

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by, at this time all participants are in a listen-only mode, to ask a question during the question-and-answer session later please press * then one on your touchtone phone. Today's conference is being recorded if you have any objections you may disconnect. And I would like to turn the meeting over to Ms. Lauren Alder Reid, ma'am you may begin.

Lauren Alder Reid: Good afternoon everyone for those of you in the room and on the phones, thank you for attending your webinar and conference call and in-person meeting on the new eRegistry. We're glad to see so much interest in the program, and want everyone to be aware of what's coming on Monday, so we're happy to see so much interest.

We'll get started with the presentation - oh and I'm sorry as operator said my name is Lauren Alder Reid, I'm the Counsel for Legislative and Public Affairs here at the Executive Office for Immigration Review. So what is eRegistry? eRegistry is what EOIR has created as a user-friendly online registry that will allow folks to have eventually electronic case access in a filing system. This was initially implemented through a proposed rule in the Federal Register in 2003 and at that time when we solicited comment we received seven letters of comments.

Part of those comments, so that you will know that they were actually read and considered were from law clinics that expressed concern regarding law students. And so one of the changes that EOIR made based on the comments received was that law students would in fact not be registering. The reason for that is the transient nature of the clinic students and the fact that though we could really ensure that they're getting into the system it would be very difficult to make sure that they're getting out of the system.

And we - one of the reasons as we'll get into later that we're implementing this eRegistry is to make sure that we know who is in fact representing respondents in immigration courts and before the Board of Immigration Appeals. Moving forward into most recent history, on April 1 we published the final rule on the Federal Register and we've received a few comments on that which are undergoing review, but the (com) period has in fact closed.

Just so you know the OCIJ Practice Manual has been updated and posted online and the BIA will be doing the same with their updated manual on Monday. So in terms of folks who want to review the practice manual and the steps that are involved in those various sections within the OCIJ and BIA Practice Manual you will see those online either currently for OCIJ or again on Monday for the BIA.

You might be wondering how is this pursuant to the Government Paperwork Elimination Act and again this will eventually be part of a greater electronic filing system. Immediately you will see the ability to do EOIR-27s and EOIR-28s in some situations through this eRegistry process so that's one piece of paper that you don't have to continue to use. So we are looking forward to in the future reducing even more additional paperwork for all those who before EOIR.

In order to do this - in order to get the benefit that we want from the electronic filing for ourselves and for all of those who appear before EOIR we need to have all attorneys and all fully accredited representatives register. So there's a little bit of an error on the slide, it says all accredited reps - it's only fully accredited reps, it is not partially accredited reps, just to make that clear.

As I said it's the initial step in moving towards an electronic filing system and the purpose is to ensure unique identification of every person who appears in

representative status before the courts and the board, that is what eRegistry will provide is a unique and individual registration information.

We expect that our efficiency will be increased because we'll be reducing system errors and scheduling matters and providing approved notice to attorneys and accredited reps - fully accredited reps. We also expected in the future eventual filing system will reduce the time and expense that is presently incurred with paper filing and again in order to have that happening is to be universal - everyone who's appearing before the court and board.

Also you see on here combating notario fraud, as you may be aware the Executive Office of Immigration Review is part of the initiative of our federal partners to make sure that we're combating notario fraud, we're working to build the capacity of good actors and get out the fraudsters. And this is a very big deal for our director and for our agency and something that we've been working on officially with our federal partners since June 2011, although course the discussions have been - have long before that.

We expect that the fact that before registry account and the EOIR ID issued there's a second step of the registry process which we'll get into later, there's identity verification. So after you enter your information online you also will be required to present a photo ID and an official EOIR location to ensure that you are who you say you are. So allow on that step of accountability we expect will help us get out the notarios from practicing immigration law before the courts and the board.

Also you'll have a unique EOIR ID number that you'll required to put on any EOIR-27 or 28 and that will assist adjudicators in more readily identifying your status as a registrant with the courts and the board. The system will launch as most of you know by now I'm sure on Monday, that's June 10 of this

year and by December 10 of this year is the requirement that you be registered through eRegistry. Want to note that the system is not tested for mobile devices serve you use a mobile device like an iPad you may experience some difficulties with the system.

We recommend that you use a laptop desktop, regular old computing system, nothing too new wave. eRegistry is free, it will not cost, there's no registration fee, not for an initial sign up or for any annual fee or anything like that as may be experienced in other similar systems. What you need to put in your initial registry process, the online portion you'll need to provide your name, your business address and telephone number, your date of birth, your email address and then for attorneys bar information.

And for recognize organizations - or excuse me for fully accredited reps you're recognized organization. If you are an attorney you'll be asked for your bar number. If your state does not have hard numbers that's fine that will not be a required field for you. At that time you also establish a user ID and password for yourself, those will be items that you choose so hopefully you can remember them.

There will also be however (sales help) for you if you've forgotten your password, like most systems with which we're all familiar at this point you will be able to, you know, go in and retrieve that information if you've forgotten it by answering security questions that you would choose. And information we collect you might - a lot of people are concerned about security on the Internet these days understandably so.

Know that all the collected information is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 and will be part of a published system of records which is what we required to do under the Privacy Act. EOIR can disclose information under

routine users that are specified in a system of records noted and any changes that will be published so that you will be aware in the Federal Registry. The address and phone number that you provide should be those that you normally receive your business correspondence.

In other words if you're an attorney who works at your home you would need to include your home address. If you use your cell phone as your primary business phone you would want to include your cell phone. Date of birth information it would not be published but it is necessary for our verification purposes and to differentiate and identify individuals in the registry. In other words if there's two John Doe's and one was born in January and one was born in December we'll be able to know the difference between John Doe, when he is appearing in the immigration court to represent someone.

Originally if you read the proposed rule, we were collecting the last four digits of the registrant's Social Security number, we are no longer doing that - that was deemed unnecessary. So moving on to what you will see on Monday, this is the original screen when you register and you can choose either attorney or fully accredited representative based on your status. These screens - well I'll explain which screen we're on, but as you can see on this it has firm affiliations and bar affiliations.

Those were obviously not be relevant if you choose the fully accredited representative button, instead it would indicate you're recognized organization. Here is when you choose your user ID and gives you the standards for your user ID many of which you've probably seen before in other Internet requirements. Same thing with your password it will tell you what you need to do with your password, you also have your own choice within those constraints.

Then you provide your account information, what we've discussed already - your name, your date of birth, your email address. And first we'll talk about the attorneys, the attorneys will provide their firm name, get the business address and telephone that you use for your correspondence and your email and your bar affiliation. As mentioned you will select your jurisdiction and then if they bar number is applicable include that information as well.

Then you will see this screen and it will give you back all the information that you've input into the system, you acknowledge the perjury statement. If you are a fully accredited rep here's the screen you will see after enter - and putting your regular account information. Again organization name, address, business address and telephone along with email and again you will have your review screen as well acknowledging a perjury statement.

Then this is how you will know you have submitted the online portion, you will see the information saying that it's been received or submitted back to EOIR for processing and it would tell you the info- one of the types of identification that you need to take to a immigration court to proceed with the second step of registry which is the identity verification. We'll get to this little more but identity verification will take place at each immigration court and also the Board of Immigration Appeals, the information that is on the Web site under the engage with EOIR page on the right side box.

And if you click there you will see identity verification as one of the hyperlinks and then you can choose your individual immigration court to see what times and days are available to you for registration. Also the Board of Immigration Appeals information is at the bottom of that page for your repeal. You also receive a email and this is what the email will look like, it will basically tell you the same thing that the confirmation screen did that EOIR

has received your information for processing and that you need to proceed to Step 2, the photo verification or identity verification.

Again we talk a little bit about security of information, the - sorry, the information there - doing the identity verification will emanate the need for EOIR to collect and maintain evidence of identity. So in other words we don't need to make copies of any of your photo identification, we just need to see that it's you and compare to the system and know that we have the right person.

