



September 14, 2026

PA-2026-13

Policy Alert

SUBJECT: Revocation of Naturalization Referrals

Purpose

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is issuing policy guidance in the [USCIS Policy Manual](#) on referring cases for revocation of naturalization (commonly referred to as “denaturalization”) under section 340 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Background

United States citizenship confers rights, privileges, and responsibilities that are vital to the security and safety of the United States. While the vast majority of individuals who naturalize do so lawfully and are attached to the principles of the Constitution, there are some who obtain citizenship illegally or fraudulently. Actions to revoke naturalization unlawfully obtained or obtained by fraud are an integral part of the government’s means to enforce the immigration laws, deter immigration fraud, and protect the national security and public safety of the United States.

A naturalized U.S. citizen is subject to revocation of naturalization if naturalization was procured illegally or procured by willful misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact.¹ There are two ways in which a person’s naturalization can be revoked: through civil revocation under INA 340 or criminal revocation under [18 U.S.C. 1425](#).² As a matter of policy, DHS may prioritize certain cases.

USCIS is issuing this guidance consistent with Executive Order 14148, Initial Recissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions, executed on January 20, 2025 (which revoked EO 14012)³ and subsequent Executive Order 14161, Protecting the United States From Foreign Terrorist and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats. With this update, USCIS is reorganizing existing guidance at Volume 12, Part L to provide clearer guidance on the prioritization of cases for review of revocation. The updated guidance does not otherwise change the existing guidance describing the circumstances under which a naturalized citizen is subject to revocation.

This guidance, contained in Volume 12 of the Policy Manual, is effective immediately. The guidance contained in the Policy Manual is controlling and supersedes any related prior guidance.

¹ See [INA 340\(a\)](#).

² See [INA 340\(a\)](#) and [INA 340\(e\)](#).

³ See [86 FR 8277](#) (Feb. 2, 2021).

Policy Highlights

- Affirms that for any pending or future filed petition or application associated with a U.S. citizen, USCIS determines whether the petitioner lawfully obtained citizenship.
- Provides an overview of the burden of proof required for revocation of naturalization and a list of example decisions and grounds for referral.
- Provides the circumstances for which USCIS refers cases for revocation of naturalization.
- Provides when USCIS cases are prioritized for referral of revocation of naturalization.
- Affirms that after a person is denaturalized, USCIS may review any pending or previously approved forms filed on behalf of any alien beneficiary by the denaturalized person to assess whether the alien beneficiary is eligible or was eligible for the benefit.

Summary of Changes

Affected Section: Volume 12 > Part L, Loss of U.S. Nationality and Revocation of Naturalization

- Renames Part L from “Revocation of Naturalization” to “Loss of U.S. Nationality and Revocation of Naturalization.”
- Revises Chapter 1 (Purpose and Background) in its entirety.
- Changes title of Chapter 2 from “Grounds for Revocation of Naturalization” to “Revocation of Naturalization” and revises Chapter 2 in its entirety.
- Moves content from Chapter 3 (Effects of Revocation of Naturalization) into Chapter 2, and reserves Chapter 3.

USCIS may also make other minor technical, stylistic, and conforming changes consistent with this update.

Citation

Volume 12: Citizenship and Naturalization, Part L, Loss of U.S. Nationality and Revocation of Naturalization [[12 USCIS-PM L](#)].