



**Wafa Abdin** is vice president for Immigration and Refugee Services at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. She oversees the Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance, the largest nonprofit provider of immigration legal services for low-income and indigent noncitizens. Cabrini Center is comprised of the family visa program; crime victims program; detained and released unaccompanied juveniles program and the refugee, asylee and citizenship program. Ms. Abdin has more than 12 years of experience in representing detained adults and juveniles, asylum seekers, victims of human trafficking and other serious crimes before the Department of Homeland Security, the Immigration Court, and the Board of Immigration Appeals. She is a frequent lecturer at immigration conferences and has written several articles and papers on immigration law topics, including: asylum, special registration, special immigrant juvenile status and U visas. In recognition of her outstanding work and dedication, Ms. Abdin was awarded the Chrys Dougherty Legal Services Award in 2010 by the Texas State Bar. She also received the University of Houston Law Center Public Interest Fellowship. She is a former president of the Arab American Cultural Center and is also the local AILA asylum liaison and a member of the AILA National Asylum Liaison Committee and the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance (HTRA).

**Russell Abrutyn** practices immigration law at Marshal E. Hyman & Associates in Troy, MI. He currently chairs AILA's Amicus Committee and has served on the committee since 2009. He has previously served on AILA's Annual Conference Planning Committees and the Michigan State Bar's Unauthorized Practice of the Law Committee. He received AILA's 2011 Mentor Award. As a member of ALIA's Amicus Committee, he was a co-recipient of AILA's 2010 Litigation Award. He is a frequent speaker on immigration topics at local, regional, and national conferences. Mr. Abrutyn is licensed to practice in Michigan, Washington State, and multiple federal courts.

**Sam Adair** is a founding attorney at the law firm of Graham Adair. He has been happily practicing immigration law for more than 10 years. His practice is focused almost exclusively on employment-based immigration. Mr. Adair works with employers of all sizes on immigration and compliance issues. Between 2006 and 2008 he spent two years running an office in India for a large international immigration practice group. He practices primarily in Austin, TX.

**Charles Adkins-Blanch** was appointed by Attorney General Eric Holder as vice chairman of the Board in January 2013. Mr. Adkins-Blanch received a B.A. in 1984 from Grinnell College and a J.D. in 1990 from the National Law Center, George Washington University. He served as a BIA member from 2008 until his appointment as vice chairman. From 2004-08, he served as an immigration judge at the Headquarters Immigration Court and, from 1995-2004, Mr. Adkins-Blanch served in EOIR's Office of the General Counsel, as general counsel from 2000-04, as acting general counsel from 1999-2000, and as an associate general counsel from 1995-99. From 1990-95, he worked for the BIA as an attorney advisor entering on duty through the Attorney General's Honors Program. From 1989-90, he clerked in private practice with the firm of Maggio & Kattar, specializing in immigration and nationality law. Mr. Adkins-Blanch is a member of the District of Columbia and Virginia State Bars.

**Robert W. Alcorn**, M.B.A., CPA is an independent practitioner in Dallas. He works extensively with immigration attorneys across the U.S. and their clients to resolve tax problems related to ability to pay, lack of good moral character, and other noncitizen tax issues. He is a frequent speaker at immigration CLE conferences on IOLTA accounting rules, Yates Memo ability to pay issues, and income tax issues unique to noncitizens.

**Nadeen Aljijakli** is the founder of Aljijakli & Kosseff, LLC. She specializes in removal defense, asylum, and family-based immigration. She has become a leading resource in the country for Syrian asylum claims and was recently featured in a *Huffington Post* article, “Top Ten List: Muslims Who Save Lives,” as well as in television news interviews on *Al Jazeera*. Ms. Aljijakli is a regular contributor to AILA’s online publication, VOICE. She is active in AILA, where she is coordinator of the Middle Eastern Interest Group (MEIG). Prior to forming her law practice, Ms. Aljijakli worked with Duane Morris’ immigration practice group and Maggio & Kattar, PC, in Washington, DC. She received her law degree from Brooklyn Law School. Ms. Aljijakli is a native Arabic speaker.

**Deborah Anker** is clinical professor of law at Harvard Law School and director of the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinic. Author of a leading treatise, *Law of Asylum in the United States*, Professor Anker has co-drafted groundbreaking gender asylum guidelines and amicus curiae briefs. She is cited frequently by international and domestic courts and tribunals, including the United States Supreme Court. In 2011, she was chosen to be a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Professor Anker is a pioneer in the development of clinical legal education in the immigration field, training students and creating a foundation for clinics at law schools across the United States.

**Elsie Hui Arias** (elsie@sggimmigration.com) is a partner of Stone Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP in Los Angeles. She is certified as a specialist in immigration and nationality law by the California State Bar. Ms. Arias practices all areas of immigration law, with a current emphasis on EB-5 immigration assisting both regional center and individual investor-clients. She is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and the University of California at Davis School of Law.

**Peter L. Ashman** is a founder and current chair of the Nevada Chapter of AILA. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University (1981) and Southwestern University School of Law (1985). He is a frequent speaker at immigration conferences and has authored numerous published articles on immigration law. He has served on numerous AILA National committees. Currently he is a member of the Board of the Nevada ACLU affiliate and the national board of the American Immigration Council. Mr. Ashman is the 2007 recipient of AILA’s National Advocacy Award. He recently was asked to testify before the House Subcommittee on Homeland Security on ICE detention issues.

**Cheri Attix** maintains a practice focused on asylum, family-based immigration, and related matters. She currently serves on the AILA national Asylum and Refugee Committee and co-chairs the AILA San Diego Chapter USCIS Liaison Committee. Ms. Attix is a former AILA San Diego chapter chair. She established AILA San Diego’s Asylum Office Liaison Committee and served as its chair for several years. Ms. Attix served on the Board of Directors for Survivors of Torture, International in San Diego from 1998-2003. Ms. Attix served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Northeast Thailand and still enjoys traveling to hot-sticky places.

**James Austin** is a partner at Austin & Ferguson, L.L.C., a law firm exclusively practicing immigration and nationality law. Mr. Austin is an adjunct professor of immigration law at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and was the 2010 recipient of AILA’s Elmer Fried Excellence in Teaching Immigration Law Award. Mr. Austin is the past chair of the National Benefit Center Liaison Committee, the Paralegal Certification Task Force, and the CIS Ombudsman Liaison Committee.

**Alexis S. Axelrad**, is a partner at Barst Mukamal & Kleiner LLP. She earned her B.A. from the University of Maryland at College Park (1994) and J.D. from NYLS (1997). She is an elected director of AILA National’s Board of Governors, chair of the VSC Committee, and a member of the USCIS SCOPS Committee. She is a past chair of the AILA NY Chapter. Ms. Axelrad was recognized in 2011 and 2012 in the NY Super Lawyers “Rising Stars” and as “Super Lawyer” in 2013 and recognized by *Chambers & Partners: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business*. Beginning in June 2014, she will write a quarterly immigration column for the *NY Law Journal*.

**James (“Jim”) Bach** runs a small business immigration practice in San Francisco. He has been a member of AILA since 1980, and is currently the moderator of the Ethics Forum of the AILA Message Center. For the past decade he has been active in matters involving professional conduct, including presenting seminars on ethical issues and acting as a legal fee arbitrator for the Bar Association of San Francisco. He was a commissioner of the California State Bar Immigration and Nationality Advisory Commission from 2007–13, and was its chair in 2012.

**Elizabeth Badger** is a staff attorney at Lutheran Social Services in Massachusetts. She has previously worked as a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor at the Boston University School of Law, staff attorney at the PAIR Project, and policy associate at the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute. Over the last 10 years, her work has focused on detained populations, asylum seekers, and more recently, noncitizen children.

**Vikram K. Badrinath** has practiced immigration law for more than 17 years. He is a certified specialist in immigration and nationality law by the State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization. He has litigated cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals and U.S. District Courts, as well as the immigration courts and Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). In 2002, Mr. Badrinath was presented with an award by the U.S. Department of Justice for his pro bono work before the BIA. He lectures nationally to lawyers, judges, and other legal professionals on various aspects of U.S. immigration law. He has served on AILA's Amicus Committee, and is a regular faculty member of the AILA/AIC Litigation Institute. He is also the 2010 co-recipient of the Jack Wasserman Award for Excellence in Immigration Litigation.

**Maria Baldini-Potermin** founded Maria Baldini-Potermin & Associates, P.C. in Chicago. She focuses on removal defense, federal litigation, waivers, family-based immigration, and immigration consequences of criminal dispositions. She is the author of the Immigration Trial Handbook, update editor for *Immigration Law & Crimes*, and expert author-consultant for Interpreter Releases. She received the 2013 AILA Presidential Commendation ("For Always Fighting for What's Right"), 2010 AILA Edith Lowenstein Award for Excellence in Advancing the Practice of Immigration Law, and 2004 AILA Chicago Joseph Minsky Mentor Award. She has served on and chaired numerous AILA committees. She is a member of the National Immigration Project's Board of Directors.

**Mark Barr** is a senior associate at Lichter Immigration in Denver. Before joining the private bar, he completed a judicial internship with EOIR. Mr. Barr is a member of AILA's Amicus Committee, helping to coordinate litigation strategies on issues of critical importance to immigration law and policy. Mr. Barr lectures locally and nationally on issues related to removal defense, asylum, and federal litigation. Before his reincarnation as an immigration attorney, Mr. Barr received a B.S. in cell biology from Cornell and worked in research laboratories at Cornell, Yale, and S.U.N.Y. Upstate Medical University.

**Diana C. Bauerle** received her J.D. and M.B.A. from Loyola University in Chicago and has been in practice over 13 years. She is admitted to practice law in Illinois, England, and Wales. Ms. Bauerle previously served as chair of the AILA National Nebraska Service Center Liaison Committee and co-chair of the CBP Liaison Committee for AILA's Chicago Chapter. She formerly served as liaison to the USCIS Chicago District Office and was co-chair of the committee on immigration law for the Chicago Bar Association. For more information see [www.balglobal.com](http://www.balglobal.com).

**Janet B. Beck** has been board certified in immigration and nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1995 and has been practicing immigration law since 1987. She is currently Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Houston Law Center Immigration Clinic and is co-teaching Immigration and Family Law. Ms. Beck was the attorney on the 2011 BIA precedent decision *Matter of M-A-M*. She is co-author of the American Immigration Council Practice Advisory "Representing Clients with Mental Competency Issues under *Matter of M-A-M*." Ms. Beck received a B.A. from New York University, an M.S.W. from the University of Chicago, and a J.D. from the University of Houston. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer for three years in Colombia, South America and is fluent in Spanish.

**Andres Benach** is a founding partner of Benach Ragland, LLP, a law firm specializing in complex federal litigation in immigration matters. Prior to starting his own firm, Mr. Benach was a partner in the immigration practice at Duane Morris and directed the immigration litigation practice at Maggio & Kattar, a Washington boutique. Mr. Benach is a member of the AILA Amicus Committee, developing the organization's litigation priorities and representing AILA as amicus before the federal courts. Mr. Benach is a frequent speaker at immigration and criminal bar associations about the immigration consequences of criminal convictions, challenges to removal, and immigration and federal court procedure.

**Matthew L. Benson** is a partner at Bartlett & Weigle Co., L.P.A. in Cincinnati, where he practices primarily in the areas of asylum, removal proceedings defense, and family-based immigration. Mr. Benson was chair of the AILA Ohio Chapter from 2011-13, and is currently a member of AILA's ICE Liaison Committee and Federal Litigation Steering Committee. He received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky and graduated magna cum laude from Northern Kentucky University. He speaks regularly at seminars regarding various immigration law topics and is listed as an Ohio Super Lawyer in the field of immigration.

**Dan Berger** is a partner at the Northampton, MA, firm Curran & Berger LLP. Mr. Berger has served as senior editor of *AILA's Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook* (now, *Immigration Practice Pointers*) since 2000, editor-in-chief of *Immigration Options for Academics and Researchers* (2005 and 2011 Eds.), editor of *The International Adoption Sourcebook*, and co-editor of the *Diplomatic Visas Handbook*. He developed his interest in immigration in college, where he studied immigration history and taught English as a Second Language for adult refugees.

**Ally Bolour** has been practicing immigration law since 1996, when was admitted to the California State Bar. He is an alumnus of Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles. Mr. Bolour is a member of AILA, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Lawyers Association. He currently serves on AIC's Board of Trustees. From 2004-10, he served on the Board of Directors at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) based in NY. From 2007-09, he was the co-chair of the Board at IGLHRC. Previously, he was the co-chair, of the Beverly Hills Bar Association, Immigration Law Section in 1999/2000 and since 1998, continues to volunteer for and take pro bono cases at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center. Mr. Bolour has frequently participated as a speaker on immigration-related seminars sponsored by AILA, National Immigration Project, LA County Bar Association, Harvard University LGBT Policy and Law Conference, Immigration Equality, and Lavender Law Project. He speaks fluent Farsi.

**David Bridges**, CIC, is the president of the Leavitt Group's Atlanta office. He also serves as an executive vice president of the Leavitt Group's affinity programs division. Most recently with Wells Fargo Insurance Services as a senior vice president, Mr. Bridges has been in the insurance industry for over 20 years as a property and casualty specialist for large to middle market accounts with an emphasis on commercial real estate, manufacturing, hospitality, affinity groups, and franchised organizations. He is a native of Atlanta and prior to working in insurance, Mr. Bridges had 10 years of business experience as the chief operating officer of a major floor covering distributor and installation contractor. He graduated from Georgia State University with a degree in Finance. The Leavitt Group has served the Atlanta area for over 25 years and is one of the top insurance brokerages in the country. Mr. Bridges leverages his industry expertise and provides clients with competitive, sophisticated risk management. Through being part of the second largest private-held brokerage in the country, he represents the top insurance companies and is committed to building lasting relationships with both clients and the insurance companies he represents.

**Lisa Brodyaga** is co-founder of Refugio del Rio Grande, a combination refugee camp, wildlife refuge, and law office in deep South Texas. A prolific litigator, her most recent victory was *Silva-Trevino v. Holder*, rejecting the third step to the categorical analysis for determining whether a conviction involves moral turpitude. Recently, she has focused on Mexican-Americans who have been denied the benefits of U.S. citizenship by USCIS and/or DOS. She and attorney Jaime Diez are presently focused on securing access to attorney's fees in these cases, so that those who cannot afford federal litigation can still vindicate their citizenship rights.

**Daniel Brown** is a partner in the Washington, DC office of Fragomen and is part of the firm's government strategies and compliance group. His experience includes counseling corporate clients on business immigration, compliance and enforcement matters, with a focus on I-9 and E-Verify issues. Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Brown held a number of senior positions within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). From May 2005 to August 2006, he served as Counselor to the Assistant Secretary and then Director of the Office of Policy and Planning at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the component of DHS responsible for immigration and I-9 enforcement. Prior to that, he served in the DHS General Counsel's Office as the Deputy Associate General Counsel for Immigration, and was the most senior career legal official in the General Counsel's Office focused on immigration issues.

**Karol Brown** is the senior attorney at World One Law Group in Bellevue, WA. She has a Master's degree in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, a law degree from Yale Law School, and two Bachelor's degrees from the University of Washington in Economics and International Studies. Ms. Brown serves on chapter and national committees for AILA, including the Practice Management, Media, and Congressional & Advocacy committees. Her clients include individuals applying for their spouses, children and parents, as well as businesses recruiting world-class employees to invest, work, and live in the United States.

