



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008
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CRT
(202) 514-2007
TDD (202) 514-1888

Justice Department Announces Public Education Campaign Grants to Fight Immigration-related Employment Discrimination

WASHINGTON - The Justice Department announced today that it is making funding available for grant programs designed to promote public education efforts regarding immigration-related employment discrimination.

The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC), a section of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, announced the availability of funds for public education programs regarding employees' rights and employers' obligations under the anti-discrimination provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). The program is open to public service groups, faith-based organizations, associations and others providing information services to employers and/or potential victims of immigration-related employment discrimination. Last year, grants ranging from \$40,000 to \$90,000 were awarded to 11 organizations serving communities throughout the country.

In some situations, the INA prohibits discrimination against work-authorized individuals on the basis of citizenship status or national origin in hiring, firing and recruiting or referring for a fee. In addition, the provision prohibits employers from requiring over-documentation in the employment eligibility verification process. The INA also prohibits retaliation against protected conduct under the INA.

The deadline for grant applications is 11:59 p.m. EDT March 31, 2008. The grant announcement is available on OSC's Web site at <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc> or <http://www.grants.gov>.

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