employee to ensure that the employee's stated basis in section 1 of the Form I-9 for work authorization has not changed (including, but not limited to, a lawful permanent resident alien having become a naturalized U.S. citizen). If the Employer is unable to determine that the Form I-9 complies with Article II.C.5, if the employee's basis for work authorization as attested in section 1 has expired or changed, or if the Form I-9 contains no SSN or is otherwise incomplete, the Employer shall complete a new I-9 consistent with Article II.C.5, or update the previous I-9 to provide the necessary information. If section 1 of the Form I-9 is otherwise valid and up-to-date and the form otherwise complies with Article II.C.5, but reflects documentation (such as a U.S. passport or Form I-551) that expired subsequent to completion of the Form I-9, the Employer shall not require the production of additional documentation, or use the photo screening tool described in Article II.C.5, subject to any additional or superseding instructions that may be provided on this subject in the Supplemental Guide for Federal Contractors. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a second verification using E-Verify of any assigned employee who has previously been verified as a newly hired employee under this MOU, or to authorize verification of any existing employee by any Employer that is not a Federal contractor with the FAR E-Verify clause.

2. The Employer understands that if it is a Federal contractor with the FAR E-Verify clause, its compliance with this MOU is a performance requirement under the terms of the Federal contract or subcontract, and the Employer consents to the release of information relating to compliance with its verification responsibilities under this MOU to contracting officers or other officials authorized to review the Employer's compliance with Federal contracting requirements.

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1. If the Employer receives a tentative nonconfirmation issued by SSA, the Employer must print the notice as directed by the E-Verify system and provide it to the employee so that the employee may determine whether he or she will contest the tentative nonconfirmation. The Employer must reviewmus # lir ... firmation

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SSA and DHS will not charge the Employer for verification services performed under this MOU. The Employer is responsible for providing equipment needed to make inquiries. To access E-Verify, an Employer will need a personal computer with Internet access.

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A. This MOU is effective upon the signature of all parties, and shall continue in effect for as long as the SSA and DHS conduct the E-Verify program unless modified in writing by the mutual consent of all parties, or terminated by any party upon 30 days prior written notice to the others. Any and all system enhancements to the E-Verify program by DHS or SSA, including but not limited to the E-Verify checking against additional data sources and instituting new verification procedures, will be covered under this MOU and will not cause the need for a supplemental MOU that outlines these changes. DHS agrees to train employers on all changes made to E-Verify through the use of mandatory refresher tutorials and updates to the E-Verify User Manual, the E-Verify User Manual for Federal Contractors or the E-Verify Supplemental Guide for Federal Contractors. Even without changes to E-Verify, DHS reserves the right to require employers to take mandatory refresher mandatory is right

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