**Sarah Z. Brown** practices in Dallas with the firm of Miley & Brown, P.C. Admitted to the Texas Bar in 1991, she is board certified in immigration and nationality law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization. She is an elected member of Board of Governors for AILA, a position she has held since 2009.

**Valentine A. Brown** is a partner at Duane Morris LLP in the employment, labor, benefits and immigration practice group. She serves as global immigration law counsel to a diverse group of multi-national and domestic corporations and their employees, providing advice, compliance audits, and representation to help navigate the intricacies of U.S. and foreign immigration laws. Ms. Brown also represents individuals in all types of immigration proceedings, including persons of extraordinary ability; spouses, fiancées and children of U.S. citizens; naturalization and political asylum applicants; as well as respondents in deportation and immigration appellate proceedings. Ms. Brown is an instructor for the Duane Morris Institute, which provides training in all areas of employment law for human resource professionals, in house counsel, benefits administrators and managers through classes in Philadelphia, client-site trainings and webinars. Ms. Brown's courses include, I-9 Compliance Basics; E-Verify for Everyone; E-Verify for Federal Contractors, Electronic I-9s: The Pros, the Cons and the Requirements; and H-1B Public Access Files: What Employers Need to Know.

**Diane Butler** chairs the immigration practice at Lane Powell PC in Seattle. Born in Wyoming, she has worked on Capitol Hill and lived in Shanghai and Hong Kong. Her law degree is from George Washington University. Ms. Butler is rated "AV" by Martindale-Hubbell, recommended by *Chambers USA's Guide to America's Leading Lawyers for Business Immigration*, and was named as a "Washington Super Lawyer" in *Super Lawyers* magazine. She's served on the AILA Board of Governors and on many committees, including CBP, FOIA, Transformation, and Students & Scholars. When she's not practicing immigration law, she can be found practicing her accordion.

**Dagmar Butte** is an elected member of the AILA Board of Governors. She is listed as a SuperLawyer, in *Who's Who Among Business Immigration Lawyers* and *Chambers USA* and received the Oregon Chapter's 2009 Gerald H. Robinson Award. She writes and speaks frequently for AILA national and regional seminars, is an associate editor of *AILA's Waiver Book*, has chaired and been a member of AILA committees including NSC, SCOPS, Transparency Taskforce, USCIS HQ, USCIS General Counsel, Business, Due Process, Detention and Removal, Publications, Physicians & Healthcare Workers and served on conference committees including the 2011 Annual Conference.

**Barbara Camacho** joined Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP in 2011 as the Fragomen Fellow at the City Bar Justice Center. As the Fragomen Fellow, Ms. Camacho provides direct pro bono representation as well as develops and supervises pro bono immigration outreach clinics and activities to benefit New York's immigrant community. She is the co-chair of the AILA New York Chapter's Comprehensive Immigration Reform Committee and member of the Pro Bono Committee. She is also a past co-chair of the AILA New Jersey Chapter Pro Bono Committee.

**Clayton E. Cartwright, Jr.**, is the managing member of The Cartwright Law Firm, LLC, in Columbus, GA, which specializes in the areas of international taxation and employee benefits. A frequent speaker and author for immigration law seminars and practice guides, he advises businesses, financial institutions, attorneys, accountants, investment advisors, and individuals on matters including expatriate taxation, cross-border employee transfers, withholding and reporting requirements, and permanent establishments. He earned his undergraduate degree in accounting from The College of William & Mary and his law degree from Georgetown University.

**Maria Isabel Casablanca** serves as founding partner of the international firm Casablanca Legal Group. She has dedicated herself to the practice of U.S immigration and nationality law for 25 years. Her practice involves representing corporate clients and individuals in obtaining immigration assistance and benefits. She practices in all areas of immigration law and is board certified by the Florida Bar. She is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, the Southern District Court, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration Court. She advises employers on compliance procedures and individuals on maintaining their status in the United States. She has authored numerous articles including the book, *Immigration Law for Paralegals*, which is in its 4th edition. She is the vice chair of the AILA Department of State Committee, having serving on and off of that committee for the past 10 years, and has served on other AILA National committees. She has served on the Florida Bar Certification and Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee and has been selected as a Leading Lawyers of Florida "Super Lawyer" in the field of immigration law in 2006-08 and has won numerous awards in the field. She appears regularly on television and radio shows. She is the founding chair of the AILA Mexico City District Chapter.

**Robert Casazza** is a partner with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy. He is responsible for Fragomen's USCIS local office practice, both in New York and around the country. This work includes permanent residence and citizenship interviews, emergency travel authorization and long pending case inquiries, often on complicated matters and for VIP clients. Mr. Casazza often speaks on these issues at various conferences. He is the co-chair of AILA's NY Chapter

District Director Liaison Committee; serve's on the Rome District Chapter's Department of State Liaison Committee and is listed as an AILA Mentor in the areas of permanent residence, naturalization, and USCIS local office practice.

**Benjamin Casper** is director of the Center for New Americans at the University of Minnesota Law School where he teaches the Federal Immigration Litigation Clinic. Mr. Casper is 1997 graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. He currently serves on AILA's Amicus Committee.

**Randall Caudle** has his own immigration law office, Caudle Immigration, in the South of Market (SOMA) neighborhood of San Francisco. His office is close to a lot of start-up tech companies and the San Francisco Giants baseball stadium. When not attending baseball games, Mr. Caudle helps couples in marriage to U.S. Citizen cases, K-1 visas & I-751s. He also represents some interesting companies and professional athletes. Mr. Caudle actively uses social media and you can find out more than you ever wanted to know about him on his Caudle Immigration Facebook page & website, @randallcaudle Twitter feed and even Pinterest page.

**Elizabeth S. Chatham**, is a partner with Davis Miles McGuire Gardner, PLLC in Tempe, Arizona. Ms. Chatham's focus is on employment-based immigration representing Fortune 100 and 500 high technology companies, numerous small businesses, a variety of nonprofits, and many individuals on complex immigration matters. Previously, Ms. Chatham worked for two national law firms, as a staff attorney for an immigration rights organization, and the United Nations. Ms. Chatham is also the AILA Arizona Chapter chair and is frequently interviewed and advises on diverse immigration issues throughout Arizona and nationally. Ms. Chatham has been selected as "Best Lawyer in America" for the past two years.

**Nicolas Chavez** is a founding partner in the immigration law firm of Chavez & Valko, LLP based in Dallas. Mr. Chavez is board certified in immigration and nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He earned his J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center in 2001, where he served in the university's immigration clinic under the tutelage of the late Professor Joseph Vail. In 2011, he was appointed as a legal advisor for immigration affairs to the Mexican Consulate in Dallas. He currently serves in the AILA Amicus Curiae Committee and the Texas Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee. He is also a published cartoonist.

**Rex Chen** is the managing attorney of Catholic Charities of Newark's immigration assistance division. He won a Third Circuit appeal that broke new ground to provide protection for informants under a United Nations Convention and leads a confidential joint defense group on suppression motions in immigration court. He has made numerous document production demands while litigating suppression motions. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Immigration Project, has made a documentary video about an immigrant wrongly convicted of murder, and is Taiwanese-American.

**Lori Chesser** is chair of the Immigration Department of Davis Brown Law Firm in Des Moines, Iowa. She co-founded the Iowa/Nebraska AILA Chapter, and has been active locally and nationally in several capacities, including educating other lawyers and the public about immigration law. She is incoming chair of the American Immigration Counsel.

**Lisa Christoffersen** is the founder and principal attorney of Christoffersen Law PS in Seattle. She has been practicing employment-based immigration law since 1999 with an emphasis on the technology and biotechnology sectors. Ms. Christoffersen serves on the AILA Washington Executive Committee and has chaired the Chapter's Department of State and Department of Labor Liaison Committees. She received her B.A. from Middlebury College, and her MAIS and J.D. from the University of Washington. She is listed in *SuperLawyers*.

**David L. Cleveland**, a staff attorney at Catholic Charities of Washington, DC, has won asylum or withholding for people from 43 countries. He is a graduate of the University of Rochester and of Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and was the AILA Representative to the USCIS Asylum Office, 2003-06. He was the chair of the AILA Asylum Committee, 2004-05. He has been a member of the Board of Editors of *Bender's Immigration Bulletin*, 2008-present.

**Amy C. Cococcia** is a partner at the New York office of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP, where she has practiced exclusively in the area of immigration law for over 15 years. Ms. Cococcia is a leading member of the firm's practice group dedicated to compliance, and has extensive experience representing both corporate and individual clients on a wide variety of immigration matters, including complex citizenship and naturalization, employer sanctions and I-9 compliance issues. She regularly represents corporations before U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Ms. Cococcia is a fellow of the Foreign Policy Association, a board member of the Tufts Lawyers Association and a member

of numerous industry associations, including AILA, the American Foreign Law Association, and the Federal Bar Council. She holds a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School and a B.A. from Tufts University. She was selected as a 2013 “Super Lawyer” for the New York Metro Area.

**Robert H. Cohen** is a partner with the firm of Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur LLP, in Columbus, OH. He has practiced immigration law for over 35 years and his primary areas of practice include business and family immigration representation. Mr. Cohen currently serves as chair of the Board of Trustees of AIC and vice chair on the USCIS Benefits Liaison Committee. He received the 2013 Jack Wasserman Award for excellence in litigation in the field of immigration law from AILA and has been listed in the *Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of immigration law every year since 1995 and has been recognized by *Super Lawyers*. Mr. Cohen is a graduate of Miami University and the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

**Sherry K. Cohen** is counsel to the Law Firm of Richard M. Maltz, PLLC, in the area of professional responsibility law. She served as first deputy chief counsel to New York’s Departmental Disciplinary Committee (DDC), First Department, Appellate Division (2003–10) and as staff attorney (1993–2003). Prior to joining the DDC, she was a litigation associate at Schulte Roth & Zabel. In her tenure at the DDC, Ms. Cohen concentrated on matters involving substandard representation and unauthorized practice in the immigration area. She has participated in numerous CLE programs on attorney ethics and is the reporter for *The AILA Ethics Compendium*, a comprehensive resource to help immigration lawyers navigate ethics rules and ethical dilemmas that arise in immigration practice.

**Diana Vellos Coker** is a partner with Larrabee Mehlman Albi Coker LLP in San Diego. Her practice focuses on employment-based immigration law for the high-tech, pharmaceutical/biotech, and health care industries. She currently serves on the executive committee for the San Diego Chapter of AILA and is an AIC ambassador. She has also been selected for inclusion in *Southern California Super Lawyers 2014*, *The International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers 2014*, and *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2014 in the field of immigration law (Copyright 2010 by Woodward/White, Inc., of Aiken, S.C.).

**Dree K. Collopy** is a partner of Benach Ragland LLP in Washington, DC. She focuses her practice on removal proceedings, asylum, waivers of inadmissibility, and other complex matters. Ms. Collopy is a frequent speaker and author on cutting edge immigration issues. She is the new author of *AILA’s Asylum Primer* and serves as chair of AILA’s Asylum and Refugee Committee, working to maintain the integrity of the asylum system and ensure that the laws are implemented with accuracy and fairness. Ms. Collopy also directs and teaches the Immigration Litigation Clinic at The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law.

**Melanie K. Corrin** is a 2002 graduate of New England Law | Boston. She has been practicing immigration law exclusively since graduation. Ms. Corrin has spoken at the AILA Annual Conferences since 2010, has served on the AILA Colorado Chapter Executive Committee since 2008 and has also served on the AILA National on the NSC Liaison Committee, the Distance Learning Committee, and the USCIS International Operations Committee. She also is a member of the Colorado Bar Association Ethics Committee.

**Emily Creighton** is a staff attorney at the Legal Action Center at AIC. She has represented plaintiffs in class action litigation and amicus curiae before the Board of Immigration Appeals and federal courts. She also authors practice advisories and participates in targeted administrative advocacy.

**Melissa Crow** is the director of the Legal Action Center, the litigation and legal advocacy arm of AIC. Ms. Crow has practiced immigration law for more than twelve years, including litigation in the federal courts, immigration courts, and BIA. Prior to joining the LAC, she served as a senior policy advisor in the Office of Policy at DHS. She was previously a partner with Brown, Goldstein & Levy in Baltimore. Before entering private practice, Ms. Crow served as counsel to Senator Edward M. Kennedy during the 2007 debates on the U.S. Senate’s comprehensive immigration reform bill.

**Lindsay A. Curcio** practices immigration law in Brooklyn. She also is an adjunct professor at New York Law School. She is a co-author of *Immigration & Nationality Law: Problems & Strategies* (Lexis). She was awarded a B.A. degree in Spanish from Northwestern University, a J.D. from IIT-Chicago Kent College of Law and an M.B.A. from Fordham University. She is completing an LL.M in Transnational Commercial Practice at the Center for International Legal Studies/Lazarski University. She may be reached at [lindsay@uneeadvisa.com](mailto:lindsay@uneeadvisa.com).

**Joseph Curran** is a partner with Curran & Berger LLP, and an AILA member since 1987. He focuses primarily on employment and health care matters in the New England area. Mr. Curran frequently lectures on specialized business topics to lawyers, business groups, health care facilities, and academic institutions throughout the U.S.

**Philip Curtis** is managing partner of Chin & Curtis, LLP and has practiced immigration law since 1985. He has been in practice with Francis Chin since 1994. Prior to joining Mr. Chin's firm, he was an attorney at Ropes & Gray in Boston, where he specialized in business immigration matters, labor and employment, and employment litigation. He has a broad range of experience in employment-based immigration, naturalization, worksite compliance, and federal and state litigation. Mr. Curtis is a graduate of Brown University and the University of Chicago Law School.

**Lance Curtright**, a native of Lincoln, NE, has practiced immigration law since 2001. He is board certified in immigration and nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Under Mr. Curtright's lead, DMCA's litigation section was awarded the 2013 Best Litigation Department of the Year by *Texas Lawyer* magazine. Mr. Curtright has successfully represented hundreds of clients in deportation proceedings. His successes include published decisions in *Amrollah v. Napolitano*, 710 F.3d 568 (5th Cir. 2013); *Matter of Lamus*, 25 I&N Dec. 61 (BIA 2009); *see also Mortera-Cruz v. Gonzales*, 409 F.3d 246 (5th Cir. 2005). He has published articles about immigration law in several law magazines and is a frequent speaker at immigration law conferences. He serves as the Immigration Customs and Enforcement liaison for the San Antonio District. Mr. Curtright earned a B.A. from the University of Dallas (UD) in politics. While at UD, he studied in Rome, Italy for a semester. He graduated from UD cum laude in 1998. After college, Mr. Curtright attended law school at the University of Nebraska. He was selected for the school's National Moot Court team which placed second in their region and advanced to the final national rounds. In law school, Mr. Curtright was selected to the "Order of Barristers" based upon his advocacy skills and graduated with distinction. Mr. Curtright is a member of AILA, the Federal Bar Association, and the San Antonio Bar Association. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the Western District of Texas, the Southern District of Texas, the Northern District of Texas and all Texas State courts.

**Cheryl R. David** handles all aspects of immigration law with an emphasis on removal and family-based cases. She was an elected director of AILA's Board of Governors from June 2007 through May 2013. Previously, she served as the national chair of the Executive Office for Immigration Review on behalf of AILA from 2009-12. She chaired AILA's national ICE Liaison Committee from 2007-10 and served as chair of the AILA New York Chapter from 2006-07. She currently serves as a member of the ICE National Liaison Committee. In addition, she was locally the chair of the ICE Detention and Removal Committee from the 2007-10 and oversaw the EOIR/AILA juvenile pro-bono docket. Ms. David was on the Board of Directors of the City Bar Fund from 2007-13 and is a member of "Katzman study group." She is a frequent lecturer on removal and family-based immigration issues. She is admitted to practice in New York, Massachusetts, and the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

**Mikiel Davids** is an associate with Kramer & Alfano, PC in Atlanta. She currently serves as chair of the USCIS Liaison Committee for the Georgia-Alabama Chapter of AILA, and practices family- and employment-based immigration, as well as removal defense. Ms. Davids has previously presented on issues and options for LGBT immigrants, and seeking immigration benefits based on marriages involving a transgender spouse or spouses of the same sex. In 2009, she brought one of the first suits to successfully compel the Department of Labor's immediate adjudication of a PERM application and has enjoyed representing immigrants for the past decade.

**Lorna A. De Bono** is senior counsel at Haight Law Group, PLC in Los Angeles, where she focuses her practice on business immigration. She is active in AILA on both the local and national levels. She is a past chair of the AILA Southern California Chapter and served as co-chair of the 2013 California Chapters Conference. She has previously served on the CSC Liaison and Distance Learning Committees and currently serves as a member of the NSC Liaison and Ombudsman Liaison Committees.

**Lauren DeBellis Aviv**, is a partner at Daniel Aharoni & Partners, LLP. She represents foreign nationals seeking employment and family-based visas, and focuses on obtaining visas for individuals of extraordinary ability, and for entertainment/music companies, the film/TV industry, theatres, dance companies, advertising/digital agencies, and start-ups. Lauren frequently lectures on immigration law issues before AILA and other prestigious organizations and universities. She is rated a "Super Lawyer"/"Rising Star" in the New York Metro Area. She is admitted to practice law in New York and New Jersey.

**Amy C. DeVan** is assistant regulation counsel for the Colorado Supreme Court Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel in Denver. In this role she investigates allegations of lawyer misconduct pursuant to the Rules of Professional Conduct. Prior to joining the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel in 2010 Ms. DeVan was employed in private practice for nine years with a boutique immigration law firm in the metro area. A graduate of the University Of Colorado School Of Law, she is a member of the Colorado Bar Association and Denver Bar Association, serving on the Bar Association Ethics Committee, and she chairs the Committee's Education Subcommittee; as well as serving as a member of the CBA Board of Governors.

**Jeffrey A. Devore** is the managing partner of the Devore Law Group in West Palm Beach (Palm Beach Gardens), FL where his practice is limited to matters involving immigration and nationality law. He received his B.S. in Computer Science from Bowling Green State University and his J.D. from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. He is board certified in immigration and nationality law by The Florida Bar, "AV" rated by Martindale-Hubbell, a Florida Super Lawyer, and listed in *Who's Who Legal* for his immigration law expertise. Mr. Devore is a past chair of AILA's South Florida Chapter, a former member of AILA's Board of Governors, and serves on AILA's Practice Management Committee.

**Alexander Dgebuadze** is a partner at Sostrin Immigration Lawyers, LLP in Los Angeles. He focuses on business immigration law, and manages the firm's PERM labor certification practice. Mr. Dgebuadze has served on various regional and national committees of AILA, has written extensively on advanced immigration law topics, and, most recently, served as a contributing editor for AILA's *Guide to PERM Labor Certification* (2011) and labor certification editor for *Kuzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook* (2012 and 2014 Eds.). Mr. Dgebuadze is listed in *The International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*.

**Lolita Dimovski** is a solo practitioner located in Livonia, MI. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and her law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She has been practicing immigration law since 1996 and has lectured on immigration matters for state bar associations and corporations.

**Julie E. Dinnerstein** serves as the co-director for Sanctuary for Families' project at the Bronx Family Justice Center. She also teaches immigration law at the School of Professional Studies at the City University of New York (CUNY). Ms. Dinnerstein's previous experience includes serving as the deputy director for Immigration Advocacy and Training at the New York Immigration Coalition, the director of the Immigration Intervention Project at Sanctuary for Families, an associate at the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, and a law clerk to the Honorable Jack B. Weinstein in the Eastern District of New York.

**Stephanie DiPietro** is the principal attorney with the Law Office of Stephanie DiPietro, P.C. in New York City. Her practice is focused on family-based immigration, waivers, and naturalization. She is a graduate of Syracuse University (2001) and Roger Williams University School of Law (2004). She is a frequent speaker at AILA's Annual Conference, the New York Chapter's Annual Symposium, and CLE classes sponsored by AILA's New York Chapter. Ms. DiPietro is currently treasurer for the AILA New York Chapter and the former co-chair of the New York Chapter's District Director Committee.

**Leslie Tuttle DiTrani**, a principal with O'Donoghue & DiTrani, LLC, has been practicing immigration law since 1994. She was elected to the AILA New England Chapter, Executive Board, 2008-13, and has been co-chair of the Annual AILA New England Immigration Law Conference since 2007. She currently is on the board of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) and is vice chair of the AILA UPL Action Committee. Ms. DiTrani is a graduate of William Smith College, Geneva, NY; and Northeastern University School of Law, Boston.

**Robert C. Divine** leads the immigration group of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell, & Berkowitz, P.C. He authors *Immigration Practice*, a practical treatise on all aspects of U.S. immigration law now in its 15th edition. He served from 2004-06 as chief counsel and for a time acting director of USCIS. He has served as chair of various AILA National committees, currently serving on the EB-5 Investors and USCIS Transformation Committees. He has served four years as vice president of the Association to Invest in the USA (IIUSA), an association for EB-5 regional centers. He has litigated immigration, RICO, and other types of cases.

**Neil Dornbaum** is a member of the firm Dornbaum & Peregoy, Newark, NJ. For over 30 years, he has received professional accolades and recognition for excellence in Martindale Hubbell's Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers; "Best Lawyers In America"; "Top Lawyers in NY and NJ"; *Super Lawyers*; *U.S. News and World Report's* "Best Lawyers/Best

Law Firms”; and *Who’s Who in Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, among others; holding office in major bar associations; lecturing nationwide; writing for prominent legal publications; and advising corporate employers of all sizes, from entrepreneurial ventures to the Fortune 500.

**Kerry E. Doyle** is a partner with the Boston firm of Graves & Doyle. Previously, she worked in the nonprofit sector in Boston, Miami, and Hong Kong. She teaches Immigration Law at Suffolk University School of Law and from 2004 to 2005 served as chapter chair of the New England Chapter. She was lead counsel for *Saysana v. Gillen* and a co-author for amicus curiae in *Matter of Garcia-Arreola*. Her other successful Circuit challenges include *Smith v. Holder* and *Bolieiro v. Holder*. She received The John Adams and John Quincy Adams Pro Bono Publico Award in 2011 and in 2010 the Jack Wasserman Memorial Award as a member of the AILA Amicus Committee.

**Anthony Drago, Jr.** was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in December, 1988, and the New York bar in January, 1989, and has been a member of AILA since 1996. Mr. Drago serves as an elected director on AILA’s Board of Governors and is the chair of the AILA National Executive Office for Immigration Review Liaison Committee. From June, 2009 through May, 2010 Mr. Drago was chapter chair of AILA New England Chapter. He has been a mentor and speaker at AILA conferences for many years.

**Jennifer Durkin** is a partner at Durkin & Puri, LLP. She handles all areas of immigration law; however, she focuses on removal, waivers of inadmissibility, and family-based matters. Previously, she was co-chair of the AILA NY Chapter’s ICE Enforcement and Removal Committee from 2010-13. Ms. Durkin served as co-chair of AILA NY’s Pro Bono Committee from 2011-13. She also helped to run the EOIR/AILA Juvenile Docket program from 2007-13. In addition, she co-chaired the Immigration Law Committee of the NY Women’s Bar Association from 2010-13. She has spoken frequently on a broad range of immigration topics.

**Neena Dutta** is the principal attorney at the Dutta Law Firm PC in New York City. She was formerly an associate at McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney and Carpenter LLP, and Hodgson Russ LLP. She currently serves as the chair of the AILA New York City Chapter. She has been practicing immigration for 10 years, with a focus on corporate immigration. Ms. Dutta is admitted to practice in New Jersey and New York and the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Ms. Dutta graduated from Seattle University in 1997, and earned her J.D. from New York Law School in 2003.

**Laura A. Edgerton** is the founder of Edgerton Immigration Law in Raleigh, NC. Ms. Edgerton is a former Chair of the Carolinas Chapter of AILA and has been active on the national and local level with AILA for many years. She has been selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® since 2008 in the area of immigration law and was selected as the Best Lawyers’s 2012 Raleigh Immigration Law Lawyer of the Year. Ms. Edgerton received her B.A. from North Carolina State University and her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law.

**Nancy B. Elkind** is a founding partner of Elkind Alterman Harston PC, a leading immigration law firm in Denver. She has practiced immigration law for 30 years, and has provided counsel and guidance to hundreds of immigrant families and individuals, as well as to employers seeking to hire the “best and the brightest.” She was named “Outstanding Woman in Business 2004” by the *The Denver Business Journal*, has been honored several times as a “Colorado Super Lawyer,” and was named one of the “Top 25 Women Lawyers in Colorado” in 2007 and 2008. She was named “Denver Best Lawyers: Immigration Law Lawyer of the Year” for 2011.

**Chad Ellsworth** is a partner with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP in New York City where his practice focuses on the representation of individual and business clients on a wide variety of corporate immigration and related employment matters. Mr. Ellsworth focuses primarily on the financial services industry with a dedication to tracking and analyzing compliance trends, and compiling and creating successful global immigration strategies and policies to ensure the smooth transfer of international personnel. Mr. Ellsworth also lectures nationally on the subject of immigration law.

**Julie Emerick** is a solo practitioner in Chicago. She currently serves as chair of the AILA National Benefits Center committee. Over the past 20 years she has been active in the association both on a national and local chapter level. Ms. Emerick is a graduate of the University of Detroit School of Law and John Carroll University.

**Amy Erlbacher-Anderson** is a partner in Baird Holm LLP’s labor, employment and employee benefits law practice group, practicing primarily in the area of employment-based immigration. Ms. Erlbacher-Anderson graduated from the Creighton University School of Law. Prior to entering private practice, she practiced tax law overseas. Ms. Erlbacher-

Anderson is included in the *Great Plains Super Lawyers* and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® since 2007 for her work in immigration. She currently serves as vice chair of AILA's Nebraska Service Center Liaison Committee and is a past chapter chair and member of AILA's Vermont Service Center Liaison Committee, Nominating Committee, and Bylaws Committee.

**Nicole Lawrence Ezer** is the principal of The Ezer Law Group. She has years of experience designing, implementing, teaching, and updating business immigration programs and policies for Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 companies. A recognized expert in business immigration, she has worked with and trained international human resources personnel and businesspersons, for over a decade. Ms. Ezer is a board certified immigration attorney, a former law school adjunct professor and an American Bar Association published author in the area of U.S. immigration and nationality law. Years of working as an attorney in multi-site, multi-national environments prompted her to open a practice dedicated to excellent service, in collaboration with an experienced, results-oriented professional team. After years of gratefully receiving education from AILA, she is delighted and honored to speak at the Annual Conference. She may be reached at [www.ezerlawgroup.com](http://www.ezerlawgroup.com).

**Amy E. Fallon** is a partner at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy. She currently serves as the secretary of the AILA New York Chapter. Ms. Fallon represents an array of international corporate clients in the architectural, payment services, news, financial services, and information technology industries. She provides counsel on all employment-based temporary and permanent visa categories. She has spoken for AILA on issues including PERM, ethics for immigration attorneys, and the H-1B visa category. Ms. Fallon is admitted to the New York State bar and the New Jersey State bar as well as to the Eastern District of New York and the Supreme Court. She received her law degree from New York Law School's evening division.

**H. Raymond Fasano** is a partner in the Law Firm Youman, Madeo & Fasano, LLP. He is recognized as a national authority on the subject of immigration law and lectures nationally and internationally on the subject of immigration law. He has authored many published articles on immigration law and is attorney of record in several published Circuit Court and BIA opinions. He is the current chair of the Federal Bar Association's Immigration Law Section. Mr. Fasano may be contacted via [www.ymflaw.com](http://www.ymflaw.com).

**Kristin Fearnow** is a senior associate at Peck Law Firm, LLC in Omaha, NE, where her practice focuses on a variety of immigration cases in the areas of removal/deportation defense, asylum/refugee law, naturalization/citizenship, family-sponsored petitions, special immigration juvenile petitions, VAWA, U, and T visas. Ms. Fearnow currently serves as the vice chair of the AILA Iowa/Nebraska Chapter and is also on the AILA National VAWA Committee. She is a member of the Board of Directors for National Justice For Our Neighbors, a national nonprofit organization that provides free legal immigration services. Ms. Fearnow has been an invited speaker at various conferences and trainings for AILA and local nonprofit organizations. She is fluent in Spanish.

**Sandra Feist** is a partner with Grell & Feist LLC in Minneapolis, MN. Ms. Feist currently serves as secretary for the AILA Minnesota-Dakotas Chapter and has been active in the association through leadership on the chapter Executive Committee and in planning the regional AILA conference. She is regularly invited to speak for AILA and other local associations on a variety of immigration law topics.

**Elise A. Fialkowski** is a partner at Klasko, Rulon, Stock & Seltzer, LLP and has been providing immigration assistance to leading universities, research institutions, multinational corporations, and individuals for over 20 years. Ms. Fialkowski also has particular expertise in advising employers with regard to worksite compliance. She has long been active in AILA and currently serves on AILA's VSC Liaison Committee and the AILA Philadelphia Chapter USCIS Liaison Committee. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she received her law degree from the Villanova University School of Law (J.D., magna cum laude, 1991).

**Jonathan L. Flores** is an associate attorney with Haight Law Group, PLC in Los Angeles. He is admitted to practice law in the states of California and Florida and has been practicing immigration law since 2011, specializing in business and sports related matters. Mr. Flores obtained his Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles and a J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law. His key professional accomplishments include successful representation of companies and individuals in varied industries, including information technology, video game, finance, sports, and entertainment.

**Russell C. Ford**, after graduating from Tulane Law School, immediately joined the crusade of assisting noncitizen employees in their quest for work authorization and/or lawful permanent residence. Assisting a multitude of professional athletes, musicians, professors, researchers, and others, in realizing their dream, Mr. Ford continues his quest to mix his passion for helping others with the needs of employers in recruiting, hiring, and maintaining the best available talent within their companies. He is an attorney with Graham Adair, a national immigration law firm. His specialties include all nonimmigrant and immigrant visa categories with an affinity for atypical and difficult matters such as Q-1s, H-3s, J-1 waivers, Ps, O-1s, NIWs, EB-1As, and EB-1Bs. He is also adept at handling I-9 audits and compliance, E-Verify counseling, and export control training. He also assists in obtaining SEVIS designation for J-1, M-1, or F-1 for his clients as well as post-designation SEVIS counseling.

**Jordan G. Forsythe** is the managing member of Forsythe Immigration Law Firm in Charlotte, NC where she leads the litigation practice area and has extensive experience in removal defense. She is the secretary of AILA Carolinas Chapter, previously served as the EOIR Charlotte co-liaison and AILA NMD Liaison for the AILA Carolinas Chapter, and frequently lectures on immigration law.

**Susan R. Fortino-Brown** has practiced in the field of immigration law exclusively since 1987. She has been a contributing author for past editions of the *AILA Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook*, and speaks frequently at regional and national immigration law conferences. Ms. Fortino-Brown hosted a weekly Spanish radio program on immigration law and has appeared on national and local television and radio as an expert on the topic. She has been recognized by the Women's Bar Association of Illinois, receiving the "Women with Vision" award and has been featured in the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Sun Times* and *Chicago Lawyer Magazine*.

