




U.S. Department of Justice  
Immigration and Naturalization Service

HQISD 70/6

425 I Street NW  
Washington, DC 20536

May 10, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS  
SERVICE CENTER DIRECTORS  
DISTRICT DIRECTORS

FROM: William R. Yates   
Deputy Executive Associate Commissioner  
Office of Field Operations  
Immigration Services Division

SUBJECT: IBIS Checks

Several District Offices have asked whether they should proceed with Naturalization Ceremonies for individuals who have never been checked in IBIS.

The direction from Headquarters is to conduct these checks for all applications and petitions. I recognize that the checks were not performed on individuals whose applications were adjudicated in the past, and that you now are conducting Naturalization Ceremonies for such individuals. To the maximum extent possible, you should conduct IBIS checks for individuals to be naturalized in upcoming ceremonies. On the other hand, I do not want you to cancel ceremonies scheduled in the short term, if it is impossible to conduct IBIS checks prior to the ceremony. All NQP requirements remain in effect.

Headquarters can help you to arrange batch IBIS checks for large ceremonies, and these can be conducted in a matter of days, although you will have to arrange to review the positive "hits" prior to the ceremony. It is my expectation that no ceremony will proceed after May 28, 2002, without IBIS checks having been accomplished, and starting today, no new ceremony should be scheduled unless arrangements can be made to conduct IBIS checks prior to the ceremony. Please consider any resource shifts that may be required to accomplish these checks and review results, and ensure that all District Offices receive this memorandum.

If District Offices have any questions, or need assistance in arranging batch IBIS checks, they may contact Mary Mulrean at 202/514-2982.