When eRegistry is - when you go into eRegistry you'll be needed - you will need to enter your user ID and your password for each session so that is how your information will be kept secure, only you know your user ID and password. We received some questions prior to this event about whether an attorney for instance can share the registration information with the paralegal, well we can't stop you from doing that just like any computer system we do say keep your user ID and password secure, so whatever you deem to be secure is within your decision.

Each system - the session, excuse me, will be on an encrypted connection and that will protect any data that you are inserting into the system and that includes your basic registration information and if you choose to file a 27 and 28's, your 27s and 28 that will also be delivered over that encrypted connection. It is (stored) on a fully secure server that's in compliance with (BISNA) and you only have access to your own information.

There will - we've had some questions also about an attorney and fully accredited rep (diety) that will not be in existence on eRegistry - you will have access only to your own information. If you have an issue that you feel that someone else has accessed your account this is the email address,

eregistration.support@usdoj.gov you will want to contact, that information is of course available on the Web page as well.

As we discussed identity verification is the second portion of the process for registering and again this is the Web site that you can access in order to check what information a specific to the immigration court closest to you and again the board is also available for identity verification. In the acceptable forms of identification we also have these on the Web site and pictures of the documents in case you're unsure but something might look like that is necessary.

The biggest part of it is it needs to have a photograph and your date of birth and be (self issued or stationed). In some situations you will be able to file the EOIR-27 and 28 as we have discussed, it is however strictly optional at this time. The caveat here is once you're registered you will need to include your EOIR ID from the eRegistry system even on your paper filing. While we ask that you do that from the moment you filed it will not be required until December 10 of this year.

This is what you will see when you are registered - when you're ready to get into the system, you've completed steps one and two this is the screen you will see. You accept that you know that you're entering into a government information system and all the requirements that come with that and then this is your main screen. When you have not registered you would see the account registration link, however when you're ready you can login.

If you've forgotten your user ID or your password there is an availability as we've mentioned that you can enter your security questions to receive those. But logging in will allow you to get to the screen and put your username and password and then here's where you can file electronic forms - as we said it's

the EOIR-27 and 28 in some situations. You can also update your information or reset your password.

If you need to edit your information this is what you would see, your user profile screen where you can edit, add your new organization that would be useful of course if you have left your - for a law firm it would be a firm of course. If you've left your law firm or your organization and you wish to replace information that is primary to you, you would do that. If you're associated with more than one organization or law firm you would add that here's well.

Again all attorneys and employee reps who wish to appear before the immigration court and the Board of Immigration Appeals must complete the two-step process that includes the online portion and the photo identity verification by December 10 of this year. Failure to do so may result in administrative suspension from practice before EOIR is adjudicated (to spot you). Such suspension can be lifted after the individual completes the registration process.

And that concludes the presentation, operator if we can open the lines to phones. And to those of you on the phone we do have several people in the room as well, so we will alternate as appropriate between those questions in the room and those on the phone.

Coordinator: Thank you if you'd like to ask a question over the phone lines please press * then one, and one moment please.

Lauren Alder Reid: And while we wait I'll ask if there's any questions in the room - uh-hum?

Woman: After you (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: It will be the same process - they can...

Woman: (That will be a certain) (unintelligible) right now they are (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: For the photo verification?

Woman: (Yes).

Lauren Alder Reid: You know that's interesting and I actually don't know the answer to that question, we can add that information to our FAQs online, we'll make sure that we do that within the next week. But if you would like a specific answer back to you go ahead and feel free to email us at pao.eoir@usdoj.gov, we'll be happy to get back to you.

(Mark): The courts (unintelligible) will have regular (unintelligible) because of (special process) (unintelligible). You had it set up...

Lauren Alder Reid: Mark if you're going to answer can you come to the microphone so people on the phone can hear you.

(Mark): (Unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: That's fine I just don't want them to not get the benefit of your answer.

(Mark): We'll have hours after their initial period, every court has - we'll - it will be ongoing process where you'll have regular hours. Some courts will be by appointment, some courts will be just regular business hours - most courts are regular business hours for validation, okay.

Woman: Okay so attorneys will have to undergo both steps before they file a (unintelligible)?

Lauren Alder Reid: Yes after December 10 it is a requirement before you appear in immigration court or are representing - actively representing clients to become the client - the attorney of record you would need to be online. Filing the E-27 or E-28 will remain optional in terms of doing it electronically but since you'll need to file it and put your EOIR ID on there the only way to get that EOIR ID is through eRegistry. Yes?

(Heidi): So my name's (Heidi) (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Hi.

(Heidi): To support (unintelligible) provider we (refer) (unintelligible) and so I think that's (something) similar to (unintelligible) in that a lot of the attorneys who volunteer (unintelligible) immigration (court case) (unintelligible). So we're concerned that this means you'll (someone) (unintelligible). So I guess my question is for what you anticipate that delay to mean between an in person appearance and the (receipt as to your) (unintelligible). And then second whether there might be any accommodation for (unintelligible) for carrying (unintelligible)?

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure the question in the room was regarding pro bono attorneys, those which represent the respondents in immigration court or before the board free of charge and the effect that eRegistry may have on them. There's a concern that there may be a negative affect on the ability to do pro bono work because of - as it was named the burden to register.

We don't believe that pro bono representation will be significantly affected, we're certainly open to continuing a conversation about that but our evaluation of the situation is that because this really is an EB one-time event it takes, you know, our estimate was 10 minutes, I think that's generous personally for somebody to fill in information that you need to online and then, you know, showing the photo ID. We really feel that it's something that can be done fairly easily without too much burden as we have described it.

We also - Internet and registry is becoming more and more common in other court systems and use of the computer is certainly not something that's foreign to those who are coming out of law school. So we feel like it's something that people are used to and are even possibly expecting in many scenarios and so immigration court and the board should really be different.

Woman: (Unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure, sure.

Woman: I think the concern is more about that first trip to the immigration court and I don't know if that could be combined with their first appearance which would certainly be helpful.

But I think there - many of us are concerned that if say you're a pro bono attorney, (EOIR is the same case) then saying keep the case on Monday you have a master calendar on Wednesday, you have to be there before that first appearance make it to the court to be registered and the court may be a few hours away. So, you know, if it was possible to (align) that physical with the first appearance that would certainly go a long way.

Lauren Alder Reid: The immigration judges are certainly going to be understanding of the process. There are also exceptions to if you're registered you can be given a one-time waiver so to speak, so if you have - I mean that's not to be used, you know, broadly but - and it's at the immigration judge's discretion.

But if you come to an immigration court on the day of an appearance and you've already done your online portion and you come and you present your photo ID and you've done the steps then you can say to the immigration judge, I have completed the registration process and just have not yet been able to access my account, that something that's workable - does that help?

Woman: Thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure.

Woman: And I would like to (present) my worries about in (Texas) we have a pro bono (unintelligible) and I work for (unintelligible) and we provide pro bonos nationally to (unintelligible) appearance (unintelligible).

And a large number of pro bonos being subject to (unintelligible) for them (unintelligible) first time appearance, is that (a bed) I think will have a very, very serious impact on the project on our (aspect) of pro bono, I can imagine, even for those who have situations in their local area doing pro bono. So I make a request that there be an alternative made for maybe a certain class for pro bono to do the second portion. I do not think it's strictly registry - that online form that (makes a burden).

I do think (unintelligible) my project and there are smaller projects (unintelligible) that ultimately use solely pro bono orientation or practice with pro bono concern.

Lauren Alder Reid: The question in the room mostly echo the previous question regarding pro bono work except there's an extension of that to make a request that EOIR consider an exception for those doing pro bono work who may be in remote locations and find it burdensome to travel to in immigration court or the Board of Immigration Appeals to do the photo identity verification portion of registration.

We certainly did receive comments on this during the comment period and we're aware of it and again we feel like this is the way forward for us and the only exception that was made at this point was for law students. As always we're open to engaging in conversation but that was the determination at this point.

