Dayton Bar Association Paralegal Section I-9 Compliance

Karl R. Ulrich, Esq. January 23, 2025



Purpose of I-9 Form

- ➤ Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 ("IRCA")
- Ensures employers hiring only those legally permitted to work in the U.S.

Employer Immigration Compliance

➤ I-9 Compliance

- Employers are obligated to verify the identity and employment eligibility of all employees within 3 days of hire
- I-9 is the form used for the verification process

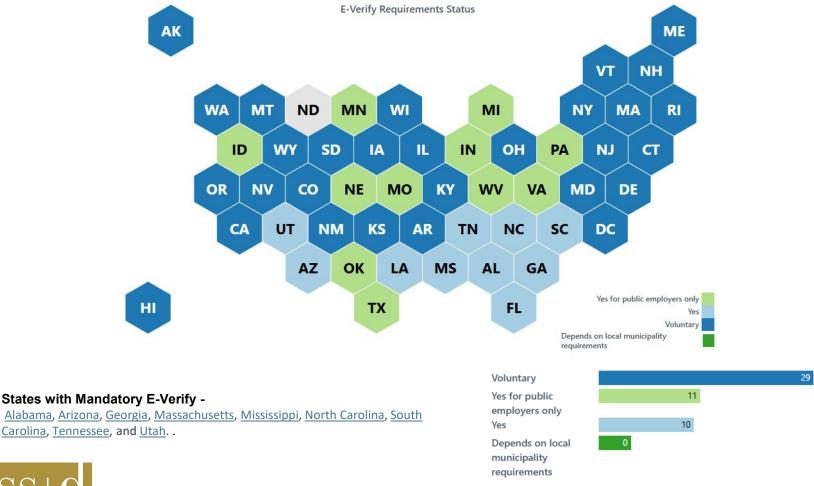
➤ E-Verify

- Electronic eligibility verification service
- Generally voluntary, but mandatory under certain circumstances
 - Some states require it by law Ohio does not
 - Federal contractors and subcontractors





Map of States with E-Verify Laws





Sebaly Shillito + Dyer, A Legal Professional Association

The I-9 Requirements

- >Apply to all employers regardless of size
- Must use for each new hire
- ➤ All employees (citizens and noncitizens) not independent contractors
- Only if physically working on U.S. soil
- ➤ Does not apply to those hired before November 7, 1986

Completing the I-9

- Employee completes Section 1 at time of hire (by 1st day of employment)
- Document originals are required for review
- Must accept any documents on list if "reasonably appear" to be genuine
- Employee must be physically present with document examiner during document review
- ➤ Attestation and examination of documents must be by same person
- ➤ If make copies, do so for all employees (E-Verify requires verification document copies be kept)



Reverification – I-9 Documents

- ➤ If work authorization has expiration, may need to reverify before expiration
- ➤ Use Supplement 3
- ➤ May not consider expiration date when determining if qualified for hire





Retention / Recordkeeping

➤ Retain I-9s for 3 years from date of hire or for 1 year after employment ends, whichever is later

Penalties for Non-Compliance

- Civil fines (\$281 \$2,789 per non-compliant form)
- **➢ Illegal** hiring (\$698 \$27,894)
- Criminal penalties (for pattern and practice violations)
- ➤ Debarment from government contracts
- Court order of compliance



QUESTIONS?

Karl R. Ulrich, Esq.

kulrich@ssdlaw.com

