



Report on the Number of Waivers of Grounds of Inadmissibility Granted to Refugees Under INA Section 207(c)(3)

Fiscal Year 2021

Report to Congress

January 12, 2022



Homeland
Security

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration



**Homeland
Security**

Message from the Assistant Secretary

January 12, 2022

I am pleased to submit this “Report on the Number of Waivers of Grounds of Inadmissibility Granted to Refugees Under Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) Section 207(c)(3),” fiscal year (FY) 2021, prepared by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Pursuant to congressional requirements, this report is being provided to the following Members of Congress:

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Inquiries relating to this report may be directed to me at (202) 447-5890.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alice Lugo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alice Lugo
Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs

Executive Summary

This report fulfills the requirement set forth in INA section 207(c)(3), 8 USC 1157(c)(3), established by section 201(b) of Title II of Pub. L. 96-212, also known as the Refugee Act of 1980.

This report covers activity for Fiscal Year 2021, from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. It provides data from USCIS showing the number of waivers granted under 207(c)(3) and a summary of the reasons for granting such waivers.



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I. Legislative Requirement

This report fulfills the requirement set forth in INA section 207(c)(3), 8 U.S.C. 1157(c)(3). The statutory reporting requirement is as follows:

(3) The provisions of paragraphs (4), (5), and (7)(A) of section 1182(a) [INA section 212(a)] of this title shall not be applicable to any alien seeking admission to the United States under this subsection, and the Attorney General may waive any other provision of such section (other than paragraph (2)(C) or subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (E) of paragraph (3)) with respect to such an alien for humanitarian purposes, to assure family unity, or when it is otherwise in the public interest. Any such waiver by the Attorney General shall be in writing and shall be granted only on an individual basis following an investigation. The Attorney General shall provide for the annual reporting to Congress of the number of waivers granted under this paragraph in the previous fiscal year and a summary of the reasons for granting such waivers.

II. Data Report

Section 207(c)(3) of the INA permits waivers of certain inadmissibility grounds for refugee applicants for humanitarian purposes, to assure family unity, or when it is otherwise in the public interest.

USCIS adjudicates Form I-602, Application by Refugee for Waiver of Inadmissibility Grounds (Form I-602). The data for Form I-602 adjudications for waivers of inadmissibility under section 207(c)(3) of the INA is tracked in USCIS' Case and Activity Management for International Operations (CAMINO) system.

In FY 2021, USCIS approved a total of 207 Form I-602 applications. The table below summarizes the reasons for granting these waivers.

Reasons for Granting Waivers	FY2021
Humanitarian Purposes	136
Family Unity	3
Public Interest	0
Humanitarian Purposes and Family Unity	66
Humanitarian Purposes and Public Interest	1
Family Unity and Public Interest	0
Humanitarian Purposes, Family Unity, and Public Interest	1
Total	207

Source: CAMINO, USCIS Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate