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

Fiscal Year 2024 Report to Congress

January 15, 2025

Homeland Security

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO

Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of HomelandSecurity
Washington, DC 20528

Message from the Acting Assistant Secretary

January 15, 2025

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)" for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, prepared by U.S.Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

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

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Inquiries relating to this report may be directed to the DHS Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 447-5890.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Doherty
Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs

Executive Summary

This report fulfills the requirement set forth in Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) section 207(c)(3), 8 U.S.C. 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 2024, from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. It provides data from USCIS showing the number of waivers granted under section 207(c)(3) and a summary of the reasons for granting such waivers.

Report on the Number of Waivers of Grounds of Inadmissibility Granted to Refugees Under INA Section 207(c)(3), Fiscal Year 2024

Table of Contents

I Legislative Requirement 1

II Data Report 2

I. Legislative Requirement

This report fulfills the requirement set forth in Immigration and Nationality Act (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 207(c)(3) waiver requests for refugee applicants. The data for waivers of inadmissibility under section 207(c)(3) of the INA were tracked in USCIS' Case and Activity Management for International Operations (CAMINO) system.

In FY 2024, USCIS approved a total of 1,738 such waivers. The table below summarizes the reasons for granting these waivers.

Reason(s) for Granting Waiver	**FY 2024**
Humanitarian Purposes	1,478
Family Unity	42
Public Interest	1
Humanitarian Purposes and Family Unity	207
Humanitarian Purposes and Public Interest	7
Humanitarian Purposes, Family Unity, and Public Interest	3
Total	**1,738**

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