**Tammy Fox-Isicoff** is a former trial attorney for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and special assistant U.S. attorney. She is past president of the AILA South Florida Chapter, vice chair of the AILA Mexico City District Chapter and has served on the Board of Governors of AILA National for over 15 years where she has chaired their Media, Congressional and Bar Association Committees and where she currently serves on the EB-5 Investors committee. She has served as AILA's representative to the ABA's Immigration Coordinating Committee where she secured passage of a number of significant immigration resolutions. She is on the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities Legal Services and has been the recipient of three AILA Presidential Awards for advocacy. In 2009, she was awarded the Adalsinda Lomangino Award, the highest award given by the AILA South Florida Chapter, for her work on behalf of immigrants. She has served on the Florida Bar's Certification Committee for Immigration and Nationality Law (where she has written and graded Florida Bar Certification exams) and is certified by the bar in immigration and nationality law. She holds an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell and has been continually listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers Global*, *South Florida's Top Lawyers*, *SuperLawyers* and *International Who's Who of Corporate Lawyers*. *SuperLawyers* has recognized her as one of the top 50 women lawyers in Florida and in 2012 *Best Lawyers* listed her as the best of the best in the immigration field in Miami. She has been a frequent immigration law consultant on the Today Show and Morning Show as well as a consultant to NBC, ABC, CBS, CNBC, FOX and MSNBC. A frequent lecturer and author, she has chaired over 30 CLE courses in the immigration field.

**Michele Franchett** is a partner with Stone, Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP in Los Angeles. Her practice is focused on EB-5 regional centers, individual investors and entrepreneurs. She is a former chair of the AILA Southern California Chapter, and has presented on EB-5 at several AILA National conferences, including San Antonio (2011), Nassau (2012), and the 2013 AILA EB-5 Visa Quota Retrogression web seminar. Ms. Franchett is also the first author of "Representing Clients from China," *Immigration Options for Investors & Entrepreneurs* (AILA 2014 Ed.).

**Ellen Freeman** is a partner at K&L Gates Pittsburgh office. She has practiced for over 15 years in all aspects of employment-based immigration. She serves on the AILA Global Migration Steering Committee and is a past chapter chair. Her other recognitions include an "AV" peer review rating by Martindale-Hubbell. Ms. Freeman is featured in the 2013 *Top Rated Lawyer* publication in labor and employment law by the American Lawyer Media and Martindale-Hubbell®. Ms. Freeman attended law school at the University of Pittsburgh and possesses a Masters in Russian Language and Literature from Odessa National University and a Masters in Public and International Affairs with a concentration in International Corporate Environments from University of Pittsburgh.

**Avi Friedman**, a senior attorney with Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP in Santa Monica, CA, was named the 2014 Los Angeles Immigration Law "Lawyer of the Year" by *U.S. News-Best Lawyers*®. He served three consecutive terms on the AILA Department of State Liaison Committee (2007-10). He is currently serving his tenth term as the consular affairs liaison for

the AILA Southern California Chapter . He has authored numerous articles for AILA and is also a frequent speaker on consular/visa issues and waivers. Mr. Friedman assists applicants with visa applications at U.S. consular posts worldwide.

**Bryan Funai** is a principal at Masuda Funai where he counsels clients on corporate structure, reorganizations, and the establishment of subsidiaries. Mr. Funai counsels clients on the employment based visas and the immigration ramifications of various corporate structures and corporate reorganizations. Mr. Funai counsels corporations on issues relating to worksite compliance and employment verification audits. Mr. Funai is listed in the *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, *The Leading Lawyers Network* and has been annually chosen as an Illinois Super Lawyer since 2008.

**Michelle Funk** is a senior associate in the Northern Virginia Office of Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP. She is a former AILA Washington DC Chapter chair. She concentrates her practice in the area of immigration law representing clients, including health care providers, business professionals, and technology firms, regarding a variety of business immigration matters. She advises clients on all aspects of the immigration process, from nonimmigrant visas to permanent residence, with a focus on H-1B visas, PERM applications, and J-1 interested government agency waivers. She has represented clients at U.S. Embassies abroad and before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

**Anna Marie Gallagher** is a shareholder at Maggio + Kattar in Washington, DC and head of the litigation and global practice areas. Ms. Gallagher has practiced in the field of immigration and refugee law for over two decades, working in the United States, Central America, and Europe. Her experience includes private practice, advocacy in the nonprofit sector, and several years in academia. She is board chair for ASISTA, an organization dedicated to advocacy on behalf of immigrant women and children victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and is president of the International Detention Coalition, an international organization dedicated to the promotion of greater respect for the human rights of refugees and migrants around the world who are subject to administrative detention. She is also a member of the Board of Trustees for the American Immigration Council.

**Charina Palomares Garcia** is the managing attorney at CPG Immigration Law Group. She completed her undergraduate degree at the University of California, Berkeley earning a major in Economics and a Minor in Asian-American Studies. She earned a J.D. from the University of Washington in Seattle. She argued successfully before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and participated in the Refugee and Immigrant Advocacy Clinic. She is currently the vice chair of the AILA National Liaison Committee for the USCIS' California Service Center.

**Elizabeth L.A. Garvish** is the founder and managing partner of the immigration law firm, Garvish, Orza & Polutan, LLC. Ms. Garvish is also active in AILA and is currently first vice chair of the AILA Georgia- Alabama Chapter as well as serving on the AILA National Military Assistance Program Committee and Annual Conference Committee. She also served for many years as the local coordinator of AILA's National Citizenship Day Naturalization Drive, and was recognized for her development of this program on the local level as the recipient of the State Bar of Georgia's H. Sol Clark Pro Bono Award in 2008. She earned her B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and her J.D. from Tulane University School of Law. She is licensed to practice law in Georgia, Texas, and South Carolina and is fluent in Spanish.

**Bonnie K. Gibson** is a partner in the Phoenix office of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy and a leader of its global compliance practice group. She brings 25 years of California employment experience to a practice focused on immigration compliance and compliance litigation. Ms. Gibson is the 2014–15 chair of AILA's Verification Liaison Committee and previously served as AILA liaison to the Social Security Administration and E-Verify. She is recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*, *Legal International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers* and the Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers. She graduated summa cum laude from the Maurer Indiana University School of Law

**Mary Giovagnoli** is the director of the Immigration Policy Center (IPC), a division of the American Immigration Council. Prior to joining the IPC in 2009, she was the senior director of policy for the National Immigration Forum. From 1996–2007, Ms. Giovagnoli practiced law as an attorney with the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security, serving first as a trial attorney and associate general counsel with the INS, and, following the creation of DHS, as an associate chief counsel for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. During that time she specialized in refugee and asylum law. In 2005, she became the senior advisor to the Director of Congressional Relations at USCIS. In 2007, she received a congressional fellowship from USCIS to serve for a year in Senator Edward M. Kennedy's office, where she worked on comprehensive immigration reform and refugee issues. Prior to joining the government, she clerked for two years for the Honorable William T. Hart, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Ms. Giovagnoli attended Drake

University, graduating summa cum laude with a major in Speech Communication. She received a Master's degree in rhetoric and a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin, and spent over ten years teaching public speaking, argumentation and debate, and parliamentary procedure while pursuing her education. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and teenage daughter.

**Peggy Gleason** is a senior advisor and assistant case chief at the DHS Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman's office. Previously, she practiced immigration law and trained other attorneys with Catholic Legal Immigration Network for 23 years. She also represented farmworkers in immigration and labor law matters with Colorado Rural Legal Services, and she spent two years overseas as an attorney with Micronesian Legal Services Corporation.

**Maria Fuster Glinsmann** is a principal in the law firm of Glinsmann & Glinsmann, Chartered. She received her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center (1993) after graduating with a B.S. in Business Management, cum laude, from the University of Maryland. She is admitted to practice in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and is a member of the bar of the Supreme Court. Her practice is focused exclusively on immigration, citizenship, and consular issues. Leading technology and service companies seek her immigration experience. She helps industry leaders, scientists and innovators to achieve extraordinary ability, national interest, and outstanding researcher status. Ms. Glinsmann also helps individuals apply for family and nonimmigrant work visas. She is an active member of AILA and the Bar Association of Montgomery County (BAMC), MD. She was outstanding section chair, for the immigration section 2000–01 and she currently serves as the BAMC Immigration Section Chair (2012–14). She has served on the faculties for the Law School for the Public (Maryland Public Television), ALI-ABA and AILA National conferences.

**Matthew Glinsmann** leads the employment-based residency and PERM labor certification team at Glinsmann Immigration. His practice is focused exclusively on U.S. immigration and includes representation of large and small corporations, families, and extraordinary ability individuals. Mr. Glinsmann is a former chair of the AILA Washington DC Chapter and has served on national committees and in key liaison positions with USCIS services centers, field offices, and U.S. Department of Labor for more than 10 years.

**Alan Goldfarb** is a partner with Davis & Goldfarb, PLLC in Minneapolis, MN. He is a member of AILA's Ethics Committee, and he serves as subcommittee chair of the AILA Ethics Compendium Project. He is a past chair of the AILA Minnesota/Dakotas Chapter and past chair of the Immigration Law Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association. He earned his J.D. from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and his B.A. from Columbia University in New York.

**Gloria A. Goldman** has practiced immigration and nationality law in Tucson, AZ since 1991. Ms. Goldman represents clients in the areas of business immigration, family immigration, citizenship, and complicated deportation matters. Her clients include scientists, artists, battered women and children, and individuals who seek political asylum. She is proud to say that she practices with her son, Maurice, in the firm Goldman & Goldman, P.C.

**Maurice H. Goldman** works in Tucson, AZ at Goldman & Goldman, P.C., with his mother, Gloria Goldman. He holds a J.D./M.B.A. from Hofstra University. He graduated from Syracuse University with a B.S. in Journalism. He has served on multiple AILA National committees. He previously served as the AILA Arizona Chapter chair. He enjoys writing and lecturing on a variety of immigration-related topics. He is also a trustee to AIC. He also serves on the boards of the ASISTA and Immigrants List.

**Iris Gomez** is an immigrant rights attorney at the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, as well as an award-winning writer. Her novel *Try to Remember* (Grand Central, 2010) garnered praise from prominent national magazines such as *O, The Oprah Magazine* and *Latina* and appeared on *The Boston Globe* bestseller list, in addition to winning a 2011 International Latino Book Award in popular fiction. She has received the Las Primeras Award for Latina trailblazers from the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys and the Jack Wasserman Memorial Award for Excellence in Litigation from AILA, among others.

**Jodi Goodwin** practices immigration law in the trenches on the border in Harlingen, TX. Since 1995 she has represented 1,000's of asylum seekers, economic migrants, long-term permanent residents, and U.S. citizens in removal proceedings. Ms. Goodwin also represents immigrants in federal court in both criminal and civil proceedings. She went to school at the University of Texas (Hook 'Em!) and St. Mary's University. She enjoys teaching, especially to new practitioners, and devoting her time to community and pro bono projects. She has many accolades including Texas Lawyer Go-To Finalist,

and is listed in *Texas Super Lawyer* and *Best Lawyers in America*. One of her greatest achievements was being awarded the Arthur C. Helton Award for Advancing Human Rights in 2007.

**Elizabeth Goss** is the Founder of Goss Associates LLC in Boston, Massachusetts. She brings rich academic experience as a former Director of the International Students & Scholars office for Tufts University Health Sciences' campus and its affiliated hospitals to her practice. She is an active member in the association presenting numerous times at national, regional and state events. Ms. Goss is a frequent speaker on the topic of business immigration law nationally and internationally.

**Angelica Grado-Wright** is a senior associate with Berry Appleman & Leiden in Houston. Ms. Grado-Wright devotes her practice to employment-based immigration matters for large and medium-sized corporations. She is well-versed in all aspects of employment-based petitions with a special interest in complex immigrant petitions including labor certifications, outstanding researcher petitions, and extraordinary ability petitions. Ms. Grado-Wright graduated from Brown University with a Bachelor's degree in American Civilization and History and completed her J.D. at St. Mary's University School of Law. While in law school, Ms. Grado-Wright clerked for a prominent immigration law firm in San Antonio. Licensed in Texas, she is an active AILA member having served as the AILA Texas Chapter CBP liaison in Houston. Ms. Grado-Wright has presented on business immigration topics for the AILA Annual Conferences, AILA Texas Chapter conferences, the State Bar of Texas, and other professional conferences.

**William E. Graves Jr.** is a partner with the Boston firm of Graves & Doyle, an immigration and nationality law practice. Mr. Graves is the immediate past co-chair of the Immigration Law Section of the Boston Bar Association. He is a frequent speaker on immigration and nationality issues, serves as an AILA Mentor and is an adjunct law professor at Suffolk University Law School. He received his B.A. in English from NYU in 1985 and received his J.D. from George Washington University in 1992. He served in the Peace Corps in the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) from 1985-88. He is admitted to practice in New York and Massachusetts and is also admitted to the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First and Second Circuits. Mr. Graves speaks French and Swahili.

**Humberto R. Gray** of Humberto R. Gray Law focuses his practice in representing entertainers, athletes and businesses around the world. He assisted in the drafting of the 1990 regulation of IMMACT 90 and is recognized as an expert on immigration law. He is frequently requested to speak and lecture at several functions. Mr. Gray provides seminars to foreign students at Pepperdine University, Whittier College, Occidental College, University of California, Los Angeles, and at the University of Southern California. He has lectured in radio and television shows, and for professional associations such as "Bridging the Gap," for the *DAILY JOURNAL*, and at AILA conferences.

**Lisa R. Green** is a partner at Green and Gardner, LLC in Boulder, Colorado. Ms. Green has been practicing immigration law since 1988. She is on the faculty of the University of Colorado College of Law. Ms. Green is a vice chair of the AILA National Refugee and Asylum Liaison Committee and serves as chair on the AILA Colorado Asylum Liaison Committee. She lectures nationally on asylum law.

**Richard M. Green** is an attorney practicing immigration and nationality law in Huntington Beach. Mr. Green earned his law degree from Chapman University School of Law in 1998 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia, Canada. In addition to the practice of law, Mr. Green was an adjunct professor teaching Immigration and Nationality Law at Anna Maria College in Paxton, MA and serves on the AILA MAP Task Force. Mr. Green is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, California, and various U.S. District and Circuit Courts of Appeal.

**Jonathan S. Greene** is owner of the Greene Law Firm, LLC where he practices immigration and family law. He is a former chair of the Maryland State Bar Association's Immigration Section and a former AILA DC Chapter chair. Mr. Greene has served on AILA national and local committees and frequently writes articles about immigration and family law. He is also an adjunct professor at Stevenson University for immigration law. Mr. Greene frequently testifies at state legislative bill hearings and serves as an expert witness in state and federal cases. He has also received the AILA DC Chapter's Advocate of the Year Award.

**Ester Greenfield** is a director at MacDonald, Hoague & Bayless, and her practice is limited to immigration law. She is a past chair of the AILA Washington State Chapter and has taught immigration law and the immigration clinic as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Puget Sound (now Seattle University). She has written and lectured nationally on

immigration topics. She has served on local, regional, and national Department of Labor liaison committees and other AILA committees, including the Students and Scholars Committee. She is a senior editor of AILA's annual conference handbook, *Immigration Practice Pointers*, edited the 2010 AILA PERM Conference Handbook, and served as co-editor-in-chief of the third edition of *AILA's David Stanton Manual on Labor Certification* (2005).

