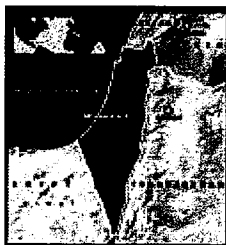


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History of Palestine

**30 September, 2004**

**ICE Responds to ADC's Concerns**

For the statement from ICE, [click here >>](#)

On September 30, ADC raised concerns about the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) latest initiative. ICE has responded by releasing the following statement (see full statement below.)

During several phone calls yesterday, officials from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and ICE stressed their commitment to continuing to build their working relationship with the Arab and Muslim American communities. They also emphasized that their initiative is not based on racial profiling but rather based on data from the Student Visitor Information System (SEVIS), the National Security Entry/Exit Registration System (NSEERS), and the United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology Program (US VISIT). Additionally, they highlighted importance of all citizens voting in the upcoming Presidential election.

ADC would like to thank ICE for their rapid response and reiterates its commitment to building bridges with the federal government. However, it is worth noting that NSEERS, also known as the "Special Registration" program, required citizens from 24 Arab and Muslim countries in addition to North Korea to register with immigration authorities. The program was based on national origin profiling and a majority of the program was suspended by DHS in December 2003. ADC hopes that the information gleaned from that "Special Registration" program will not be used as one of the three resources for prioritizing ICE's enforcement activities because it was based solely on national origin.

STATEMENT, September 30, 2004

Office of Public Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Contact: 202-514-2648

**TERRORIST THREAT AND DISRUPTION EFFORTS BY ICE**

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. As part of its homeland security mission, ICE seeks to maintain the integrity of the immigration system through effective enforcement of our immigration laws.

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- ▶ [Workplace Bias Against Muslims, Arabs on Rise: LA Times October 3](#)
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- ▶ [The Uncourted Constituency of Arab Americans September 25](#)
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