I'd also just like to add that in terms of burden while the initial burden may exist in terms of having to travel to an immigration court for those in a - maybe not right in a quick drive to an immigration court in the future as we proceed and even now with the EOIR-27s and 28s the electronic filing of this will increase efficiencies for everyone involved, both the attorneys who are trying to do pro bono work and us as the agency on this side. So I'm going to turn to the phones and then we'll come back to the room for questions.

Operator or the questions?

Coordinator: We have several, (Rick Ten) your line is open at this time.

(Rick Ten): Good afternoon, I have several questions so just cut me off when I should get back on the queue to ask additional questions. But my first question focuses on what I think is false information on what you published in the Federal Register. Can you please list for us all the reasons that you're doing eRegistry

and then I'll follow-up to explain why there's a mistake in the Federal Register?

Lauren Alder Reid: I- I can't tell you that I can tell you every reason that we're doing eRegistry but I can certainly review the ones that I have named for you earlier. We are looking at the fact that it will increase efficiency both for immigrant courts and for those who practice with immigration courts, attorneys and fully accredited representatives.

We also are noting that this is the first step towards what we hope giving resources available to us will be electronic filing and a greater e-court system down the line. In addition we have - our federal partners, state and local partners, all are a great understanding of many of you are as well of the problem we have with notario fraud and we do believe that verifying that we know who is in immigration court will prevent us from - or help us prevent those bad actors from appearing and victimizing respondents. And if you'd like to, you can tell me what's wrong.

(Rick Ten): Okay well it is disturbing that you're not able to tell us all the reasons that you're doing eRegistry when you're trying to convince us to do it. And that there's no promise that you'll stick to your stated reasons because you don't even have the list.

But there's a problem in the Federal Register because you - you published in the Federal Register that all of the reasons that you're doing eRegistry are irrelevant towards (ice) counsels so there's no purpose for (ice) counsels to eRegister. However if you require (ice) counsel to eRegister would increase efficiency, help make a move towards an e-filing system, have unique identifiers for each person representing a party in the court and also making sure that the person is who they say they are.

So they're really - you comments on why (ice) counsel does not register actually include false information and there's really no reason to exclude them.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay well I appreciate your comment, I can let you know that the purpose of the Registry is to create a database of private attorneys and fully accredited reps (to report to EOIR).

The (DHS Counsel) are federal employees and they may include any officer assigned to represent the (agenda)...

(Rick Ten): Well I'll stop you there because your comment to...

Lauren Alder Reid: Well I'd like to finish because sir, I allowed you to speak and I'd like the same opportunity.

(Rick Ten): Well but you're contradicting yourself.

Lauren Alder Reid: And the DHS Counsel are deemed federal employees, they may also be an officer assigned to DHS who are representing them in a proceeding before the immigration judge or the board and the reasons for registering private attorneys and accredited representatives are simply not relevant to DHS Counsel.

We don't believe it is likely that an unauthorized individual would represent DHS in a EOIR proceeding because they would be badged and also recognized by the Department of Homeland Security - please go ahead.

(Rick Ten): I've understand you read the false information out again from the Federal Register, but you haven't addressed how you've contradicted yourself in stating several reasons at eRegistry and then in quoting the false information of the Federal Register that there's only one purpose for it and ignoring the others you've just told me.

So I understand you've repeated the false information but doesn't really solve anything and I hope you'll address it and I think it's a flaw with the eRegistry program. I do have other questions and I don't know...

Lauren Alder Reid: Well I'll first address what you just said, you're certainly entitled to your opinion and we would welcome you to submit comment if you still feel that there's false information as you've put it in the eRegistry, however this has been worked on for a long time by this agency and we're quite confident that the way that it is done is fair and appropriate.

(Rick Ten): Okay should I go to another question or do you want to have me wait on the queue? What would you like?

Lauren Alder Reid: You can proceed to one more question.

(Rick Ten): Okay one more question, let's say there is an attorney who was sworn into a bar and the bar has never required the person to have a photo ID and this person has no photo ID on your required list, will this person be allowed to practice even though they are unable to complete the photo ID check for eRegistry?

Lauren Alder Reid: The second step of the process does require a presentation of one of the forms of photo ID listed on our Web site and during the webinar if you're on the webinar, so in order to complete the process you would need to present

such photo ID at the identity verification phase in immigration court before the board. Said brief answer your question no the person would not be permitted to appear in immigration court or before the Board of Immigration Appeals.

(Rick Ten): All right so someone sworn into a bar and is a practicing lawyer and is allowed to practice law will be barred by EOIR, right?

Lauren Alder Reid: If they do not have one of those forms of identification they would not be able to complete registering (in EOIR).

(Rick Ten): Okay I wonder if you think that's appropriate to limit the number of attorneys who can practice even though they're sworn in. It seems to me a bit (draconian).

Lauren Alder Reid: I do believe that the process is appropriate, yes.

Coordinator: Thank you for your question, if you'd like to ask another you may reenter the queue.

(Rick Ten): Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next request now (Katherine Lampard), your line is open ma'am.

(Katherine Lampard): Here's a smaller practical question, it looks to me like you all are - we will be submitting a pass - we will be choosing a password once, and not having to have it expire every 90 days and select a new one like in the USCIS online system, is that right?

Lauren Alder Reid: That is my understanding, I'm going to look up my experts in the room and make sure - yes our IT guy is here and he's tell me that is correct, you will not need to reset your password unless you feel your account has been compromised or you just decide you don't like it.

(Katherine Lampard): All right thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you, operator I'll take one more on the phone before turned back to the room.

Coordinator: Yes our last at this time (Carlos Posis) your line is open. Please check your mute button, your line is open.

(Carlos Posis): Sorry. Hi. Two questions, first what is the URL for the Web site and - because I was on the phone I couldn't see the slides with the address. So the Web site that you referenced a couple times?

Lauren Alder Reid: All right well the easiest way to send you back without having you write a million letters is if you go to www.justice.gov/eoir. On the right-hand side of the page you'll see a box called an Action Center and there's - the top link there is engage with EOIR.

(Carlos Posis): Okay.

Lauren Alder Reid: And you click that link and scroll down to the bottom and you'll see eRegistry initiative.

(Carlos Posis): Okay.

Lauren Alder Reid: And clicking that link will take you to all the information that I discussed was available on the Web.

(Carlos Posis): Okay, great and I guess my other question is how does this impact telephonic appearances?

Lauren Alder Reid: I guess I'm not sure - could you verify that?

(Carlos Posis): Well I mean say, you know, prior to eRegistry I'll file my E-28 via mail to a remote courthouse and then they'll accept it along with my motion for telephonic appearance, so I never physically actually go to the court when I make my appearance for my respondent.

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure that would still not be an issue, you're still welcome to file the form by paper, electronic filing is optional although you could presumably do that as well. And then the motion for telephonic appearance wouldn't change as long as you've already done the identity verification portion of eRegistry.

(Carlos Posis): So I would - so it would - at some point I'd have to show up prior to whatever appearance I'm filing a motion for telephonic appearance for - I'd have to show up physically at the courthouse to?

Lauren Alder Reid: Correct (we're) - all attorneys and fully accredited reps are required to register by December 10.

(Carlos Posis): Okay and that's just once?

Lauren Alder Reid: Correct, yes you only have to appear in court one time to show your ID and then you're in the system, you have your unique (eRegistry) - yes thank you for that clarifying question, that's helpful.

(Carlos Posis): Okay because I, you can see why the impression might be that every time you have an appearance you have to show your - physically show your ID.

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure that is definitely not the case, thank you again for that clarifying question.

(Carlos Posis): Okay.

Lauren Alder Reid: Any other questions in the room? Yes?

Woman: (Karen), I have a couple of them. The first one is what about (unintelligible) your appearances already entered, you - are you going to have to at some time prior to December 10 submit a new E27 or somehow - or E28 or otherwise provide a number to the court for the board? Or is this only going to pertain to new (entries of appearance) (unintelligible)?

Lauren Alder Reid: The question in the room was whether a new Form 27 or 28 would be required if an appearance has already been entered in the case. And believe it or not we are not trying to provide extra burdens for you so no you will not need to reenter that form it will only be those moving forward after you register - after December 10 but we have to be so after your registration.

