



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **INS Publishes Notice on Settlement Agreement in *Walters v. Reno***

WASHINGTON – The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) published a notice in the *Federal Register* today informing the public about the settlement agreement in the *Walters v. Reno* class action lawsuit. The class action lawsuit challenged INS procedures and forms used in civil document fraud proceedings.

As a result of the settlement agreement, INS has set aside final orders against class members who were charged with civil document fraud prior to October 1996. INS, in certain instances, will join class members (who are either within or outside the United States) in a motion to re-calendar, reopen or remand removal proceedings that were based on the set-aside final orders. Class members also are eligible for refunds of the civil money penalties they paid for civil document fraud.

Comprehensive details of the settlement agreement are published in today's *Federal Register*, Volume 66, Number 183, pages 48480-48482. See also the attached Question and Answer supplement for additional details on the rights of class members and responsibilities of the INS under the settlement agreement.

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