**Iana Etkin Greenstein** is a partner at Macias, Greenstein & Kaplan in East Boston, MA. Her work covers all aspects of immigration law, with a particular focus on removal defense and appellate litigation. She appears regularly before the nation's federal courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals and the immigration courts, and is an adjunct faculty member at Northeastern University School of Law. Ms. Greenstein holds a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law, and a B.A. in Spanish and International Studies from Macalester College. She served on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild (1996-2002 and 2009-10), and is frequently called upon to mentor other practitioners, and to present at professional seminars and conferences.

**Sandra Grossman** is the founder and managing partner of Grossman Law, LLC in Rockville, MD. She is an experienced immigration litigator, having successfully represented individuals in all aspects of immigration law before the immigration courts, Board of Immigration Appeals, and the Federal District Courts. She is an adjunct associate professor at the Washington College of Law, American University. Ms. Grossman publishes frequently on the topic of immigration law and is a member of the Editorial Board of *Bender's Immigration Bulletin* as well as a contributor to the *Huffington Post*. Ms. Grossman graduated from the Georgetown University Law Center (J.D.). She is a native Spanish and English speaker.

**Paul B. Grotas** is a solo practitioner in New York City. He has served as co-chair of New York AILA Practice Management Committee. Mr. Grotas lectures in New York about petitions for writ of habeas corpus.

**David Grunblatt** a partner at Proskauer Rose LLP, heading its immigration practice group is an authority on employer immigration compliance and employment-based immigration benefits. He served as chair of the AILA New York Chapter and of its Vermont Service Center Liaison Committee. He was formerly chair of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Immigration and Nationality Law and was chair of the Committee on Immigration and Nationality Law at the New York County Lawyers Association. He lectures and writes extensively on the subject of immigration and nationality law.

**Jerome G. Grzeca** is the managing partner of Grzeca Law Group in Milwaukee, WI. He is a past director on the AILA Board of Governors. He has served on various committees and taskforces for AILA National including, current chair of DOS Liaison Committee; chair of its Membership Committee, Taskforce on Affiliate Programs, and NSC Liaison Committee, vice chair of the DOS Liaison Committee; program chair of the 2009 Annual Conference; and member, Executive Director Search Committee, USCIS Liaison Committee and 2009 Nominating Committee. He is a speaker and author of a variety of business immigration law topics and has served on numerous professional immigration law panels throughout the United States.

**Kathleen Grzegorek** is a founding partner of Stone, Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP, a 17-attorney law firm based in Los Angeles. Recognized by the State Bar of California as a certified specialist in immigration and nationality law, Ms. Grzegorek has more than 23 years of immigration experience serving a diverse client base. She has served in various AILA positions including chair of the USCIS Service Centers Liaison Committee for the California Service Center, chair of the Students & Scholars Committee; and the 2014 Annual Conference Planning Committee for business immigration.

**Matthew L. Guadagno** has been practicing immigration law since 1997. He is a solo practitioner in Manhattan. Mr. Guadagno's practice focuses on deportation defense and federal litigation relating to immigration. Mr. Guadagno currently serves on the AILA Amicus Committee and the Advisory Board to Brooklyn Defenders. Mr. Guadagno was an adjunct professor of law at the Fordham University School of Law in the Immigrant Rights and Access to Justice Clinic for the Spring 2011 semester. He is an adjunct professor at Brooklyn Law School teaching a course that he created that is called: Immigration Workshop: Deportation Defense.

**David A. Guerrettaz** is a partner with Ziemer, Stayman, Weitzel & Shoulders, LLP, in Evansville, IN, where he leads the firm's immigration practice section. Mr. Guerrettaz graduated from Syracuse University College of Law in 1991, and he also received a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Administration. He has practiced immigration law for almost two decades, having advised clients in both the

employment-based and family-sponsored areas. He also lectures before business leaders on the subject of immigration law. Mr. Guerrettaz currently serves as an officer for the AILA Indiana Chapter.

**Lucas Guttentag** teaches immigration law and constitutional litigation at Yale Law School, where he is Robina Foundation distinguished senior fellow and Ford Foundation distinguished senior research scholar, and at Stanford Law School, where he is professor of practice. He founded and was national director of the American Civil Liberties Union Immigrants' Rights Project from 1985-2011. He argued *INS v. St. Cyr*, has received AILA's Jack Wasserman award four times, writes on civil rights and immigration law, and is on the AIC Board. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School and clerked for federal judge William Wayne Justice in Texas.

**Charla Haas** is the founding attorney of Haas Immigration Law Firm, PLC in Nashville. She is listed in Martindale-Hubbell's Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers with an "AV" rating. She is an AILA Mentor for the NBC. She has practiced law since her 1983 graduation from Vanderbilt University School of Law, and immigration law exclusively since 1993, concentrating on family, citizenship and naturalization, and deportation cases. Ms. Haas was a former founder, along with Marilyn Devine, of Haas & Devine, PLC from 1997 until Ms. Devine died in 2011. Ms. Haas and Ms. Devine were also former principals of Siskind Susser Haas & Devine.

**Denise Cafaro Hammond** practices immigration law in Rockville, MD. She was named as the "2014 Immigration Lawyer of the Year in Washington D.C." by *Best Lawyers in America*® and as a "Top 10 Immigration Attorney" by *Legal Times of Washington*. She is ranked by Chambers and other legal rating organizations. She is active in AILA, is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and was a delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business.

**Hilary Han** is a partner at Dobrin & Han, a Seattle immigration law firm. The firm represents noncitizens facing removal before administrative tribunals and the federal courts, as well as immigrants seeking asylum, lawful permanent residence, and naturalization.

**Kenneth J. Harder** is the partner in charge of immigration and nationality services at Dunbar Harder, PLLC. Mr. Harder graduated from SUNY at Buffalo, B.A., cum laude (1981). He received a J.D. in 1985 and a LL.M. degree (International Economic Law) in 1995, both from the University of Houston Law Center. He is certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in immigration and nationality law. Mr. Harder is the chair of the AILA Customs and Border Protection Liaison Committee.

**Kristen A. Harris** is the principal of Harris Immigration Law, LLC. She is a graduate of Yale University (B.A., M.A.) and the University of Michigan Law School. Ms. Harris currently serves as the advocacy co-chair of the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Taskforce, the Immigration Affinity Group co-chair of the American Health Lawyers Association, and also serves on the AILA Chicago Chapter CBP Liaison Committee. She was selected as among the top "40 Under Forty" attorneys to watch from a field of 1,200 attorney nominees. Ms. Harris' practice serves employers, professionals, and families across the United States.

**David Harston** is a founding partner at Elkind Alterman Harston PC in Denver and has been practicing immigration law since 1999. He served on the AILA Colorado Chapter's Executive Committee from 2004-09, and was the chapter chair for AILA Colorado Chair from 2007-08. He is a member of the current AILA Colorado Liaison Committee for the Denver Field Office of U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, and served as the Committee's chair (2012-13). Mr. Harston is a Managing Editor for *Immigration Law for the Colorado Practitioner*, a 32-chapter book published by the CBA-CLE.

**Douglas D. Hauer** is a partner with Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. He practices in the firm's corporate & securities practice and immigration department. On the corporate side, Mr. Hauer focuses on private offerings and related securities work. In the immigration law space, he represents corporate, institutional, and individual clients in routine and complex immigration matters. He also has experience counseling ultra high-net worth individuals on all aspects of the U.S. visa process, dual nationality, expatriation from the United States, and green card relinquishment.

**Brad Hendrick** is a member with Caplan and Earnest LLC in Boulder, CO where he leads the firm's immigration practice. He earned a J.D./M.B.A. from the University of Colorado and has been practicing immigration law for more than a decade. His practice focuses on employment-based immigration with an emphasis on entrepreneurs and investors and

immigration issued for the energy, technology, and health-care industries. Mr. Hendrick is a frequent speaker on immigration law and is the secretary of the AILA Colorado Chapter.

**Janet L. Henner** is a partner in the NY office of Fragomen. She manages a diverse practice that is comprised of multinational corporations, start-ups, and individuals. Working closely with OGC and corporate HR departments, Ms. Henner has counseled on due diligence considerations related to M&A, takeovers and downsizings, Form I-9 and H-1B/LCA compliance, as well as, corporate mobility concerns. Prior to joining Fragomen, she served as Deputy Secretary to BALCA at the U.S. DOL, Office of Administrative Law Judges. Ms. Henner is an elected Board member for AILA National Board of Governors and a past chair of the AILA New York Chapter. She is a frequent lecturer on business immigration.

**Matthew I. Hirsch** is a small office practitioner based outside Philadelphia. In 1985, he joined the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service as a trial attorney assigned to the New York District. Since leaving INS, Mr. Hirsch has concentrated his practice in the area of employment- and family-based immigration. He has served as chair of the AILA Philadelphia Chapter and as an editor, author, speaker and committee member for AILA. Mr. Hirsch is an alumni trustee of AIC and, since 1993, has been an adjunct professor at the Widener University School of Law in Delaware. In recent years, he has been a regular speaker on immigration law and immigration history for international students and their advisors, lawyers, and human resource professionals.

**Kehrela M. Hodkinson** is the founder of the London-based law firm, HODKINSON LAW GROUP. Mrs. Hodkinson limits her practice to U.S. immigration and nationality law, with an emphasis on consular processing, applications for nonimmigrant and immigrant waivers of inadmissibility, maintenance and abandonment of permanent resident status, and renunciation. She is a founding member of the AILA Rome District Chapter (RDC) and was the RDC's first chapter chair. Mrs. Hodkinson has participated as an active member of numerous AILA National committees. She is recognized in the *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers* as one of the most highly regarded immigration lawyers worldwide.

**Joseph C. Hohenstein** has been a practicing immigration attorney for 15 years. He was an Independence Foundation fellow (1996–97) and worked with the Philadelphia volunteers for the indigent program. Mr. Hohenstein specializes in complex litigation in federal and immigration courts, especially relating to criminal issues and asylum/withholding. He has also worked on behalf of immigrant victims of domestic abuse, and has handled cases dealing with the controversial use of secret evidence in immigration proceedings.

**Leslie A. Holman** has practiced law for more than 25 years, focusing exclusively on immigration since 1999. She is the founder of Holman Immigration Law, located in Burlington, VT. The firm represents both corporate and individual clients in a wide variety of immigration matters, and its close proximity and access to the U.S./Canadian border provides a unique understanding of border and complex admission-related matters. Ms. Holman has served as chair of AILA's Admissions and Border Enforcement Committee, vice chair of the National CBP Liaison Committee, and member of the National Interagency Committee. She continues to serve as liaison to the regional ports of entry for AILA's New England Chapter. Ms. Holman is also a member of the Vermont State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, a member of the Board of the Chittenden County Vermont Area Health Education Committee, and a member of the Programming Committee of the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. In 2008, she was awarded the Sam Williamson Mentor Award for excellence in mentoring and counseling. Ms. Holman graduated from Hofstra University School of Law, where she was a member of its law review and a winner of its writing competition. Her firm has, since its founding, sponsored a world music performance at The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, in Burlington, in an effort to ensure that international artists are able to share their talents and culture with those in the United States. She is an avid dancer, runner, skier, cook, and animal lover.

**Thomas Homan** is Executive Associate Director for Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Washington, DC. Mr. Homan oversees an operational budget of nearly \$3 billion and a staff of nearly 8,000 ERO employees assigned to 24 Field Offices, 165 Sub-offices, 12 overseas locations, and ICE Headquarters. As Executive Associate Director of ERO, Mr. Homan has direct oversight of critical ICE programs and operations to identify, arrest, detain, and remove illegal aliens from the United States. Mr. Homan is a 30 year veteran of law enforcement and has 27 years of immigration enforcement experience. With a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, he began his career as a Police Officer in New York. In 1984, he became a United States Border Patrol Agent assigned within the San Diego sector, before joining the former U.S. Immigration and

Naturalization Service (INS) in 1988 as a Special Agent in Phoenix, AZ. Mr. Homan climbed through the ranks at INS to become Supervisory Special Agent and Deputy Assistant Director for Investigations. In 1999, Mr. Homan became the Assistant District Director for Investigations (ADDI) in San Antonio, TX, and three years later transferred to the ADDI position in Dallas, TX. Upon the creation of ICE, Mr. Homan was named Assistant Special Agent in Charge in Dallas, and later, Deputy Special Agent in Charge there. In March 2009, Mr. Homan accepted the position of Assistant Director for Enforcement at ICE Headquarters and was subsequently promoted to Deputy Executive Associate Director. In May 2013, Mr. Homan was promoted to Executive Associate Director for ERO. Mr. Homan is a member of the Senior Executive Service.

**David A. Isaacson** is an associate at Cyrus D. Mehta & Associates, PLLC in New York, NY. His practice includes citizenship matters, a variety of family-based and employment-based applications for both nonimmigrant visas and permanent residence, asylum applications, other removal proceedings, and federal appellate litigation. He co-chairs the Federal Practice Committee of AILA's New York Chapter. He is a graduate of Yale Law School and Princeton University, and the author of *Correcting Anomalies in the United States Law of Citizenship by Descent*, 47 Ariz. L. Rev. 313 (2005), reprinted in 26 Immigr. & Nat'lity L. Rev. 515 (2006).

**Kristen Jackson** is a senior staff attorney in Public Counsel's Immigrants' Rights Project in Los Angeles. She also co-teaches the Asylum Clinic at UCLA School of Law. Ms. Jackson has expertise in asylum and children's immigration issues, including Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and the intersection of immigration and juvenile justice. She serves as an Asylum Office Liaison for the AILA Southern California Chapter. Ms. Jackson clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit after receiving her J.D. from Yale Law School.

**Michael R. Jarecki** is principal of the Law Office of Michael R. Jarecki in Chicago. Mr. Jarecki currently serves as secretary to the AILA Chicago Chapter and is the former chair of the AILA National LGBT Working Group. He was named one of the Best LGBT Attorneys under 40, Class of 2012, by the National LGBT Bar Association, an affiliate of the American Bar Association. He received his Bachelor's degree from Loyola University Chicago, Phi Beta Kappa, and his J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law where he was a member of the Law Review.

**Franklin C. Jones** is the executive director of Diversity and Civil Rights, U.S. Customs & Border Protection, at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, DC.

**Jeff Joseph** is a past chair of the AILA Colorado Chapter and served for six years as an elected director on the AILA Board of Governors. In 2004, he received the Joseph Minsky Young Lawyer Award from AILA. In 2005, he was named a finalist in the Denver Bar Association/Denver Business Journal Best of the Bar Awards. In 2008, Mr. Joseph was nominated by the Denver Business Journal as one of Denver's "Forty under 40," which recognizes forty young entrepreneurs for business skills, leadership, and community service. Since 2009, Mr. Joseph has been selected for inclusion into the *Best Lawyers in America* in the field of immigration. Since 2006, he has been named both a "Colorado SuperLawyer" by *Colorado Super Lawyers Magazine*, and a "Top Lawyer" in the area of immigration law by *5280 Magazine*. He has been a speaker at the AILA Annual Conferences every year since 2001. He is an adjunct professor of immigration law at the University of Denver College of Law and is bilingual in Spanish.

**Jack Kaiser** is a partner in the San Francisco based firm of Kaiser and Roten whose practice is limited to immigration and nationality law. He was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in April 1983. Since June of 1993, Mr. Kaiser has been designated by the California State Bar as a certified immigration law specialist. An active member of AILA for over 25 years, Mr. Kaiser has served as a mentor to attorneys within the organization. Over the years, Mr. Kaiser has both written and spoken on the subject of immigration law.