Woman: Okay thanks, can I take one more (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Please, sure, sure.

Woman: On the question about bar admission, does that refer only to the - as in the current form the bar of the highest court of any state or does that mean all the

courts to which (you attend)? All the federal courts, the circuits, the non-immigration related courts.

Lauren Alder Reid: We're just looking to make sure that you're licensed, so if you include the states in which your licensed (that's plenty).

Woman: Okay thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you - yes?

Man: Once an attorneys is registered with EOIR, I realize it will take some time to set up an e-filing system but will EOIR be able to notify attorneys as registered of decisions in their cases by email rather than snail mail?

Lauren Alder Reid: Immediately?

Man: Yes.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay the question in the room is whether EOIR will be able to notify attorneys who are registered in eRegistry of decisions in a case by email rather than snail mail and immediately. There is no plan for that at this time.

Woman: To follow the appearance question, so that's helpful that there won't actually have to be another filing, but on attending case let's say you had submitted (the) and you had an appearance in 2012, before the next scheduled appearance will e-filing requirement exist or is it the entire e-filing requirement will be (unintelligible)?

Lauren Alder Reid: The - so you're asking if a case is proceeding with the next hearing is not until after the December 10 dates?

Woman: And the attorney is not entering (impending new matters) only this one (name) that is pending from before eRegistry requirements?

Lauren Alder Reid: So the question and the room is whether a case that's proceeding past the December 10 deadline where an attorneys representing only in this matter would that person be required to register and submit the form.

They would not fall under the - if it's their only case because that's the only case and they're not required to register for the case then they would not need. However they proceed and appear in immigration court after December 10 they would need to be registered so that they fall within the - I think I sound like I'm contradicting myself but I'm not trying to.

If there is a - if they are doing the paper side of things and if there's no appearance in immigration court after December 10 there would not - there would not be a need to register and there's certainly no need to file the new form. However if they're going to make an appearance before an immigration court- an immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals they would be required to register because that registry requirement is complete as of December 10 - does that make sense?

Okay it makes sense in the room I hope it does to you on the call. I'll move back to the phone operator, are there any questions in queue?

Coordinator: We have about a dozen right now - (Carlin Williams) your line is open.

(Carlin Williams): Yes hi, can you hear me?

Lauren Alder Reid: Absolutely.

(Carlin Williams): Okay great, so I work at the City Bar Justice Center and we work with a lot of pro bonos and I couldn't really hear the question and the remote about pro bonos earlier so I apologize if I am repeating the question. And this sort of follows up on what you just answered but the pro bonos that pick up a case say next January what is the system going to be for registering in the system after December 10?

Lauren Alder Reid: It will be...

(Carlin Williams): (Unintelligible) - sorry go ahead.

Lauren Alder Reid: I'm sorry, it will be the same. Everyone will need - anyone who's going to appear in immigration court after December 10 will have been required to register through eRegistry, both the online portion and the in-person portion.

(Carlin Williams): But they can do that after the December 10 deadline?

Lauren Alder Reid: If they have no appearance in immigration court between December 10 and January...

(Carlin Williams): Right, say they pick of the case in January - like they're not even in the, you know, they don't have to work with anything right now.

Lauren Alder Reid: Correct if they don't have any other cases that would be fine, however we would encourage people because of the established hours already existing we're trying to get as many people as possible to go ahead and register by December 10 - it's to their benefit as well, I mean in terms of...

(Carlin Williams): Okay, right but I mean we ship cases that when we get them so if we get...

Lauren Alder Reid: I understand.

(Carlin Williams): ...them - I'm just making sure that they'll be able to sign up after December 10.

Lauren Alder Reid: Absolutely because the system is (unintelligible) and we'll need law school graduates who graduate next May to be able to sign up and they will be able to as well so.

(Carlin Williams): Okay great thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: No problem.

Coordinator: Our next question - (Anthony Judisse) your line's open sir.

(Anthony Judisse): Hi.

Lauren Alder Reid: Hello.

(Anthony Judisse): Hi can you hear me?

Lauren Alder Reid: I can.

(Anthony Judisse): Oh don't take offense, I'm just asking.

Lauren Alder Reid: I'm ready for it - (Anthony) and I have a history.

(Anthony Judisse): How - and give me specifics please and please don't start your answer with as I said, how is the electronic system going to be any more effective than the paper system in routing out, you know, notarios and unscrupulous skunks,

unethical practitioners? I think in theory it's a great idea but I, you know, I'm skeptical of the federal government anyway - give me some specifics as to how that's going to happen? I mean just asking - I'm just asking.

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure well I won't as I said but forgive me if I do repeat myself a little bit, we do think that the online registry with the personal information included there that then is accompanied by the actual photo identification at a physical EOIR location and the verification of that person. And then that unique EOIR ID number that is required to appear on the EOIR-27 and 28 will allow our adjudicators to know that the person is legitimate, that they are not a notario.

In addition we are looking forward to down the line when resources are available to be able to increase the efficiency of our court and your law practice by allowing you to do things online. And we know that a lot of the other courts in the country already have that ability and have had for quite some time and we're actually very excited about the ability to offer that people when we're able

(Anthony Judisse): All right well what about, you know, the people that falsify - you know this, green cards and records like that are very good at it, what about people that file for it with false information and prevent - present false ID at the immigrant - at the EOIR in Buffalo for example I mean how do you know? How do you know?

Lauren Alder Reid: I can't imagine sir that we would, you're right there are a lot of people who are very good at falsifying identification. So our hope of course that such fraudsters would not take the step of appearing before a federal government official and presenting false identification, but there's really nothing that we could do...

(Anthony Judisse): All right well that's honest enough, I appreciate it very much.

Lauren Alder Reid: I try to be honest, I would encourage you if you're ever aware of that situation...

(Anthony Judisse): Oh don't worry about that - don't worry about that, I will - don't worry.

Lauren Alder Reid: You and anyone else who's listening.

(Anthony Judisse): Thank you so much.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you - operator next question.

Coordinator: (Jesse Manelle) your line is open.

(Jesse Manelle): Hi thank you for taking this call, can you hear me?

Lauren Alder Reid: I can.

(Jesse Manelle): Yes so I have very serious concerns about the in-person validation process and there are a lot of courts - especially the circuit courts where business is conducted telephonically.

And so if you're going to require in-person validation for somebody who's appearing in front of the Portman court but is representing a client say for example in Idaho or in, you know, Alaska that's going to pose a very serious problems in terms of that person traveling to the court in order to make that first appearance and to present an ID and I think that EOIR needs to look at a workaround.

One possible suggestion is, you know, the attorney can certify that the document ID is a true and correct copy of the original and then sign the document in the presence of a notary. And, you know, that should give you every confidence that's the guy who's making the representation has that ID in his or her possession. So, you know, this thing I think is a problem and it will cause serious hardships and burdens on people who have to travel extremely long distances in order to do the in-person validation.

So, you know, you need to look at that a try to find ways to do workaround - so that's a concern that I'd like to present.

Lauren Alder Reid: And sir I'll certainly address your comment, can you tell me where you're located just so - if you don't mind?

(Jesse Manelle): Well I'm in Portland Oregon, so it's not going to be a problem for me to go to the court, I'm two blocks away. But, you know, I'm a former EOIR liaison for (ALA) in the Oregon area and I'm also on the National Chapter and so, you know, we've got folks who practice in Spokane say for example.

And the folks in Spokane can either go to Seattle or they can go to Portland or they can go to Boise or they can go to Helena and, you know, that's 300, 400, 500 miles in one direction so you're looking at significant distances in terms of traveling in order to do the in-person verification. And you say it's a one-time deal but, you know, somebody's got to make that trip.

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure and to address - since you're talking specifically about the - for the Pacific Northwest for that country, you know, there are - and I encourage you to go to the Web site, this is only one that I will name off because it's specific to your question in a of general interest.

