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## JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN GRANTS FOR IMMIGRATION-RELATED EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Justice Department today announced the availability of funds for the 2004 grant program funding public education efforts regarding immigration-related employment discrimination. The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC), a section of the 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.

The INA prohibits discrimination 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 March 21, 2005, 45 days after publication of the grant announcement in the Federal Register. For access to the grant announcement, please visit OSC's website at www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc.

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