



## TRAFFICKING & T-VISAS

Volunteer Attorney Practice Update  
October 2023

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### CLE on Ethics and Trafficking—Oct. 26

Learn about advanced T visa issues and get your ethics credit! On October 26, as part of Pro Bono Week, the Advocates is hosting a virtual CLE on advanced issues and ethics involved in trafficked-related cases. This one-hour session will pair well with our T visa basics recording to get new volunteers ready to jump-in on T visa cases and help a trafficking survivor!

### USCIS will begin exempting Forms I-539 from biometrics services beginning Oct. 1.

Beginning Oct. 1, we are exempting the \$85 biometric services fee as part of the application process for [Form I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status](#).

Applicants **do not need to pay** the fee if their application is **postmarked Oct. 1 or later**. However, certain applicants who file Form I-539 prior to Oct. 1 will still be scheduled for an ASC appointment and should still attend.

In most cases, applicants will not be scheduled to attend a biometric services appointment. However, if USCIS determines that biometrics are required, the applicant will receive a notice with information about appearing for their biometric services appointment.

If an applicant mistakenly submits the biometric services fee and the payment is submitted separately from the Form I-539 fee, we will return the biometric services fee and accept the Form I-539.

If an applicant mistakenly submits the biometric services fee and the payment is combined with a paper-based Form I-539 filing fee, this is considered an incorrect filing and we will reject the Form I-539.

If an applicant mistakenly authorizes a credit card payment that combines the biometric services fee with the application fee, we will accept the application and only charge the application fee.