The personal appearance is a requirement of the Department of Justice security order that relates to this identification verification, so that is the reason for it. And as you've stated we do believe that the initial one-time only burden is worth the effort.

That said, those in Alaska, Idaho and Montana will have the ability - there is one day about 3 1/2 hours a day set up for each of those locations where a DHS Counsel has agreed to be present and present the photo identification - verified, excuse me, the photo identification of the person and verified for EOIR via VTC that that is the person.

So that verification will be - that process, excuse me, will be available in those locations because we did recognize the significant added burden given the geography and roads if you will in that area of the country. So I hope that helps alleviate your concern somewhat.

(Jesse Manelle): Well I mean, you know, we'll see and I mean there's going to be much gnashing of teeth and groaning I imagine as this process is rolled out but, you know, hopefully we can be partners in this thing and we can get this done as efficiently as possible.

But again, you know, we would hope that EOIR would also be accommodating and understanding and provide opportunities to, you know, allow folks who can't complete the e-verification process to continue to represent their clients.

Lauren Alder Reid: Well as I said there is opportunity if a person is just absolutely unable within the next six months from Monday to appear in person in an immigration court or before the board to do their identity verification.

There is the wiggle room if you will for an immigration judge to give somebody a one-time waiver of that requirement with the understanding that they will take care of it immediately. So we have considered the issues that you're raising and have identified the way that we've established as the best way for it - thanks again for your comments.

(Jesse Manelle): If I could just make one additional comment and it's sort of related to the fact that this is one-sided and that only the private bars engage in this activity, I mean from an e-filing perspective it doesn't make my practice any more efficient if I can only electronically serve the BIA with immigration court.

But then I still have to print out a hard copy and send it to (ice) counsel. So I am - I'm somewhat concerned about this one-sided comment in the same sort of way that a previous caller was. And so to the extent that you're creating an e-filing system and you want to create efficiencies via this technology, you know, please seriously consider bringing DHS Counsel on board with this process, because, you know, it saves me time at the copier.

If I can just scan and doc- scan this thing into a PDF and send it to both the court and opposing counsel through this process that you're implementing then, you know, that's certainly the thing that you want to create versus having me to scan it in as a PDF and then create a hard copy and, you know, send that hard copy to opposing counsel, so...

Lauren Alder Reid: Absolutely and we're in constant communication with the Department of Homeland Security and we will continue to discuss with them all issues relevant to the way that the efficiencies work in the immigration court. To be fair to those in the room and on the phone I'm going to move onto the next person, but thanks again for your comment - in the room?

Woman: I have one question and one comment, the question is how are the judges as a practical matter going to be (on an attorney) for verifying that practitioner has actually done it, is there going to be an online way for them to check or are they going to be asking (to be called out) and show the court their registration number or how does that work?

Lauren Alder Reid: The EOIR-27 or 28 that's attached to the file will include the unique EOIR ID number and you only have that EOIR ID number if you've completed both portions of the registration process.

Woman: So it's going to get in the file ongoing matters too or...

Lauren Alder Reid: Yes - and I'm sorry for those of you on the phone the question was how the immigration judges would be able to verify that the person appearing before them is in fact registered. Does that answer your question?

Woman: I think so.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay.

Woman: And the other comment - and this is just for thought to address the pro bono, really I had it in mind about (unintelligible) issue but it could potentially apply to the - for most geographic locations. I'm most familiar with (circuit) Columbia system but they have where you can appear pro hoc vice without becoming admitted to the bar for up to five times, they figure under five times you're not a regular practitioner, so that could be something that could address the pro bono concern.

And the other one is, there is you don't have to pay or be an active member of (the bar or the court in terms of your dues) if you're appearing pro bono only.

And since I think if I have it correctly you - each one may - does have a designation for if you're appearing pro bono, that might be another way to track, you know, for - come up with some mechanism that would allow minimum (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay so the comment in the room was about the fact that jurisdictions allow individuals to appear before courts pro hoc vice up to five times and they don't consider that to be a regular practitioner before the court and also that if you're appearing in a pro bono class (fee) there's no requirement to be barred and she's referring to the District of Columbia. The pro bono requirement...

Woman: Doesn't have to be actively barred.

Lauren Alder Reid: Actively barred and pay dues.

Woman: Actively barred, you just don't have to pay dues as an active member.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay well there certainly are exceptions under the pro bono rule, I know DC has Rule 49 that allows people practice pro bono if they are not licensed in the state and there are other states considering similar things. But that is at this point as I said not something that EOIR's considered the process, it's just not something...

Woman: (Unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Of course - oh okay, okay. Yes but I will say it again there is, you know, the one time not to be abused exception that if someone just could not register for whatever reason by December 10 that the immigration judge at their

discretion can allow their representation, so we did give one workaround. Any other questions in the room before I go back to the phone - yes?

Woman: I guess it's similar to another comment on the line, I'm just curious I wondered (unintelligible) that you're not requiring to register, is that right?

Lauren Alder Reid: Correct.

Woman: Will they then be sort of under the (offices) of a registered law school clinic - I wonder however that process is working it seems like there could be a similar system and (unintelligible) pro bono (unintelligible) sort of under the (occupants) of a registered (unintelligible) that's providing (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Well with a law student again that concern was the transient nature of the fact that, you know, they're in a clinic for a semester in its easy to get them into the system and registered but then we can't guarantee that they get out.

And that's really the concern, if there's someone who's not re-identified if you will as their new place as an attorney once they're no longer a law student. To answer your question and reviewing some notes because this is one area with which I'm less familiar but clinics themselves much like law firms will not be able to register as a body, that's not the way that it will work.

They will of course have law students who are under a supervisory attorney but again because of the unique nature of a law student it differs of course from a pro bono attorney who is in fact licensed on their own whereas a law student is working under supervision because of the requirement that they have a supervisor in order to practice - I use that term loosely law.

Woman: Great and so I guess I'm just throwing out and (unintelligible), you know...

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay.

Woman: ...(for flights a day) but I wondered if there's some possible work around there for where example they need a supervising attorney in a law firm that's recently takes pro bono cases for the purpose of registering an attorney for that firm. So that when we have attorneys who have multiple associates (unintelligible) only (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: The comment in the room to which she does not request a response was simply could we find a workaround for pro bono attorneys - or attorneys interested in doing pro bono work and maybe a one-off case that would be akin to the law student situation in aff law clinic. Operator are there more calls on the phone?

Coordinator: Yes we have a handful at this time so our first from (Sister Veronica Schuller), ma'am your line is open.

(Sister Veronical Schuller): Thank you for the opportunity to have a question, I just have a practical question. I'm looking at the instructions from the Houston office about going down to register in person and from what I can understand it appears that the court staff will enter in the second step and then the eRegistry will be complete, is that true?

Lauren Alder Reid: If I understand your question it is that once you complete the second step of the photo identity verification that your e-registration will be complete, yes.

(Sister Veronical Schuller): Okay and then will something be given to us so that we can prove that we have e-registered?

Lauren Alder Reid: You will have your unique EOIR ID sent to you and that will be your proof - that will be (used)...

(Sister Veronical Schuller): Okay.

Lauren Alder Reid: Yes.

(Sister Veronical Schuller): And that will be sent by email?

Lauren Alder Reid: Correct.

(Sister Veronical Schuller): Okay very good, thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you - operator the next caller?

Coordinator: (Eugene Glicksman) your line is now open.

(Eugene Glicksman): Thank you, I've got two questions based on the emails that had come out before and also the presentation today.

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure.

(Eugene Glicksman): The emails discuss the registration process but there seems to be an unanswered portion as to the registration itself, will the registration be done at the local court and be valid only for that local court or is that registration valid nationwide once it's completed?

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you for that clarifying question, your registration will be valid nationwide, the purpose of proceeding to the local immigration court is to try to make it (as easy as) possible for you. So we're having the hours available

for the identity verification at every immigration court to give people as many opportunities geographically as possible.

