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GLOSSARY FOR HOMELAND SECURITY: WE JUST DON'T FIGHT TERRORISTS!

ACC: Assistant Chief Counsel, also known as a trial attorney or a TA.
AG: Attorney General.
Alien: foreigner
Amnesty: program or law allowing illegal aliens to regularize their status in the United States by applying for a green card.
A/L: Annual leave or vacation. Something every federal worker looks forward to.
AO: Asylum office or officer.
Asylee: person who has been granted asylum in the United States.
AWS: Alternate work schedule. e.g. working four ten hour days with every Friday off.
BIA: Board of Immigration Appeals
CBP: Customs and Border Protection.
CFI: credible fear interview.
CIS: Citizenship and Immigration Services. Also known as BCIS, i.e. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services.
Coyote: Smuggler. Usually Mexican or Central American.
Deportation proceedings: a proceeding whereby DHS seeks to deport an individual from the United States.
DHS: Department of Homeland Security.
DOJ: Department of Justice
DRO: Detention and Removal branch of ICE
EOIR: Executive Office of Immigration Review or the Immigration Court
EWI: Entry without inspection.
F-1: student visa
FOD: Field Office Director.
Fug Ops: task force who apprehends fugitives from removal orders
Green Card: Not green at all. Card showing that an individual is a lawful permanent resident of the United States.
Group Supervisor: a supervisory special agent
HQ: headquarters, located in Washington, D.C.
I-94: entry document given to all nonimmigrants entering the United States.
ICE: Immigration and Customs Enforcement
ICE agent: self-explanatory
II: immigration inspector.
IJ: immigration judge
INA: Immigration and Nationality Act; also, known as the Act.
INS: Immigration and Naturalization Service, now defunct.
IV: immigrant visa.

JTTF: Joint Terrorism Task Force, comprised of agents from the FBI, ICE, and the police department.

Lapper: lawful permanent resident.

Legacy INS: how we now refer to the former agency.

Legacy Customs: how Customs refers to their former agency.

LPR: lawful permanent resident. An individual who is legally allowed to live and work in the United States on a permanent basis.

Marriage of convenience: a marriage entered into by two people to evade the immigration laws. Money can exchange hands between the parties, or one party marries the other as a favor.

MTR: motion to reopen: how an alien reopens their removal or deportation proceedings

Naturalized citizen: an individual who has resided in the United States as a lawful permanent resident for either 3 or 5 years, files an application for citizenship, and is granted citizenship.

NIV: nonimmigrant visa.

NTA: notice to appear, how removal proceedings are commenced

OCC: Office of Chief Counsel, the local ICE litigation office

OI: Office of Investigations

OIC: Officer in Charge.

OSC: order to show cause: how deportation proceedings are commenced

Parole: permission to stay in the United States for medical reasons, criminal prosecution, humanitarian reasons, or to pursue an application, usually for a green card.

Photo-subbed passport: passport in which the original photo has been removed and replaced with another.

Refugee: person who has been allowed to enter the United States due to some upheaval in his/her country.

Removal proceedings: see deportation proceedings.

SA: Special Agent.

SAC: Special Agent in Charge.

Senior: a senior attorney with the OCC

S/L: sick leave

Snakehead: Smuggler. Usually Chinese.

SSA: Supervisory special agent.

TA: trial attorney, see ACC

TPS: Temporary protected status. Status given to individuals because there has been a natural disaster like a hurricane in their country or a coup.

USC: United States citizen

Use or lose: excess vacation that if one doesn't use, vanishes

VGTF: violent gang task force

VWPP: Visa waiver pilot program.

W/A: work authorization which allows one to apply for a social security number

Wet: an illegal alien.

Helpful websites

Department of Homeland Security: www.dhs.gov

Department of Justice: www.usdoj.gov

Citizenship and Immigrant Services: www.uscis.gov

Federal Bureau of Investigations: www.fbi.gov

Bureau of Prisons: www.bop.gov

Employment opportunities with the government: www.usajobs.gov

Immigration and Customs Enforcement: www.ice.gov

Customs and Border Protection: www.cbp.gov

Some interesting movies or television shows:

Manhunters, A&E

Homeland Security: ABC

El Norte, a movie from the eighties about the immigrant experience

The Visitor, a recent movie about an illegal alien's plight in New York City

Green Card

Maria Full of Grace, about drug mules

Crossing Over, the new Harrison Ford movie

Bio of Susan Egan

Many years ago, I visited a tarot card reader because I wanted to know what the future held for me. I, of course, was hoping she would tell me that I was going to be swept off my feet by someone rich and famous. I could give up my job, have two kids, and live happily ever after. At the time I was in private practice, living in New York City, and making absolutely no money.

Well this reading didn't exactly go as I planned. To my surprise, the first thing the reader said to me was that I was going to buy an apartment which I found hysterically funny. (Right in New York City on my salary.) A little while later she said that I could either paint or write. This I didn't find as amusing since at the time I was attending the Art Student's League. But I was drawing, not painting. She didn't give me any indication as to when I could expect to be swept off my feet. I guess I am still waiting.

Anyway, since I didn't want to make a total liar out of this reader, I managed to buy that apartment. I also obviously started writing. My young adult novel, *Dating 101*, was published in 2002 by newconceptspublishing.com.

Seriously though, I am a graduate of both Fordham University and Seton Hall University Law School. For the past fifteen years, I have been a prosecutor with the Immigration and Naturalization Service and now with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Before joining the government, I was in private practice, handling immigration and nationality cases.

When I am not in the courtroom, I can be found in one of three places: in the gym, at my ballet class, or in the movies.