**Romy Kapoor** is the founder and managing partner of The Kapoor Law Group. He has been practicing U.S. immigration and nationality law since 1992, with a broad business and family-based immigration practice, in addition to naturalization and removal defense. Mr. Kapoor has spoken and written extensively in these areas, both nationally with AILA and for the State Bar of Georgia. He served six years as an elected director on AILA's Board of Governors, and has also served on AILA National's Department of Labor Committee, Business Immigration Committee, and various conference committees. He has been named to the *Georgia Super Lawyers* and *Best Lawyers in America* lists each year since 2006, as well as the *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*.

**Cynthia Groomes Katz** founded the Law Offices of Cynthia A. Groomes, P.C. in March of 1999. Mrs. Katz is admitted to both the Federal and State bars of Maryland and bar of The District of Columbia. Her memberships include the AILA, the Maryland State Bar Association, the Duke Law Alumni Association, and Barnard in Washington (board member and past president). Ms. Katz currently serves as a member on the AILA Distance Learning Committee and has long been active in the association on both a national and state level.

**Allen E. Kaye** whose practice is limited to immigration and naturalization, visa and consular law matters, has practiced U.S. immigration, naturalization, visa and consular law for the past 35 years. He is a graduate of Columbia University Law School (J.D.) and New York University Law School (LL.M.). A nationally recognized expert in the field of U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Law, Mr. Kaye is a past president of AILA and a member of the Board of Governors. He is also on the Executive Committee of the International Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. Mr. Kaye is a regular columnist on U.S. immigration and naturalization law for many newspapers across the United States.

**Amanda Bethea Keaveny** is a sole practitioner in Charleston, SC. She graduated from Smith College and later received her J.D. from the University of South Carolina in 1986. After 16 years of litigation and appellate practice in the state and federal courts, Ms. Keaveny limited her practice to immigration and federal criminal defense. She represents individuals before the immigration courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, the U.S. District Court for South Carolina and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. She is currently the vice chair for the AILA Carolinas Chapter and a past Carolinas Chapter ICE liaison (2008–12).

**Jeanne Kelley** has been working in the field of international education for nearly 25 years. She assisted with immigration processing at the ELS Language Centers after completing a Bachelor's degree from Clark University in International Relations. She then completed a Master's degree in International/Mass Communication at Boston University. She has worked at the ISSO at Boston University since 1993 and currently directs a team providing immigration sponsorship and support services to more than 8,000 international students and scholars. Ms. Kelley specializes in institutional policy formulation, nonimmigrant employment matters, and federal compliance.

**Nancy Kelly** is co-managing director of the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinic and managing attorney of the immigration unit at Greater Boston Legal Services. She is a co-founder of the Women Refugee's Project, which received the AILA Founders Award in 1994. She is as recipient of the Leila Robinson Award from the Massachusetts Women's Bar Association, the Daniel Levy Award from the National Lawyers Guild, and was named a Lawyer of the Year by *Massachusetts Lawyer's Weekly* 2007. She has written numerous articles and frequently lectures on immigration issues, particularly issues of asylum.

**Mary Kenney** is a senior attorney with the Legal Action Center of the American Immigration Council. Ms. Kenney has litigated cases in federal Courts of Appeals and districts courts around the country, as well as before the Board of Immigration Appeals. Prior to joining AIC, she was the executive director for the Texas Lawyers' Committee, a statewide immigrant and refugee rights project. She also worked as a legal services attorney in West Virginia.

**Bridget Keplinger** was hired as the Supervisor of the Performance Management Unit, Office of Foreign Labor Certification for the Employment and Training Administration in 2012. Ms. Keplinger is a certified lean six sigma black belt and has over nine years of experience in performance management in both the public and private sectors. She is a native of Pennsylvania and holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from The Ohio State University.

**Sally Kinoshita** is deputy director at the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) in San Francisco. She is the author of a number of immigration manuals includes *The VAWA Manual* and *The U Visa Manual* and trains extensively on both topics. Prior to joining the ILRC, Ms. Kinoshita worked extensively with the Southeast Asian immigrant community as a staff attorney at the Asian Law Caucus and as a founder of the Southeast Asian Task Force.

**H. Ronald Klasko** is a Philadelphia-based former national president of AILA. Mr. Klasko is the managing partner of Klasko, Rulon, Stock & Seltzer, LLP and chairs its EB-5 team. He served for three years as AILA general counsel. He was the second practicing attorney ever honored with the Founders Award for his contributions to immigration jurisprudence. Mr. Klasko was chosen as the most highly-regarded immigration lawyer in the world by *International Who's Who of Business Lawyers*. He is a frequent speaker and author on EB-5 issues and has been chair of AILA's EB-5 Investors Committee for four years. He was the lead attorney on the famous *Matters of Walsh and Pollard* case, which

established the key precedent for treaty investor visas. He can be reached through [www.klaskolaw.com](http://www.klaskolaw.com) and [www.eb5immigration.com](http://www.eb5immigration.com).

**Tracie L. Klinke** is in solo practice at Klinke Immigration, LLC in Marietta, GA. She has just completed a year as the AILA National New Members Division chair, and serves on the VAWA, T, and U Committee, as well as the USCIS Field Operations Committee. Locally, she is a member of the Executive Committee for the AILA Georgia-Alabama Chapter. For the past two years, she has served as secretary for the nonprofit Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network and is also a member of the Cobb County Domestic Violence Task Force. She often lectures on assisting vulnerable populations—particularly those who have been trafficked or been victims of domestic violence. She has both her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Kansas and her J.D. was obtained at Georgia State University.

**Mark D. Koestler** is a partner in Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel, LLP in New York City. He practices business immigration law, specializing in the advertising, theater, film, and finance industries, and represents numerous Tony Award and Academy Award winners. He is a past chair of the AILA New York Chapter, and is listed in *Chambers Global*, *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *The International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, and *New York Super Lawyers*.

**Michael Kohler** worked for the U.S. government for more than 12 years: first as an EOIR law clerk, then as a prosecutor for legacy INS, and lastly with ICE where he developed an expertise in both immigration and customs law. He taught and advised ICE deportation officers and criminal investigators on immigration law matters, border searches, customs violations, undercover operations, electronic surveillance, worksite enforcement, fugitive operations, and more. Currently, Mr. Kohler is a sole practitioner on Long Island, NY, assisting clients with their immigration and customs law needs.

**David Kolko** is the managing partner of Kolko & Associates, P.C. in Denver, directing the law firm's operations and overseeing the employment-based and family-based practice areas. Mr. Kolko is an active member of the Colorado Bar and AILA, and he currently serves as chapter chair (2014–15) on the Executive Committee of the AILA Colorado Chapter. Mr. Kolko lectures nationally on the subject of immigration law.

**Mary Elizabeth Kramer** has been practicing immigration law in Miami for over 20 years, focusing on criminal-alien issues, complex asylum, advice to defendants facing criminal prosecution, and cooperating witnesses. She is the author of the popular law book, *Immigration Consequences of Criminal Activity: A Guide to Representing Foreign-Born Defendants* (AILA 5th Ed. 2012). With a developing interest in problematic visa processing, she was assigned a 2013-14 liaison position on the AILA National Department of State Committee, as well as the Right to Counsel Taskforce.

**Charles H. (Chuck) Kuck** is the managing attorney at Kuck Immigration Partners in Atlanta. Mr. Kuck served as president of AILA from 2008–09. He is also a past president of the Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers, and an adjunct professor of law at Emory Law School. He was named one of the top 5 immigration attorneys in the world by *Chambers & Partners* again in 2014 and was named one of the 2011 “100 Most Influential Georgians” by *Georgia Trend* magazine. He has been listed for more than a decade in *Best Lawyers in America*, and in *Atlanta Magazine* as a Georgia “Super Lawyer.” He has practiced immigration law for 25 years, has spoken to numerous legal and business conferences on all types of immigration related topics, has testified in Congress on various aspects of immigration law and immigration reform, and is frequently quoted in the national press, and appears regularly on television and cable news outlets.

**Elaine M. Kumpula** leads the global mobility practice at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP, a full-service law firm with offices in the United States, United Kingdom, and China. Ms. Kumpula regularly advises Fortune 500 clients on complex global visa and compliance issues involving international assignments of top executives and other key employees. Her services encompass all stages of international assignments, from initial planning through localization or final departure from the host country. A U.S. immigration lawyer since 1985, Ms. Kumpula has deep experience in virtually all facets of U.S. employment-based immigration.

**Ira J. Kurzban** obtained his J.D. and M.A. from the University of California, Berkeley. Mr. Kurzban is a partner in the law firm of Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger, Tetzeli & Pratt, P.A., of Miami. He is a past president and former general counsel of AILA, and is a fellow of the American Bar Association. Mr. Kurzban has received national recognition for his work in the immigration field. In 2011, he was selected as a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He also has been named by the *National Law Journal* as one of the top 20 immigration lawyers in the United States, by the British

publication *Chambers* as a first-tier immigration lawyer in the United States, *Human Resource Executive* as one of the 10 most powerful employment attorneys in immigration law, and by *Law Dragon* as one of the top 500 lawyers in the United States. In addition, he has been listed for more than three decades in the *Best Lawyers in America* for his work in immigration law. He has litigated over 50 federal cases concerning the rights of aliens, including *Jean v. Nelson*, *Commissioner v. Jean*, and *McNary v. Haitian Refugee Center, Inc.*, which he argued before the U.S. Supreme Court. He is currently suing the United Nations for bringing cholera to Haiti. Mr. Kurzban is an adjunct faculty member in immigration and nationality law at the University of Miami School of Law and Nova University School of Law. Mr. Kurzban has also been extensively involved in the EB-5 program since its inception. He was lead counsel in *Chang v. U.S.*, the most significant decision to date involving the immigrant investor (EB-5) program. He is currently litigating a wide variety of EB-5 cases on behalf of investors against USCIS. Mr. Kurzban is also serving as an advisor to many regional centers concerning problems that have arisen regarding USCIS' interpretation of the immigrant investor laws. He is the author of *Kurzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook*, the most widely used one-volume immigration source in the United States. Mr. Kurzban has lectured and otherwise published extensively in the field of immigration law, including articles in the *Harvard Law Review* and Columbia University Press. For further information regarding Mr. Kurzban and other lawyers in his firm please go to the firm's website at [www.kkwlaw.com](http://www.kkwlaw.com).

**Laya R. Kushner**, who is a third generation attorney, obtained her B.A. from the State University of New York at Binghamton (1991) and her J.D. from the University of Baltimore (1994). Ms. Kushner is a partner in Kushner and Kushner, P.C., practicing immigration and nationality law. She is a member of AILA and both the North Carolina and New York bars, and has authored articles on immigration and lectured to the immigration bar and law schools. Ms. Kushner is currently chair of the AILA Athletics, Culture, Entertainment, and Science (ACES) Committee.

**Bryon M. Large, Sr.** is a senior associate attorney at Kolko & Associates, P.C., a Denver-based full service immigration law firm. He is licensed to practice law by the Colorado Supreme Court and has also been admitted by the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Mr. Large actively practices removal defense, federal litigation, family-based and employment-based immigration, asylum and naturalization. He is the immediate past chapter chair for AILA Colorado Chapter and is a former chair of the Immigration Law Section of the Colorado Bar Association. He also sits on the Board of Directors for the Colorado GLBT Bar Association and is a member of the National LGBT Bar Association.

**Kevin Lashus** graduated from Stanford University in 1994 and received his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1998. He is the managing shareholder of the Austin office of Jackson Lewis PC. Mr. Lashus is also board certified in immigration and nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Shortly after September 11, 2001, he moved on to the U.S. Department of Justice, then ultimately, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security where he prosecuted terrorists and advised special agents on the execution of worksite investigations and Form I-9 inspections.

**Vincent W. Lau** is the managing partner with Clark Lau LLC located in Cambridge, MA and just completed serving on the Executive Board of the AILA New England Chapter. While primarily practicing in employment-based matters, Mr. Lau has contributed to AILA and Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education publications and conferences and has spoken at different venues locally and nationally on the whole range of immigration topics. He is also an adjunct faculty member at New England Law Boston where he developed its curriculum on business immigration. He received his B.A. from Yale University, M.A. from the Boston College School of Education, and J.D. from the Boston College Law School.

**Karen Stoutamyer Law's** practice, the Law Offices of Karen S. Law, PLC, is limited to adoption and children's immigration issues. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys and was designated as a 2013 Angel in Adoption by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption. She also serves on the International Operations Committee for AILA. On behalf of these groups, she submits comments to USCIS on proposed rules, operating procedures, and policy memoranda and speaks at national conferences on intercountry adoption issues. She regularly travels to work in orphanages throughout the world.

**Carolyn S. Lee** is a partner with Miller Mayer, LLP in Ithaca, NY. Her practice focuses on EB-5 representation of investors, regional centers, funds and developers. Ms. Lee publishes frequently in the EB-5 field, and has served as chair and member of the AILA EB-5 Investors Committee as well as member of the EB-5 Conference Committee and the CSC Liaison Committee.

**Lucy Fong Lee** is the managing attorney at Fallon, Bixby, Cheng & Lee, Inc. in San Francisco. She specializes in employment-based, family-based, and naturalization cases. Ms. Lee is a past chair of the AILA Northern California Chapter, as well as a member of the AILA Santa Clara Valley Chapter. She has served in various positions nationally and locally. She has spoken numerous times at the AILA California Chapters Conference and AILA Annual Conference and co-authored a variety of published articles. Ms. Lee currently serves on the Board/Advisory Council of the AILA Northern California Chapter.

**Lynn M. Lee** leads the U.S. consular practice for Latin America at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP. Ms. Lee focuses her practice on both family and corporate immigration matters, and she possesses a special interest in immigrant and nonimmigrant waivers. Ms. Lee previously worked in the AILA National Liaison Department, where she regularly participated in discussions with various high-level government officials on current immigration issues, including how to resolve current problems and trends. Ms. Lee graduated magna cum laude from Bridgewater College in 1999, and from University of Maryland School of Law in 2003.

**David W. Leopold**, an AILA past president (2010–11), practices business and family immigration, removal defense, and federal court litigation in Cleveland. His past AILA positions include director of the Board of Governors, ICE Liaison Committee chair, Due Process Committee chair, and AILA Ohio Chapter chair. Mr. Leopold is a co-founder of the AIC (formerly AILF) Litigation Institute and contributing author to AILA's *Visa Processing Guide* and *Consular Posts Handbook*.

**Jared Leung** is a director at the law firm of Fennemore Craig in Phoenix, and practices in the area of immigration law. He has extensive experience in business immigration matters, such as immigrant and nonimmigrant petition processing at USCIS, visa applications at U.S. embassies and consulates, and PERM applications with the U.S. Department of Labor. Mr. Leung has also worked closely with individual clients, investors, and those with family immigration needs. Mr. Leung is a frequent speaker on U.S. immigration matters and has published numerous articles on a variety of immigration topics.

**Neil F. Lewis** is the owner of Neil F. Lewis, P.A.—Immigration Attorneys, in Tampa, FL. Mr. Lewis has been an immigration lawyer since 1996 and has been a member of AILA since 1997. He is a former U.S. Marine and is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, B.A., Journalism 1993, and the law school at the College of William and Mary, J.D., 1996.

**Sean Lewis** is a Nashville-based musician and practitioner, who manages “Music City Visa.” He has been a member of AILA since 2001 and handles, removal, family-based and crimm-imm matters. He is the immediate past chair of the Tennessee Bar Association Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee as well as the Nashville Bar Association Immigration Law Section. Mr. Lewis has presented many seminars on professional conduct/ethics as well as other substantive topics on removal proceedings and immigration consequences of crime.

