



## **10 Reasons Why Biometric Exit May Advance in 2014: A feasible and cost effective system employed in at least 17 countries**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 29, 2014) – SIBA CEO and Executive Director Janice Kephart concludes that the potential for implementation of a biometric exit system to track the departure of foreign visitors has increased substantially from a few years ago. Kephart’s analysis shows that the politics and practicalities of a implementing the statutory requirements of exit which have spanned eight statutes and 16 years, has been heightened dramatically since the Senate first started debating immigration reform in April 2013. Actual implementation appears more probable now due to shifts in implementation authorities at the Department of Homeland Security to implement the system, advancement in technology, a decrease in the costs, and travelers’ increasing comfort and familiarity with using biometrics in both personal and public settings, from mobile phone access to other international borders.

View the entire report [here](#).

Here are Kephart’s top 10 reasons why a biometric exit system holds more promise in advancing in 2014 than ever before.

1. Congress is hot on the issue.
2. DHS Secretary Napolitano, Who Adamantly Opposed Biometric Exit, Is Gone.
3. Customs and Border Protection, who conducts biometric entry authority, now holds exit implementation authority as well.
4. The Senate Judiciary Committee Markup of immigration reform bill S.744, included consideration of two biometric exit amendments, one of which is in the Senate-passed version of S. 744.
5. Senate S.744 floor debate included repeated bipartisan Member support for biometric exit.
6. The Confirmation Hearing of DHS Secretary Nominee Jeh Johnson included pointed questions about biometric exit implementation.
7. The House Judiciary Committee, with jurisdiction over immigration, passed the SAFE Act, which requires a air, sea and land biometric exit implementation within two years, and held a full committee hearing on the subject.
8. The House Homeland Security Committee continues consideration of H.R.3141, “The Biometric Exit Improvement Act of 2013”.
9. Implementing Exit Is Feasible and Cost Effective, with ample evidence provided in Kephart’s [September 2013 report](#) on the subject.

10. At least 17 Countries have implemented a biometric entry/exit system successfully, and, according to the Biometrics Institute representing over 80 nation governments from around the world, “biometric borders” was the biggest international biometric trend of 2013.

Janice Kephart, a former 9/11 Commission counsel who supported recommendations for a biometric entry-exit system and SIBA CEO /Executive Director, commented, “at the heart of immigration integrity and national security, the 9/11 hijackers to the Boston Marathon bomber Tsarnaev's easy bypassing of our name-based immigration exit system, to the inability of immigration enforcement officers to know who is here and not for the purposes of law enforcement, the need for a biometric entry-exit system has been made clear time and again. While the eight laws Congress has passed requiring an exit system show consistent support without political agendas, Congress needs to do more. With close and consistent oversight from Congress, a system may actually implemented; finally usurping the impasse of the past 16 years.”