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SSA Says No-Match Letters Will Not Be Sent this Year; DHS Will Revise Rule

A Social Security Administration (SSA) spokesperson reportedly has stated that the SSA will not send out no-match letters this year to employers, in response to an October 10, 2007, preliminary injunction from the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California that enjoined and restrained the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the SSA from implementing the final rule, "Safe-Harbor Procedures for Employers Who Receive a No-Match Letter." The preliminary injunction did not preclude the SSA from sending out its traditional no-match letters without the final rule language. According to sources, SSA is unlikely to send out no-match letters until spring 2008 at the earliest, when DHS plans to revise the rule. SSA said it did not have sufficient time to revise the no-match letter in 2007. SSA sends no-match letters, which detail discrepancies between SSA data and information sent in by employers, to approximately 138,000 employers each year concerning as many as nine million employees.