



## Deferred Action Statement of Interest Requests

The Attorney General's office, through its Workplace Rights Bureau, investigates violations of labor laws. As of January 2023, noncitizen workers who witness or are victims of violations of labor rights can access an expedited deferred process that would temporarily protect them from deportation.

For a noncitizen worker to qualify for deferred action, a federal, state or local agency must confirm aspects of the investigation with a Statement of Interest. The Attorney General's office will consider requests to issue Statements of Interest relating to employers under investigation by the Workplace Rights Bureau.

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### What is deferred action?

Deferred action refers to the use of discretion by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to defer deportation of a noncitizen for a specific period of time.

Although deferred action does not give a noncitizen lawful immigration status or excuse any past or future periods of unlawful presence, a noncitizen who is granted deferred action is considered lawfully present in the United States for certain limited purposes until the deferred action expires.

If granted deferred action, a noncitizen may be eligible for employment authorization. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security can terminate deferred action at any time at its discretion.

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### When will the Attorney General's office consider issuing a Statement of Interest in support of a request for deferred action?

The Attorney General's office will consider issuing a Statement of Interest in support of a request for deferred action on a case-by-case basis when the following conditions are met:

1. The request relates to an employer under investigation by the Attorney General's office, and
2. There is reason to believe that the fear of immigration-related retaliation or immigration enforcement would deter workers from cooperating with the Attorney General's office on an investigation.

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### How do I submit a request for a Statement of Interest?

To request a Statement of Interest in support of a deferred action request, send an email to [statementofinterest@ilag.gov](mailto:statementofinterest@ilag.gov). The Attorney General's office will review the information and will consider the request relating to employers under investigation by the Workplace Rights Bureau.

**What should a request for a Statement of Interest include?**

Requests for a Statement of Interest should include:

1. The name and address of the employer engaged in labor violations;
2. The address of the employer and any worksites where alleged violations occurred; and
3. Contact information of the requester, including a telephone number, so that the Workplace Rights Bureau can follow up and gather more information relating to the request and alleged violations of the labor law.

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**Is there anything that should not be included in the Request for a Statement of Interest?**

To better protect workers, the request for a Statement of Interest should **not** include the following information:

1. Individual workers immigration history or current immigration status;
2. The names of individual workers facing retaliation or enforcement; and
3. Personally identifiable information including dates of birth, social security numbers, or lien registration numbers.

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**Does the issuance of a Statement of Interest by the Attorney General's office mean the Attorney General has requested deferred action on my behalf?**

No. The Statements of Interest issued by the Attorney General support an individual's request for deferred action to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Individuals seeking deferred action must file this request on their own and would benefit from the advice of an immigration law expert to determine if seeking deferred action is the right move.

For further questions email the Illinois Office of the Attorney General's Workplace Rights Bureau at [statementofinterest@ilag.gov](mailto:statementofinterest@ilag.gov) or call 1-844-740-5076.

Individuals with hearing or speech disabilities can reach us by using the 7-1-1 relay service.