**Laura Lichter** is the founder and managing partner of Lichter Immigration, a Denver-based law firm, where she focuses on complex removal defense, contested family and naturalization applications, administrative appeals, and federal immigration litigation. Ms. Lichter is a former chair of the AILA Colorado Chapter. She has been an elected member of AILA's national leadership for over a decade, and previously chaired AILA's EOIR and ICE Liaison Committees. Ms. Lichter lectures frequently throughout the United States on all matters related to immigration law and policy. She has spearheaded numerous local projects, initiatives, and pro bono programs in the Rocky Mountain region and beyond, including local domestic violence shelters, and faith-based outreach and education projects. A native of Honolulu, Ms. Lichter graduated cum laude from Swarthmore College and earned her J.D. at the University of Colorado School of Law. She is an avid equestrian, runner, outdoorswoman, dog lover, and part-time gentlewoman farmer.

**Marketa Lindt** is a partner in the business immigration law practice at Sidley Austin LLP in Chicago, where she leads the firm's immigration I-9 compliance practice. She advises employers on business immigration, I-9 compliance, and immigration-related white collar defense. She chairs AILA's Verification & Documentation Liaison Committee. Ms. Lindt is an elected member of AILA's Board of Governors. Previously, she has served as chair of AILA's Chicago Chapter and on AILA National liaison committees for DOL, ICE, SSA and the Nebraska Service Center. Ms. Lindt frequently speaks and writes on business immigration practice issues. She is an author of two business immigration law treatises, forms and filings, and *Strategies for Employing Foreign Nationals*.

**Meredith Linsky** is the director of the ABA Commission on Immigration in Washington, DC. She was formerly the director of ProBAR, the South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project, in Harlingen, TX, from 2000-14, where she mentored staff and volunteers working on behalf of detained immigrants and asylum seekers. In 2012, AILA awarded Ms. Linsky with the Arthur C. Helton Human Rights Award for her outstanding service in advancing the cause of human rights.

**Jesse Lloyd**, a partner with Bean + Lloyd, LLP in Oakland, CA, is a certified specialist in immigration and nationality law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. He is a past chair of the AILA Northern California Chapter, and has held several local and national positions for AILA. He is also on the board of Tax-Aid, a Bay Area nonprofit, and is the co-chair of the UC Davis Immigration Clinic Alumni Council. When not working or writing about himself in the third person, he enjoys sports and trying to keep up with his two sons.

**David J. Long** is a partner with Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P. in Jamestown, NC. He has been practicing immigration law since 1998 and has been a North Carolina State Bar board certified specialist in immigration law since 2004. Mr. Long currently serves as chair of the AILA Carolinas Chapter (2012-14) and is the past chair of the Immigration Law Specialization Committee of the North Carolina State Bar. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law in Winston-Salem, NC.

**Cynthia Lucas** is a partner at Lucas & Barba LLP in Los Angeles, handling a range of removal defense, special immigrant and family-based immigration law matters, including U visas, VAWA, special immigrant juvenile petitions, consular processing and waivers. She graduated from UC Berkeley and the University of San Francisco. Her past experience includes extensive public interest work as a nonprofit attorney, and as an associate attorney at a prominent private firm, handling family- and employment-based immigration matters. She has been recognized as a “Rising Star” by the *Southern California Super Lawyers* publication, and serves as chair of AILA SoCal Chapter.

**Jesse Maanao** is a sole practitioner from Portland, OR. He graduated from the Seattle University School of Law in 2001. Mr. Maanao’s immigration experience includes several years of federal service as a District Adjudications Officer with legacy INS and with USCIS. He currently serves on the Immigration Legal Committee for Catholic Charities in Oregon and he is co-chair of the AILA National EOIR Liaison Committee.

**Camille J. Mackler** is the director of training and technical assistance at the New York Immigration Coalition. Before joining the NYIC, Ms. Mackler represented immigrants both in private practice and by volunteering with various nonprofit organizations in the New York City metro area. Ms. Mackler currently services as the co-chair of the media and advocacy committee for the AILA New York Chapter.

**Suzannah Maclay** is a solo practitioner at the Law Office of Suzannah Maclay in Phoenix. After receiving her J.D. from Northeastern University in Boston in 1999, she served for six years as a staff attorney at the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project in Florence, AZ. In 2003 she spoke at the AILA conference in New Orleans on how to represent clients in bond hearings, and in 2008 she presented on aggravated felony analysis in Vancouver. Her current practice is devoted to affirmative and defensive asylum, detained and non-detained removal defense, citizenship claims, family visas, and the BIA and the AAO appeals.

**Susan M. MacLean** is a partner in the firm of Zulkie Partners, LLC which specializes in business immigration law. She teaches a business immigration law course at Chicago Kent – College of Law. Ms. MacLean has spoken on labor certification, H-1B and other business related issues and has been a member of various AILA ACWIA and PERM comment teams. She has served on various AILA committees and was the 2005 AILA Annual Conference Program Chair. She has served on the AILA DOL Liaison Committee (Chair 2006-08), USCIS Benefits Policy Liaison Committee, Department of State Liaison Committee, the Business Immigration Committee and the AILA Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee. Currently she serves on the AILA Chicago Chapter CBP Committee.

**Matthew Maiona** is managing partner at Maiona Ward Immigration Law in Boston. Mr. Maiona represents corporations and employees seeking visas or green cards to work and live in the United States, as well as individuals who are facing removal before the immigration court. He is a frequent lecturer on the topic of immigration law and is a contributing author to MCLE’s: Immigration Practice Manual, as well as multiple AILA conference publications. He is a graduate of

Boston College and Suffolk University Law School. Mr. Maiona is a past chapter chair, current chair of AILA's MAP Task Force, and chair of the Family Track for the 2014 Annual Conference.

**Victor S. Maldonado** practices exclusively in the field of immigration and nationality law, with emphasis on business immigration and deportation litigation. He has been in practice since 1998 and is an active member of AILA.

**Stephen W. Manning** is an attorney with Immigrant Law Group PC in Portland, OR.

**John J. Marandas** is a partner in the firm of Marandas & McClellan of Lake Oswego, OR. He is the immediate past chair of the AILA Oregon Chapter, and currently serves as a liaison to Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) in Oregon, and a member of the Chapter's Advocacy Committee. His firm represents immigrants in the areas of family and business immigration, benefits for victims, removal defense, and appeals. Mr. Marandas also has experience representing individuals in family law matters including dissolution of marriage, annulment, custody, parenting time, support, and related matters. Mr. Marandas received his B.A. from Santa Clara University in 1994 and his J.D. from Willamette University College of Law in 1997.

**Jacqueline B. Martinez**, is the member owner of JBM Legal, LLC, where she handles all aspects of immigration law, including employment-based immigration, complex deportation, and asylum cases. Ms. Martinez received her B.S. degree from Cornell University and J.D. from Arizona State University. Ms. Martinez was chair of the AILA Pittsburgh Chapter, a member of the AILA National Board of Governors, and served on the 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2013 Annual Conference Planning Committees, the 2009 Fall Conference Planning Committee, the Waivers and Membership Committee, the 2013 Field Ops Committee, and the 2011 Paralegal Conference Planning Committee. She has spoken and written widely on immigration issues. Ms. Martinez is an active immigration advocate working with the Civil Rights and Immigration Committee of PIIN (Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network), a member of the ACLU Legal Committee and Board, and works closely with the Latino Catholic Community. She has been active with the Pennsylvania Bar Association since 1994. Ms. Martinez is currently the chair of the PBA Diversity Team and serves as the minority-at-large governor on the PBA Board of Governors and a member of the House of Delegates. She also currently serves as a member of the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority Board, and the Court Appointed Special Advocates Board (CASA).

**Noemi E. Masliah** is a partner at Masliah & Soloway, PC., with offices in New York City and Los Angeles. She has been engaged exclusively in the practice of immigration law since 1980 and has spoken and written frequently on a broad range of immigration topics. She has received several community awards for her activism in immigration reform. Ms. Masliah was a co-founder of Immigration Equality and, more recently, of The DOMA Project. A long-time and active member of AILA, Ms. Masliah is currently a trustee of AIC.

**Ruth Lozano McChesney** is the managing partner of the San Antonio based firm of De Mott, McChesney, Curtright & Armendariz, LLP (DMCA). She is an elected council member of the Immigration & Nationality Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, and has served as a liaison to the Texas Workforce Commission for AILA's Texas Chapter and as a board member of the Free Trade Alliance of San Antonio. Primarily focusing on business immigration matters, she represents companies ranging from small start-ups to Fortune 100 companies in various industries such as healthcare, restaurants, energy, construction, research, religion, technology, and education.

**Margaret H. McCormick** is a principal in the immigration law firm of Minsky, McCormick & Hallagan, P.C. in Chicago. Her areas of expertise include employment-based immigration, entrepreneurs and investors, global citizenship issues, worksite enforcement, I-9 audits, and employer immigration compliance. Ms. McCormick was recognized by Woodward/White's *Best Lawyers in America* in the Immigration Law category since 1992; *International Who's Who of Professionals* since 1995, *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, since 1997; and Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers (rated AV since 1988). She has testified before the U.S. Congress and has appeared as an expert witness in court proceedings on immigration-related issues. She has been an adjunct professor of immigration law at Loyola University School of Law since 1986.

**Maria McIntyre** is a partner with Nayar & McIntyre near Dallas. She has been practicing immigration law since 2003 when she became a staff attorney for a local nonprofit organization. Ms. McIntyre moved into private practice in May 2004 and founded Nayar & McIntyre in 2009. Ms. McIntyre's practice focuses on family-based immigration, citizenship and naturalization, VAWA, deportation defense, deferred action, and humanitarian relief attained from USCIS and ICE, and she has served as an expert witness on the practice of immigration law for the State of Texas.

**Jeremy L. McKinney** practices in Greensboro, NC and is a North Carolina board certified immigration law specialist. Mr. McKinney is a current member of AILA's ICE Liaison Committee. He teaches Immigration Law at Elon University School of Law as an adjunct professor. He has previously served on the NC State Bar's Specialization Committee, AILA's EOIR Liaison and Amicus committees, and is a former chair of AILA's Carolinas Chapter. Mr. McKinney graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1993 and later received his Juris Doctorate from Campbell University School of Law in 1996.

**Sharon Mehlman** is co-managing partner of Larrabee, Mehlman, Albi, Coker LLP in San Diego. Her practice focuses on employment-based immigration including employer sanctions. She is currently vice chair of AILA's Worksite Verification Committee and past chair of AILA's USCIS HQ, SCOPS, CSC committees and the AILA San Diego Chapter. She is a frequent speaker on immigration law.

**Cyrus D. Mehta**, a graduate of Cambridge University and Columbia Law School, is the managing member of Cyrus D. Mehta & Associates, PLLC in New York City. Mr. Mehta is the current chair of AILA's Ethics Committee; special counsel on immigration matters to the Departmental Disciplinary Committee, Appellate Division, First Department, New York; and is a member of the ABA Commission on Immigration Advisory Committee. Mr. Mehta is the former chair of the Board of Trustees of AIC and former chair of the Committee on Immigration and Nationality Law of the New York City Bar Association. He is a frequent speaker and writer on various immigration-related issues, including on ethics, and is also an adjunct professor of law at Brooklyn Law School, where he teaches a course entitled "Immigration and Work." Mr. Mehta received the AILA 2011 Michael Maggio Memorial Award for his outstanding efforts in providing pro bono representation in the immigration field.

**Michelle Mendez** is a senior attorney at Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington Immigration Legal Services where she was previously the 2008–10 DLA Piper Equal Justice Works fellow. Ms. Mendez' practice includes deportation defense litigation, family-based petitions, domestic violence and crime victims' relief, appellate work, and representing minors on special immigrant juvenile status matters in Maryland Circuit Courts. She is an adjunct professor at Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law where she co-teaches the new Immigration Litigation Clinic. Originally from Colombia, Ms. Mendez speaks fluent Spanish and French.

**Pamela Partenheimer Mick** is the owner and managing principal of Partenheimer Mick Immigration Law LLC in Chicago. Ms. Mick has been practicing business immigration for more than 16 years. She concentrates her expertise in employment-based temporary visas, employment-based permanent visas, and immigration related compliance. Ms. Mick is an active member of AILA and enjoys writing and lecturing nationally regarding immigration law. She currently serves as chair of AILA's U.S. Department of Labor Liaison Committee.

**Eva A. Millona** is executive director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA), the state's largest organization representing the foreign born, and co-chair of the National Partnership for New Americans, the lead national organization focusing on immigrant integration. She joined MIRA in 1999 and served as director of policy and advocacy and as deputy director before becoming executive director in 2008, and she is now one of New England's most highly quoted immigration experts. Prior to MIRA, Ms. Millona directed the refugee resettlement program in Central Massachusetts. In her native Albania, she practiced civil and criminal law, serving on Tirana's District Court from 1989–1992, when she was the nation's youngest district judge ever appointed. She is also the co-chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Refugees and Immigrants and serves on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. In 2010, she co-chaired the nation's largest immigrant integration conference, which MIRA hosted in Boston. She is the recipient of over a dozen major awards, including the prestigious 2009 USCIS Outstanding American by Choice Award, the 2010 Wainwright Bank Social Justice Award, and the 2011 and 2012 Powermeter Award, presented to the most influential people for Latinos in Massachusetts.

**Jason Mills** is the owner and primary attorney at The Law Offices of Jason Mills, PLLC in Fort Worth, TX. A former adjunct professor at Texas Wesleyan School of Law he is the Secretary of the AILA Texas Chapter and serves on the AILA NBC Committee. Mr. Mills is a frequent lecturer and article contributor at a local, state, and national level and is a current member of the Board of Directors for the Texas Aggie Bar Association.

**Jennifer Minear** is a director with McCandlish Holton, PC in Richmond, VA where her business immigration practice focuses on the healthcare sector. She chairs AILA's Healthcare-Physician's Committee and also serves on the DOS

Liaison and Inter-Agency Committees. She is an elected director to AILA's Board of Governors. Ms. Minear is a frequent speaker and author on a range of business immigration issues, J-1 clinical waivers for physicians, green card options for physicians, H-1B cap exemption, the representation of nonprofit employers, and prevailing wages.

**Kevin Miner** is a partner in the Atlanta office of Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP. His practice includes working with clients primarily in the high technology, financial services, and manufacturing industries to develop effective strategies for business immigration while ensuring compliance with applicable rules and regulations. He currently serves as vice-chair of AILA's U.S. Department of Labor Liaison Committee. Mr. Miner regularly speaks at conferences across the country on immigration law matters.

**Kathleen Moccio** is an attorney with the Hennepin County Public Defenders. She has worked in the field of immigration law and policy for over 20 years and regularly speaks and writes on immigration issues. Ms. Moccio has been active in AILA, AIC, and the Advocates for Human Rights.

**Donald Mooers** is founder of Mooers Immigration in Bethesda, MD. He has a national practice, teaches Immigration Law as an adjunct professor of law, and has long been an active member of AILA. A Fulbright Scholar and RPCV, he worked on Capitol Hill, and later served in the Clinton Administration at the State Department and Peace Corps. Prior to founding his firm, Mr. Mooers led NGO and U.S. Government-funded development efforts throughout Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean. Mr. Mooers is board chair of Schools for Salone, building schools and supporting educational efforts in the West African nation of Sierra Leone.