(Eugene Glicksman): All right thank you for that, now following up on that, I'm in the New York area and we've been advised by the court administrator that the contractor personnel that was supposed to be present to help with the second part of the registration in fact won't be present for an extended period and because of that the registration days are being cut back somewhat severely.

In order to prepare for this and be able to have a little more familiarity with what is needed, the slides that you just presented today can you make those available to us so we can at least review the slides and get to know what's going to be asked of us so that once this goes live on Monday we'll already be somewhat prepared in terms of inputting the information?

Lauren Alder Reid: Yes sir the files and the audio portion of the presentation will be available in that same Engage with EOIR box on our homepage, you'll be able to access the entire presentation as I said along with the audio. The trick is it won't be available immediately because of federal law requirements, we have to wait for closed captioning to be completed on the event, but as soon as we're able to have that complete we will post it online.

(Eugene Glicksman): Well do you know if that's going to be available before Monday when this whole thing kicks off?

Lauren Alder Reid: It will absolutely will not be available before Monday before the whole thing kicks off. However should you have specific questions, be it Monday morning, Monday evening or sometime next week, next month or next year feel free to reach out to us at pao.eoir@usdoj.gov.

We also have an email address established that we will post to the Web that's specific to eRegistry and that is eregistration.info@usdoj.gov again that's eregistration.info@usdoj.gov. And to my knowledge the hours posted on the court we've only just made sure that they were all accurate. Everything posted on the Web currently is up-to-date and accurate. So if you look right now at New York what you see there is what we expect to be.

(Eugene Glicksman): And from what I've seen that's only one day a week over the next couple of weeks.

Lauren Alder Reid: I'm not familiar with the details of each immigration court but if that's what you saw on the Web site for the court at which you're looking then that's correct.

(Eugene Glicksman): Which presents a bit of a problem for doing the registry and going over if you don't know ahead of time what seems to (be) kicking off the same day that the Web site is going live.

Lauren Alder Reid: Well if you look down in the instructions I believe there's also an alternative that if for some reason the days and hours the court is available is completely unworkable for you or you're out of the country, you're unable to access an Internet connection for those four weeks, something along those lines there should be an alternative solution for you available on - detailed on the page.

So I encourage you to go back and look at that page again, but again to be fair I'm going to go ahead and move on - thank you.

Coordinator: Our next...

Lauren Alder Reid: We have one question in the room operator.

Man: Sorry, I was just going to say, I did receive at least three, and possibly four, of those emails from the New York court, like it's going to be these hours and all these different emails.- change and change and changing. I can just say I can foresee people, not specifically talking about New York, but driving along and trying to do it and finding out it's not available that hour and I don't know how we're going to accommodate (them).

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay. Well, thank you. The comment in the room was just reaffirming what the gentleman just said regarding New York apparently sending out emails that contradict one another regarding what hours would be available.

I would encourage everyone - and please tell everyone else you know, go to the Web site. What is on the Web site will be up to date and accurate. That is where you should get your source of information. Any - everything coming from headquarters will be accurate. And I'm looking at (Mark) from (the courtroom). Would you want to say something?

(Mark): Sure.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay.

(Mark): (Check that) the courts - the larger courts. We will have a contractor shortly on duty and it's going to be - we'll have them quicker than we thought. And so check back - all of the folks in New York, check back again because as soon as we get our contract in, we will be - we will have four hours for this verification process.

I'm sorry for that. It's just we had a delay (at bringing them on) at the start, so the hours were restricted just because the courts omitted staff at the present time. But in the future the contract's going to be shortly there and it'll be full, wide open hours.

Lauren Alder Reid: And (Mark)...

(Mark): Yes, every - also, I'm sorry. We also - because of the numbers of attorneys, we also have - we've divided by alphabetical order so that no - New York has a large number of attorneys, so we didn't want to have to - we just can have all thousands or so show up on that...

Lauren Alder Reid: How do you get in (at one-six) because they want you in either? If you don't have an appointment or (unintelligible).

(Mark): The court administrator has worked out something. I bring your - that validation the last screen you got and that she's worked out a deal with the (guards, et cetera, we're talking about).

Lauren Alder Reid: The questions regarding entry (and the plaintiffs are) but we're going to restrict questions about individual immigration, of course. If you have those, you can contact us by email at the addresses I previously stated because we're going to go into details. Every immigration court, we certainly would not get out of here at 4:00.

I want to make one clarification on New York just because we did go down that path, (Mark). When hours are expanded due to the contract staff coming on board, the hours currently posted, however, will still be available. Okay, so those hours online are updated and accurate and will not change. They will just be expanded. Okay, operator, a question on the phone.

Coordinator: (Amy Fenny), your line is open.

(Amy Fenny): Thank you. Just a couple sort of logistical questions. I know Ms. (Grazey) asked earlier about the bars. But I would also follow up on that. For example, some people are licensed but they're not in active status in a bar, so maybe there could be some clarification on that page where it asks you to list all of the bars because it's not entirely clear if you need every court - I mean, every jurisdiction where you have been licensed, for example, even if you're not currently active.

And I guess I also have some questions about what are the mechanics of the E27, E28s. I know historically we've had many problems with CIAS with the G28 registrations and getting them recorded.

So one of those things I'm wondering is if you file an E27 or an E28 electronically, and then for example, there is a change - you move, you change an address or something, is that - and you update it in the system, does that somehow affect what, you know, what you all have access to or do we need to manually go in and refile those? I'm just now sure about the data sharing and whether it's, like, a live thing that you're looking at or we would have to go back and manually redo it.

Lauren Alder Reid: I'm going to try - I'm not positive I understand your question but let me try to answer it and see if I'm right. You will not need to refile and ER27 or an ER28 for anything in which you're currently participating.

It will only be if you have a new case that you will need to file the ER27 or 28 with your (EOR) ID number through the registry included. Is that what you're asking?

(Amy Fenny): Not exactly. What I'm asking is if your personal information changes, like, on your address, can you just go into the system and change it on the system or you have to actually refile all of those E28s?

Lauren Alder Reid: You would need to refile the E27 or 28.

(Amy Fenny): Okay.

Lauren Alder Reid: And to answer your other question, it is included. I'm certain there are many people who have not read through all of this information that we listed online but in our FAQ document, on our eRegistration page, we do include when it asks about what information you need to provide when you're registering.

For attorneys, it says bar admission information including bar number if applicable. For all the jurisdictions in which they are licensed to practice, including those in which they are inactive. So just so you know, it does include inactive jurisdictions as well. Thank you for your question and comments. Operator, next?

Coordinator: (Iman Jejoney Damon), your line is open.

(Iman Jejoney Damon): Hello. I just have a clarification and a question. It is my understanding that once you register with your local court, it - are we automatically also registered with the BIA or do we have to personally appear in Virginia and register?

Lauren Alder Reid: Absolutely not. We have (unintelligible). No. You are registering with (EOR) and (EOR) includes the immigration court and the Board of Integration Appeals. You do not need to make a separate appearance before the board.

(Iman Jeoney Damon): Excellent. I thought so. I just wanted to clarify it. Also, my - I had a comment. The gentleman earlier on the phone said why don't we just do eFiling for everything because we will eventually do eFiling with the courts and so forth?

You know, the federal circuits, when we filed the PFRs, we serve everybody including government attorneys. We serve them all on - via email, so it's an excellent system and I surely hope we can institute it as well with the EOIR and serve everybody by just a click of a button on our computers.

It's extremely convenient and we are going green and we're not wasting paper as well. So that's just a - one of my comments. And I certainly hope that you guys would consider doing that as the federal circuit courts are.

Now, the question I have, I do understand that by implementing the system, you are trying to eliminate unauthorized practice of law which, in my opinion, is not the problem with the EOIR system. It is definitely a major problem with USCIS. I see them all the time practicing law unauthorized. Are we eventually going to implement this with USCIS?

Lauren Alder Reid: Well, I'm glad that you asked in that way because it also ducktails nicely with your request to be able to serve DHS. I do know, immigration customs (department) and US (unintelligible) Immigration Services, both of them are at the Department of Homeland Security.

