



VERIFICATION

DIVISION

SAVE Optimization Update

May 22, 2025



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**



IMMIGRATION RECORDS AND IDENTITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

"Challenge what drives you nuts!"

Agenda

- ✓ SAVE Optimization
- ✓ The Challenge
- ✓ What we've learned
- ✓ Where we are & where we're going
- ✓ How it works
- ✓ Q&A

Speaker:



VER Chief of Staff

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SAVE Optimization – The Challenge

OBJECTIVE

USCIS is required by 8 U.S.C. § 1373(c) to provide verification or status information in response to inquiries from Federal, state, or local government agencies seeking to verify or ascertain the naturalized or acquired U.S. citizenship or other immigration status - including for state level agencies to conduct voter verification (i.e., voter registration and/or voter list maintenance).

CHALLENGE

States have raised concerns about the ability of SAVE to meet their needs due to:

- Cost/fees for system use;
- Inability to obtain and provide DHS-issued enumerators; and
- Having to enter cases individually instead of in bulk.



Speaker:

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Associate Chief

SAVE Optimization – What we've learned

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Verification Division met with representatives from 17+ states, National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS), and National Association of State Election Directors (NASED) to discuss current voter registration processes and gather requirements for a future functionality.

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM STATES

- Top 2 items needed to verify is Citizenship status and Death Status
- Top 2 features expressed were ability to submit cases in bulk and provide a non-DHS enumerator
- Each state we spoke with said they needed to run their entire voter roll (average size was 2.5M)

Speaker:

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Associate Chief

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SAVE Optimization – Where We Are (and Going)

Following Executive Order 14248 (Mar 25), “Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections, “USCIS is modernizing SAVE’s verification services. Improvements include the following enhancements:

- ☐ **Elimination of Fees** for state and local agencies (April 1st)
- ☐ **Bulk Upload capability** to reduce manual case creation process during list (May 1st)
- ☐ **Added Web Agency Audit Report** to add ability to download submitted cases (May 1st)
- ☐ **Case Submission using Social Security Number** as applicant enumerator, when utilizing the bulk upload case creation tool or GUI for any benefit purpose (May 16th)

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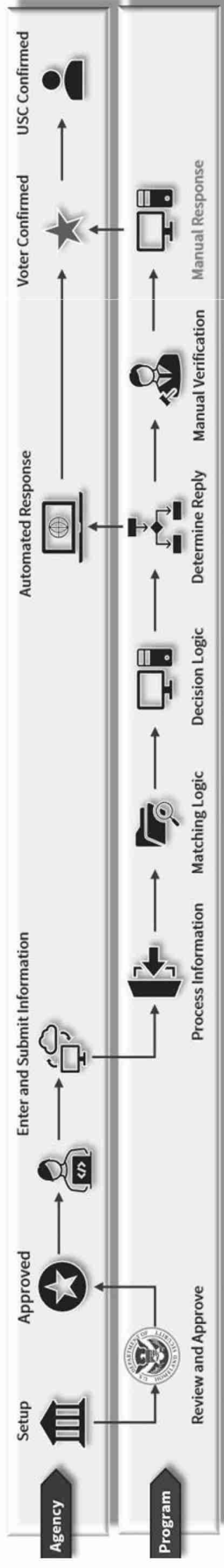
Speaker: Associate Chief

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SAVE Optimization – How it Works!

If SAVE cases is created with SSN then SAVE checks SSA for a record using F/L Name, DoB, and SSN.

- ☐ If match is found, SSA returns the Citizenship/ Foreign Indicator and A# (if applicable)
- ☐ If match found is USC (without foreign born indicator), then a new response of **United States Citizen (per SSA Record)** is returned in SAVE.
- ☐ If the match has a foreign indicator, then A# is returned and a case is created in DHS records with **standard SAVE response** based on results.
- ☐ If there is a match with the Death Record, then a new response of **Deceased (per SSA)** is returned in SAVE.
- ☐ If no match with SSA, then a new response is returned to say **Unable to Return Record from SSA - Resubmit with Additional Information**. Case is closed with no escalation.



Speaker: [Redacted] **Associate Chief**

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Questions



Thank you for joining today's session!