

# Executive Summary

## The President's Fiscal 2003 Immigration Budget

2/04/02

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### Ensuring Homeland Security and Improving Service

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 budget request for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) totals **\$6.3 billion**, including \$1.2 billion in increases primarily targeted at building greater homeland security and combating terrorism. This budget request will add **over 2,200 new positions**, enabling INS to grow to more than 37,000 positions by the end of FY 2003.

INS' FY 2003 budget supports the Administration's immigration goals and strategies, especially the President's commitment to ensure that our borders provide a strong defense for the American people against external threats, most importantly international terrorists, but also drug trafficking and other criminal activities.

To address the gap in securing the Nation's border, the budget proposes a bold, new initiative. The Border Security Initiative brings additional law enforcement personnel together with advanced state-of-the-art technology systems to better prevent illegal entry into the country, target persons who are a threat to homeland security, and assist with non-U.S. citizens entering and exiting the country. Components of this initiative include:

- Implementing a comprehensive entry-exit system to track the arrival and departure of non-U.S. citizens, while speeding entry of routine, legitimate traffic and dramatically improving our ability to deny access to those that should not enter. The new system will leverage advanced technology and construction investments to ensure a timely and secure flow of traffic;
- Deploying force-multiplying equipment, including remotely operated infrared cameras, to monitor isolated areas where illegal entry may occur; and
- Integrating now-separate information systems to ensure timely, accurate, and complete enforcement data are available to the field.

### Border Enforcement

The FY 2003 budget will provide **\$711.7 million** and **1,790** positions for INS border enforcement operations. This includes increasing the number of U.S. Border Patrol Agents by 570 to a record level of more than 11,000 agents, more than double the level in FY 1993. Of these new agents, 285 will be deployed to the Northern Border. This continued expansion is part of the Administration's clear and firm commitment to improving control of our borders. Other FY 2003 increases for the Border Patrol will strengthen critical infrastructure to support these new positions and the investments provided over the past several years.

These increases also include additional enforcement presence at land, air, and sea ports-of-entry. The FY 2003 budget includes 1,160 new Immigration Inspectors. These new inspector positions will better ensure INS has the ability to perform more than 500 million inspections annually.

A total of \$380 million, of which \$362 million is from new resources, is included in this budget for the development and implementation of a comprehensive entry-exit system. This system will record departure and arrival information of all aliens entering the United States, and

will provide INS with the capability to identify aliens who overstay their visas. In addition, this budget includes \$105.9 million in funds to continue emergency counter-terrorism supplemental activities begun in FY 2002.

### **Interior Enforcement**

The FY 2003 budget **includes \$19.7 million and 137 new positions** to enhance cooperation with other Federal law enforcement agencies and the intelligence community in an effort to advance national security and homeland defense against possible terrorist cells in the United States. Additional funds and positions are included to build INS intelligence capabilities. INS is also developing a training program designed to promote awareness, recognition, and identification of women and children who are victimized by organizations that violate the criminal provisions of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. **In addition, this budget includes \$21.9 million in funds to continue emergency counter-terrorism supplemental activities begun in FY 2002.**

### **Detention & Removals**

The FY 2003 budget includes **\$50.5 million** to improve existing detention facilities and to expand alternatives to traditional detention operations. These funds will build on pilot initiatives begun in FY 2002, which are focused on identifying more cost-effective methods of detaining select individuals. **In addition, this budget includes \$6.2 million in funds to continue emergency counter-terrorism supplemental activities begun in FY 2002.**

Also, in FY 2003 the Detention Trustee (under the Department of Justice) will reimburse INS \$615 million and more than 1,200 positions for detention services. This funding and these positions were part of INS' base funding in FY 2002.

### **Immigration Services**

To achieve a six-month processing time standard for all immigration benefit applications, INS plans to devote \$100 million toward backlog elimination efforts in FY 2003. These funds represent the second installment of the President's five-year, \$500-million initiative to achieve and maintain a universal six-month processing time standard for benefit applications while providing quality service to all INS customers.

The FY 2003 INS budget includes a total of **\$1.5 billion** for Immigration Services. These resources will allow INS to complete processing of an anticipated 9.4 million applications and petitions in FY 2003, an increase in productivity of 34 percent over FY 2001.

### **Support and Administration**

The FY 2003 budget will provide **\$143.5 million and 286 new positions** to support several initiatives aimed at providing improved administrative support for INS enforcement and service operations. This includes significant improvements in information technology, physical security, legal support, and program evaluation. INS must provide its workforce with adequate facilities, upgraded management information systems, and sufficient support staff. These and other support resources are critical to building and sustaining the success of INS enforcement and service activities. **In addition, this budget includes \$53.3 million in funds to continue emergency counter-terrorism supplemental activities begun in FY 2002.**

**Summary of INS Increases**

<b>FY 2003 Program Improvements</b>	<b>Funding (\$ in millions)</b>	<b>Positions</b>
Border Enforcement	\$711.7	1,790
Interior Enforcement	19.7	137
Detention and Removals	50.5	3
Immigration Services	50.5	--
Support and Administration	143.5	286
Continuation of Emergency Supplemental Activities	187.3	--
Net Pay and Inflationary Adjustments	74.8	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,238</b>	<b>2,216</b>