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**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

AUG 21 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Chief Patrol Agents
All Directorate Chiefs

FROM: *CP* Carla L. Provost (b) (6)
Acting Chief
U.S. Border Patrol

SUBJECT: Processing Reminder for Claims of Fear

The laws of the United States allow people to seek asylum on the grounds that they are being persecuted because of their race, religion, nationality, political beliefs or other factors. The U.S. Border Patrol's (USBP) policies and procedures are based on these laws and are designed to protect vulnerable and persecuted persons. The USBP has not changed any policies affecting asylum procedures and does not determine or evaluate the validity of a fear claim.

Ensuring that claims of fear processing procedures are adhered to is essential for maintaining an individual's rights while also ensuring the credibility and integrity of the Consequence Delivery System and Expedited Removal processes. The Expedited Removal process allows for the removal of certain aliens without an immigration hearing unless the alien indicates an intention to apply for asylum or expresses a fear of persecution, fear of torture or a fear of return. During the Expedited Removal process it is essential that the required questions are asked and detainees are afforded the appropriate avenue to make credible fear claims.

USBP will continue utilizing established procedures that have been developed to remind agents that they have the responsibility to ask questions regarding fear of return and to Utilize the Notice of Rights and Request for Disposition, Form I-826; the Record of Sworn Statement, Form I 867A; the Jurat Record of Sworn Statement, Form I-867B; and the Information about Credible Fear Interview, Form M-444.

Staff may direct policy questions to the Labor & Policy Division, at (b) (7)(E) and Assistant Chief (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) of the Enforcement Systems Division, at (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)