So I don't have answers to those questions as we're part of the Department of Justice. We're very separate entities and I would encourage you to contact your liaisons there with those questions.

(Iman Jejoney Damon): Okay, thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you. Operator, next in queue.

Coordinator: (Elizabeth Sweet), your line is open.

Lauren Alder Reid: Hello.

Coordinator: And she disconnected. I believe that was by error, but we'll go on. (Kathy Done), your line is open.

(Kathy Done): Hi, yes. I'm with the Capital Area Immigrant's Rights Coalition and, (Heidi), who is on our staff was in the room and asked a question earlier and also expressed our concerns around how this would impact on pro bono attorneys.

I have been on the Web site and looking at the various court hours and I see that Arlington is going to essentially have open hours, 8:00 to 12:00 and then 1:00 to 4:00, whereas Baltimore is only going to have open hours for, like, the first week of registration and then going to appointment only. I would strongly encourage that one thing that would be very helpful to those organizations working with pro bono attorneys is to really encourage courts to have open hours.

I'm concerned with an appointment only system, that that might really be very limiting. So again, in the spirit in which we're all trying to, you know, encourage pro bono representation of immigrants, that would be helpful.

And then also just a point of clarification - how long is it between - so you do you're online registration and then you go in and you present your ID. At which point does that then become live?

Could you do it on the same day as the hearing and then you go into the hearing and you can tell the judge you're all ready? Or is there some lag time between when you're going to get an email with that number? So just sort of logistically, what is the time lag between you completing that second step and you actually being registered and getting that number you need?

Lauren Alder Reid: We expect, and of course, we will be going through this for the first time with all of you as well on Monday, but our expectation is that it will be approximately two hours after you appear.

(Kathy Done): Okay, thanks.

Lauren Alder Reid: And also, just noting back to your hours, I'm sure you can imagine the (chief) immigration judge has poured over, trying to figure out the most availability possible for each immigration court. They've done - the researchers and the staff that we have available - and continue to focus on the mission which, of course, is adjudicating the cases.

While we want and know the registry will enhance that mission, we can't move our staff away from making sure that the courts are running smoothly to accommodate (hours), so that's why we have the appointments, so that if people cannot make it, it's too burdensome to get there when the court is available and open, that they will be able to contact for appointments.

(Kathy Done): So just a point of clarification, I mean on the Web site, say for Baltimore, there are no hours available after, I think, it is June 28th. It says by appointment only, if I'm reading that correctly. So that was my point, that they didn't appear to have any walk-in hours.

So my suggestion was to the extent possible, that walk-in hours be maintained at all courts, whereas in Arlington, what's currently up on the Web site, is there are walk-in hours. It's an open system between 8:00 and 12:00 and 1:00 to 4:00 ongoing.

So I certainly understand the resource issue, certainly. It's just in terms of, you know, to the extent that this is made as user-friendly as possible, particularly for those organizations that, you know, partner with pro bono law firms trying to make this as easy for them as possible under...

Lauren Alder Reid: Sure. And I understand. And Arlington is able to accommodate that. But many of the courts will not be able to. And in terms of user friendly, we want to make sure that people are aware that if they walk in on July the 5th, if they just expect to walk in for an appointment in Baltimore - and I'm not familiar with - I'm just using Baltimore as an example because it's what you gave.

But they might sit there for three hours because there's no one to do it. And we don't want that to happen to people and that's why we've established the hours the court knows for sure they can do. As (Mark) said, we're, you know, if they're able to be expanded because we have more (resources) and staff available, we will certainly do that and update the Web pages accordingly. But otherwise, outside of the hours posted to the Web, it is by appointment only.

(Kathy Done): And I understand that, but my point is, when you go on Baltimore - and I was just on it - there are no hours posted after the 28th. So just - that was just my

point, to the extent that there could be an addition to the appointment only. So that's the point I just wanted to make, so thanks.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you. Operator, we can move on to the next question.

Coordinator: (Elizabeth Sweet), your line is open now.

(Elizabeth Sweet): Hello?

Coordinator: Yes, (Elizabeth)...

(Elizabeth Sweet): So, yes, it sounds like actually that the previous caller asked a similar question to what I was planning to ask about. Thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay, thank you.

Coordinator: (Stacy Jones), your line is open now.

(Stacy Jones): Hi. Thank you. I have a similar issue where we also work with a lot of pro bono attorneys and have some of the same concerns. But more specifically, I was just wondering if there were any plans for EOARs to send out notice - some sort of notice or something about the eRegistry process and requirements to any attorneys who have currently pending cases before the courts.

And, you know, I'm just thinking that obviously everyone in this room - in the room where you are and on the phone, you know, we've been hearing about this and hear it from (AOLA) and, you know, immigration attorneys will have heard about this but a lot of our pro bono attorneys don't regularly practice immigration law.

And, you know, obviously we're planning to do our best to follow up with all of our pro bono attorneys and let them know about all this in a timely fashion. But as I'm sure you're aware, a lot of immigration court cases can drag on for years and years.

There's turnover at law firms. You know, the attorneys don't always keep in touch, you know, keep in contact with us as much as we might like, and so I'm worried that, you know, some attorneys just might not hear about this if they're not in the normal practice of immigration law.

So I was just wondering if there were any plans, like I said, to sort of send out a notice to anyone, an attorney that already had a case pending, to let them know that, you know, perhaps by the next time they come to court, they need to have complied with these new requirements.

Lauren Alder Reid: Well, thanks for your comment. We just don't have a way to do that. But know that our focus also is on getting the word out. That's why we're having this event today. That's why we've been publishing documents to our Web site even before they were really ready to go.

I don't know if you were - if you saw any of the FAQs or instructions prior to us even having dates available. We wanted everyone to know about this as soon as we possibly could and we'll continue our communications campaign surrounding this as much as possible.

However, I certainly understand your concern, especially involving pro bono attorneys who might not have consistent contact. That's the perfect example in my mind and I'm not an immigration judge and can't speak for them, but of where an immigration judge might, in his or her discretion, be able to grant

the one-time exception or as a pro bono attorney who had never heard of the registry because they hadn't thought about immigration law for a year.

And, you know, this time next year they're - they go before the immigration court and are asked for their (URI) ID. That seems like the perfect time that an immigration judge might be able to grant that one time exception.

(Stacy Jones): Okay, thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you. And there's a question in the room operator.

Man: My question, understanding that this one-time exception does not apply to (the board) and (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: That is correct. Yes, so the question in the room was could the Board of Immigration Appeals allow the one-time exception? The answer to the question is no.

Man: (Now with) a pro bono attorney file (unintelligible) with the board. Is the board going to just ignore the brief or compare the brief to consider (unintelligible)?

Lauren Alder Reid: The question in the room is what would the Board of Immigration Appeals do if presented with a brief from an attorney who was not registered in eRegistry? And the answer to the question is I don't know. And I'd be happy to get you an answer if you like to send an email.

Woman: (Do one-time exceptions) (unintelligible) for that that we can (unintelligible)?

Lauren Alder Reid: It is discretionary, entirely discretionary. It is included, I believe, in our FAQs and then I'm going to look to (Mark). (Mark), is it in the new practice manual updates, the discretionary exceptions?

(Mark): I believe it is.

Lauren Alder Reid: It is in the rules. Yes, it is in the rules.

(Mark): (Unintelligible).

Woman: (Unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Yes, so the standard is extraordinary (measure), yes, as it's published in the rules and we believe there are also updates in the (unintelligible) which is available online currently. All right, operator, are there questions in queue?

Coordinator: Three at this time.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay.

Coordinator: Mr. (Shuler), you're line is open.

(Mr. Schuler): I'm sorry, that was a mistake on my part. I don't have a question.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay, thank you.

Coordinator: Our next, then, (Rick Jen), your line is open.

(Rick Jen): I'd like to know, for the attorneys who are sworn in one state under one name and sworn in a second state under another name, should they be doing one

registration listing both names or should they do two different registrations, one for each name?

Lauren Alder Reid: Well, there's one registry allowed per person. So you would want to use your current name and include both areas in which state in which you're licensed. And I don't work for those states but I would encourage you to update your name with the state bars.

(Rick Jen): Great. And another question I have is I'm not sure you really thought it through when you estimated that to do the process of doing part one on the Web, reading through the instructions, printing it out, going to the court, getting through the building security, getting your ID checked, going back to your office, that you think on average you think it's going to take ten minutes per person?

Lauren Alder Reid: Just the online portion, sir. Just the online portion estimate was ten minutes. We certainly - you know, that's an estimate and an average, so it might take some people a little bit longer if you were slower typers or readers, perhaps or a little bit less time for someone who's a little more adept at those things.

But no, it's only the online portion that the estimate is ten minutes. The - we certainly recognize it will take longer for you to get to the court and park and go inside and take care of your photo identification.

(Rick Jen): Okay. You know, I'm glad you say that you don't have to enter the ID number until December 10, 2013. I believe all of the court notifications right now about their open hours have a contrary instruction that you must use at the moment you get it.

Lauren Alder Reid: We very much encourage you to use it the moment you get it but the requirement is not until December 10th.

(Rick Jen): Well, I want to point out to you that every court has issued instructions with the wrong information about that because they're currently telling people they must use it the moment they get it which is not the current instruction.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay, well, we'll (look) at those pages. Thank you for pointing that out. And we will update as necessary.

(Rick Jen): And is there someone or some system to make sure that the database will not be used for improper purposes? You'll check so that people aren't using the database improperly?

Lauren Alder Reid: Can you be a little more specific about what you would consider improper use? I mean, each person is only able to access their own information.

(Rick Jen): Sure. Someone in (EIR) who has the database privileges to look at the whole database decides to look at certain data for improper reasons - curious about someone's birthdate, curious how old someone is, curious where someone is living.

Lauren Alder Reid: Well, I can only tell you that (EOIR) employees, like any federal government employee, are subject to background investigations so any such use of the database for purposes outside of its intended purpose would certainly be subject to discipline. So...

(Rick Jen): You know, okay, I would feel much more comfortable if you actually had someone periodically checking to make sure it's actually being used properly by (EOIR) employees. Thanks.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you. There's a question in the room, operator.

Woman: So as far as (unintelligible) that way (unintelligible) know about the requirements that (unintelligible) types of laws (unintelligible) from those (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: The question in the room is whether there'll be guidance from headquarters to the individual immigration judges on how to apply the exceptional circumstance exception for people who may not be registered when they appear one time in court.

To my knowledge, there's not yet been any such guidance, however, I'm sure the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge is evaluating the need for that and if they feel it would be necessary, they would issue an OPPM or something similar. However...

Woman: (Unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: Great, and we appreciate the feedback. However, do know that immigration judges are constantly undergoing training and this is something that they have known is coming and they're aware of everything, so conversations are happening. Thank you. Go ahead.

Woman: I just wanted to (unintelligible) experiment. It's not only going to impact the (unintelligible) and also (unintelligible). (I don't know how it feels) for my pro bonos but (unintelligible) and it could be overnight (ticket), a subpoena, like it's going to be (unintelligible) immigration court has limited our hours and hopefully when those hours are available (unintelligible) come Monday

are available in our system, we'll start looking to implementing (unintelligible) registry and (unintelligible).

Lauren Alder Reid: The comment in the room was just that there are - there's a broader group of attorneys who represent people before immigration court including the court's pro bono attorneys that may even include international attorneys and that the impact on those who represent respondents before the board may be even greater due to the photo identity verification portion of registration. Did I capture that okay? Okay, thank you.

And certainly, the other portion of her comment, however, she was hoping to see how accommodating the court administrators would be to allowing people for appointment hours if they're unable to make the posted hours. Certainly if you have any issues with that, you know, we encourage you to try to go when the court has posted hours because that is when we know there will be someone available for you and you can make it.

If you have issues, you're not getting a response or there're other problems, please do email eregistration.info@usdoj.gov and we'll do our best to help. Operator, are there any questions in queue?

Coordinator: My last question is from (Katherine Lampard). Your line is open.

(Katherine Lampard): Thank you. It's already been addressed. Thank you very much today. Bye.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you.

Coordinator: And I have no further questions over the phone lines.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay, operator, I'll look at the room one more time while we wait and see if anyone hits star 1 for any questions on the phone. Any other questions in the room? I'm getting a lot of no shaking heads. Anyone else on the phone, operator?

Coordinator: No, I have none.

Lauren Alder Reid: We'll give everyone one more minute.

Coordinator: I believe I'm getting a few in line. (Esther Egwi), your line is open.

(Esther Egwi): Okay, the only question that I will have at this time is my phone was not connected when you first started the program. I just want to know, what is the first part of the registration?

Lauren Alder Reid: The first part of the registration is the online portion where you'll enter your basic personal information. And you'll then receive an email confirming that (ER) has received it.

However, I'd also like to note for you in case you weren't on for this part as well, as soon as we're able to get a closed captioning of today's presentation, both the slide show and the audio portion, it will be available to you on our Web site. So I'd encourage you to go back and catch what you didn't hear.

(Esther Egwi): Okay, give me your Web site address again. Sorry.

Lauren Alder Reid: www.justice.gov/eoir, and then you'll be able to find this information via the action center indeed with the (EOIR) link.

(Esther Egwi): Okay, thanks. Thank you very much.

Lauren Alder Reid: Operator, next question.

Coordinator: (Julio Flores), your line is open.

(Julio Flores): Thank you. I was just wondering, I heard the question regarding paralegals, and how you could pass - your username and password but it would be discouraged. I was wondering if there've been any plans, and if not, I would perhaps suggest, for some type of sub-user account where paralegals could sign in under a main attorney's account so that the main purpose is for eFiling, you know, a practical matter, you know, attorneys rely on paralegals for a lot of that work.

Lauren Alder Reid: Well, if I used the word discourage, I misspoke. I don't dis- we don't discourage you from pairing. It's just we encourage you to protect your information, just like any username and password that you have. It's yours and it's yours to do with as you see fit.

In terms of making any sub-accounts, the purpose of eRegistry is to register attorneys and employee (credit) representatives, so at this time, there's no plan for any kind of additional users.

(Julio Flores): Okay, thanks.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you.

Coordinator: I have no further questions at this time.

Lauren Alder Reid: Okay, we'll give folks a few more seconds. Anything in the room? Okay, operator, if we don't have any more questions, we'll go ahead and end today's call.

Coordinator: Actually, I just had one pop in as you were speaking. (Anthony Judisi), your line is open again.

(Anthony Judisi): Hi. It's me again. I'm a little unclear on something. Can you hear me? I'm sorry.

Lauren Alder Reid: I can.

(Anthony Judisi): We get - when we register Monday, then we go to the spot where it says the court can finish part two of this thing, right?

Lauren Alder Reid: Correct.

(Anthony Judisi): What if - are those hours going to be just next week or is it going to be every week or what if we miss that? We're out of luck or what?

Lauren Alder Reid: Well...

(Anthony Judisi): How long does it go on for?

Lauren Alder Reid: If you go to the individual - I don't unfortunately have any of the courts actually except for the ones mentioned today in my head as to what time they're available. But if you go to that eRegistration initiative page, there's an identity verification link and if you click that, each immigration court is listed. If you choose the immigration court closest to you, it will detail for you the days and hours they have available for you to come in.

In addition, and for some reason it is too burdensome for you to make it during those posted days and hours, you can email the court administrator or other email given to set up an appointment outside...

(Anthony Judisi): Oh, I see. Okay, thank you.

Lauren Alder Reid: Thank you. Operator, anything else?

Coordinator: No, I have none at this time.

Lauren Alder Reid: All right, I'll give them a few seconds.

Coordinator: I have no questions in queue.

Lauren Alder Reid: Great, operator. At this time, we'll go ahead and end the call. Thank you for your participation.

Coordinator: The conference is now concluded. All lines may disconnect. Thank you. Have a great day.

END