**Avram E. Morell** practices immigration law at the New York City offices of Pryor Cashman LLP. Mr. Morell regularly lectures on immigration law to professional associations, educational institutes, and private businesses; and his articles have been published in state-wide, national, and international publications. He sits on AILA NY Chapter Liaison Committees to the New York District of USCIS and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He has been ranked as a leading New York immigration lawyer by *Chambers USA*, *US Legal 500*, *Super Lawyers* and *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers*.

**Sheela Murthy** is founder & president of the Murthy Law Firm, with 20 attorneys and a total of 85+ employees serving clients in U.S. immigration law. An Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year winner and a regional judge, Ms. Murthy is an "AV" rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbe, and a frequent speaker nationally and internationally. Her firm, founded in 1994, is recognized by Inc.500|5000 and its website ([www.murthy.com](http://www.murthy.com)) is a Webby Honoree. A philanthropist who serves on several boards, the Harvard Law School graduate has also set up two endowments, one for LL.M. candidates and the second, for training immigration law faculty at Harvard Law School.

**Karen Musalo** is a professor of law, and director of the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies and the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic at the University of California Hastings College of the Law. She has litigated a number of groundbreaking asylum cases, including *Matter of Kasinga*, which continues to be one of the most influential gender asylum decisions, and was attorney in the *R-A-* and *L.R.* cases, which established that women fleeing domestic violence may qualify for refugee protection. She is the lead author of *Refugee Law and Policy: An International and Comparative Approach* (4th Ed.) and has won many awards for her work.

**Amina L. Najib** is an associate with Kempster, Corcoran, Quiceno and Lenz-Calvo, Ltd. in Chicago. She was formerly a supervising attorney with the National Immigrant Justice Center. Ms. Najib currently serves on a number of local AILA committees and has long been active in the association.

**Stephen J. Navarre** is the principal of The Navarre Law Firm LLC, located in Chicago and practices exclusively in the area of U.S. immigration and nationality law. Mr. Navarre is a past chair of the AILA Chicago Chapter and former member of the AILA Board of Governors. Mr. Navarre has spoken on immigration issues at numerous national bar association, trade association and immigration law conferences and programs and is the author of several published articles in the field.

**Victor D. Nieblas Pradis** practices immigration law in Southern California. He is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego and Loyola Law School. His areas of practice include family immigration, deportation defense, federal court litigation, and appellate work. Mr. Nieblas has had various cases published in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He is also an adjunct professor of law at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, teaching immigration law.

Mr. Nieblas served on the AILA Board of Governors for eight years and is a past chair of the AILA Southern California Chapter. He also has served as the chair for the immigration law section for the Hispanic National Bar Association. He is a past trustee for the Mexican American Bar Association (MABA) and past chair of the MABA immigration subcommittee. Mr. Nieblas has presented numerous lectures and programs for AILA, MABA, the Los Angeles Country Bar Association, and The State Bar of California. He hosted the weekly Spanish television program *Inmigración 411*, discussing immigration law on HITN. In addition, Mr. Nieblas is a legal commentator for several local news broadcasts in Los Angeles, including MundoFox, KWHY *Noticias 22*, and Univision's *Primera Edición*. He is listed with *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Southern California* for immigration and nationality law.

**Andrew Nietor** practices criminal defense and immigration law in San Diego. After graduating from The George Washington University Law School, Mr. Nietor worked at Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. as a trial attorney. In 2004, he founded his own firm with a focus on criminal defense and immigration advocacy, including removal proceedings. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Federal Defenders of San Diego. Mr. Nietor is secretary of AILA San Diego Chapter, and chair of the Chapter's Criminal Defense and EOIR Committees. Mr. Nietor lectures nationally and internationally on trial skills and immigration issues.

**Zachary M. Nightingale**, a partner at Van Der Hout, Brigagliano & Nightingale, LLP, ([www.vblaw.com](http://www.vblaw.com)) received his J.D. and M.S. (mathematics) from Stanford and A.B. from U.C. Berkeley. His practice focuses on deportation defense and litigation in immigration and federal courts. Mr. Nightingale was honored with AILA's 2003 Jack Wasserman Memorial Award for excellence in litigation. He has litigated *Quintero-Salazar v. Keisler*, 506 F.3d 688 (9th Cir. 2007), *Li v. Ashcroft*, 389 F.3d 892 (9th Cir. 2004), and *Zheng v Holder*, 644 F.3d 829 (9th Cir. 2011).

**Deborah J. Notkin** is a partner in the firm of Barst Mukamal & Kleiner LLP and maintains a large business immigration and nationality practice. She is a past president of AILA, 2005-06, and serves on its Board of Governors. A noted expert in business immigration she is a frequent lecturer at the Practising Law Institute, the New York State Bar Association, and AILA. *Human Resource Magazine* has named Ms. Notkin one of the 15 most powerful business immigration attorneys in the U.S. Ms. Notkin is listed in *Best Lawyers in America*; the *International Who is Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, and Chambers USA as recommended immigration counsel. *New York Super Lawyers* has listed her as one of the top immigration attorneys in New York. Her numerous articles on business immigration have been cited frequently in other articles on immigration.

**Michael P. Nowlan** is a member and immigration practice group co-leader with Clark Hill PLC in Detroit. He is a 1992 graduate of Eastern Michigan University and a 1996 graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Mr. Nowlan is currently the chair of the AILA Business Committee. He has served as the vice chair of the AILA Nebraska Service Center Liaison Committee (2010-11), a member of the AILA Customs and Border Protection Liaison Committee (2009-10), and chair of the AILA Michigan Chapter (2007-09). He has lectured extensively on immigration matters and published several articles for AILA and Matthew Bender (LEXIS).

**Paschal Nwokocha** is principal at Paschal Nwokocha Law Offices, LLC, Minneapolis. The firm represents individuals and entities in all aspects of immigration matters. The firm has an active EB-5 practice involving investors from Nigeria and the West African region. Mr. Nwokocha previously served as assistant attorney general for Minnesota before founding the firm. He has since served as chapter chair for the AILA Minnesota/Dakotas Chapter, as well as liaison to OCC, ICE, and EOIR. He has a number of published and unpublished Board of Immigration Appeals, State, and Federal Court decisions to his credit, including *Ntangsi v. Gonzales*, 475 F.3d 1007 (8th Cir. 2006). You can follow him at *twitter @paschallaw* or like us on facebook at *facebook.com/paschallawoffices*.

**Robin O'Donoghue** of O'Donoghue & DiTrani, LLC has maintained a business and family immigration practice since 1997. Ms. O'Donoghue served on the Executive Board of the AILA New England Chapter from 2004-10, as chapter chair from 2008-09. From 2009-13, she served on AILA's Annual Conference Program Committee (as conference chair in 2013). Ms. O'Donoghue currently serves on the VSC Liaison Committee and served previously on the Business Immigration Committee. Robin frequently publishes and presents on immigration matters for AILA and other bar associations, CLE organizations, colleges and universities, and business and community groups.

**Paul O'Dwyer** represents clients before the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, immigration courts, and federal district courts, and courts of appeals. He has successfully represented hundreds of individuals in asylum hearings at asylum offices, immigration courts and in federal court. Mr. O'Dwyer also litigates other immigration matters in the

immigration courts and in federal court, including re-opening cases with prior deportation orders, applications for special immigrant status, cancellation of removal, and waivers of inadmissibility. He frequently writes articles and speaks at seminars on immigration law, and provides training for other immigration attorneys on a regular basis.

**Brian T. O'Neill, Sr.** practices in Boston. He has specialized in the practice of immigration law since 1980. He has been local AILA CBP liaison for the AILA New England Chapter for the last 20 years and currently services on the AILA National committee dealing with CBP. He has lectured on CBP issued before local bar associations and the AILA New England Chapter. He has represented clients before the local EOIR on abandonment issued on numerous occasions over the last ten years.

**Jonelle Ocloo** is managing attorney of the Law Offices of Jonelle Ocloo, LLC in Columbia, MD. She currently serves as chair-elect of the Maryland State Bar Association's Immigration Law Section. In 2012, Ms. Ocloo was recognized as an "Emerging Leader" by the Association of Black Charities and named as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women by the *Daily Record*. She is a member of AILA's National Practice Management Committee. Ms. Ocloo received her J.D. from Yale Law School.

**Maria M. Odom** was appointed Citizenship and Immigration Services ombudsman for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in September 2012. In this role, Ms. Odom leads the Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman. The Ombudsman's Office is dedicated to improving the quality of citizenship and immigration services delivered to the public by providing individual case assistance, as well as making recommendations to improve the administration of immigration benefits. To carry out this mission, Ms. Odom works with community leaders and immigration professionals across the country to understand current issues and explore solutions to problems faced by individuals and employers seeking citizenship or immigration services. Under her leadership, the Ombudsman's Office serves as a visible, accessible and reliable resource to the community. She came to the Department as a legal expert with a wide range of immigration experience in the government, private, and charitable sectors. Most recently, Ms. Odom led the country's largest network of charitable legal immigration programs as the Executive Director of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC). She practiced immigration law in the southeast for many years, leading a successful private practice dealing with defense from removal along with business- and family-based immigration. Early in her career, Ms. Odom also served as assistant district counsel for the *legacy* Immigration and Naturalization Service and as a judicial law clerk at the Executive Office for Immigration Review. She is a graduate of The Florida State University College of Criminology and the Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law. In 2010, Ms. Odom was honored with the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by the College of New Rochelle in New York.

**Brenda J. Oliver** is an attorney with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP's Washington, DC office. She is an active member of the AILA DC Chapter, having served as a past chapter chair, as well as numerous positions on its executive committee. She has also served on AILA national committees and spoken at numerous conferences and webinars on both the local and national level. She is currently a member of the 2014 Annual Conference Committee. Ms. Oliver represents a variety of clients with various business immigration needs.

**Allen Orr** is the founder of Orr Immigration Law Firm PC, a minority-owned law firm based in Washington, DC and focuses on U.S. corporate compliance as well as global corporate representation and assistance on immigration issues. Mr. Orr has over 13 years of U.S. and global immigration experience with the immigration practice of one of the largest international law firms. Mr. Orr received a B.A. in Philosophy from Morehouse College and a J.D. from Howard University's School of Law. He is an active member of AILA, and the DC, Virginia, and National Bar Associations.

**Gayle Oshrin** is an associate with Wormser, Kiely, Galef & Jacobs LLP in New York City. She was formerly a senior diplomatic legal advisor for the New York City Commission for the United Nations, Consular Corps and Protocol. She currently serves as a director on the AILA Board of Governors and has long been active in the association on both a national and state level. Ms. Oshrin lectures nationally on the subject of immigration law.

**B. John Ovink** is a solo practitioner with offices in Tampa and Dade City, FL. He concentrates on family immigration, mostly §212(a)(9) waivers. In addition, Mr. Ovink represents victims of domestic violence with applications for relief. He has served as an AILA mentor in all areas of family immigration. During the past 12 years he has been a frequent speaker on problems concerning inadmissibility and removability, relief under the Violence Against Women Act, and on how to obtain waivers. He has published numerous articles in these areas. Mr. Ovink has actively served on several chapter and AILA National committees and is currently a member of the VAWA Committee, the NBC Liaison Committee and the

Annual Conference Planning Committee. He is former chair of the AILA Central Florida Chapter. Mr. Ovink received his Bachelor of Education degree from The University of Utrecht Teacher Training College in his native Netherlands. He graduated *cum laude* from the University of Miami in 1994 and was admitted to the Florida Bar that same year. Extensive traveling through over 85 countries, across all continents, has provided Mr. Ovink with the opportunity to study a wide variety of cultures and languages, experience that he often draws upon in his practice of immigration law. He speaks fluent Afrikaans, Dutch, English, French, and German, with a good working knowledge of Spanish.

**Farshad Owji** is the principal attorney at Owji Law Group. He is a 1994 graduate of University of Ankara School of Law in Ankara, Turkey. Upon graduation he accepted an internship and soon after a position at the UNHCR Branch Office Ankara. Later he obtained his J.D. and LL.M. from University of Florida College of Law. In 2000, he accepted a position as senior international associate at Deloitte. In 2002, he opened his boutique immigration firm in San Francisco. His area of expertise is litigation and consular processing. Mr. Owji is a member of the Florida, Minnesota, and District of Columbia bars, the Istanbul bar, and he is also admitted to practice before the Federal Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Federal Court for the Middle District of Florida. He is the immediate past chair of AILA Northern California Chapter and member of the AILA National CBP Liaison Committee.

**Turid L. Owren** is a partner with Tonkon Torp LLP in Portland, OR, where she heads the firm's business immigration practice group. A graduate of Reed College and Lewis and Clark Law School, Ms. Owren has practiced immigration law since 1988. Ms. Owren has served as liaison on behalf of AILA to the USCIS on various committees over the past 10 years. She currently serves on AILA's Service Center Operations and USCIS Ombudsman Liaison Committees. Ms. Owren is the recipient of an AILA Presidential Award for Outstanding Leadership in Liaison, and the Gerald H. Robinson Excellence in Advocacy Award from the AILA Oregon Chapter.

**Elliott Ozment** has focused on immigration and related litigation for over 12 years. He is legal counsel for the Nashville Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In addition to practicing before USCIS, BIA, and EOIR, he has practiced extensively in the U.S. District Courts (usually involving law enforcement and ICE violations of constitutional protections) and U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth, Sixth, and Ninth Circuits. He represents the Mexican Consulate for all Tennessee matters, and is involved in numerous high-profile immigration cases, including *Villegas v. Metro* (shackling of a pregnant immigrant while in labor) and *Renteria v. Metro* (challenging legality of Nashville's 287(g) program, now pending in the TN Supreme Court).

**Reginald A. Pacis** is a shareholder at Butzel Long, where he concentrates his practice in immigration law. He has handled a variety of immigration matters including H-1B specialty occupation cases, L-1 intracompany transfers, labor certification matters, and immigrant visa petitions/adjustment of status applications and interviews. Mr. Pacis is a frequent speaker and author on immigration topics, and presented at several national conferences, including AILA conferences in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Texas. He has served in a variety of committees in the Filipino community and is a member of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce of Michigan. Listed in "The Best Lawyers in America" for Immigration Law, Mr. Pacis is a member of the American Bar Association, AILA, and the Samahang Pilipino Ng Oakland Filipino organization. He has served on the AILA Advocacy Committee, and chaired a number of AILA committees, including the one responsible for liaising with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection locally and nationally.

**James Y. Pack** is partner with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP, in Irvine, CA. He provides immigration counsel to large, medium, and small companies in a wide range of industries, including developing wireless technologies, animated feature film production, video game development, and pharmaceuticals. He is past chair of the AILA Southern California Chapter and currently serves on the AILA Texas Service Center Liaison Committee, and the AILA ACES Committee.

**Annalisa Padilla** practices immigration law, removal defense, and family law in La Habra, CA. A native of Guatemala, she immigrated to the United States in 1983 with her parents and brother. She is a past chair of the AILA Southern California Chapter, and has served on AILA's USCIS Field Ops Committee, UPL Committee, and the 2011 Annual Conference Planning Committee. She is also a past chair of the Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA) Immigration Section, and served two terms as treasurer of the Mexican American Bar Association (MABA) Board, where she sat on the Board of Trustees for five years prior to her election as treasurer. Ms. Padilla frequently presents locally and throughout the United States on immigration law and its interplay with family law and small business ownership. She has also presented on the legal implications of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS). She has made community service a priority, and frequently volunteers her legal services to indigent

clients on a pro bono basis; she also actively participates in “Know Your Rights” forums for immigrants. In addition, Ms. Padilla has volunteered with the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN), the Domestic Violence Project, the HIV & AIDS Legal Services Alliance, and the Immigration Legal Assistance Project. She also is a recurring pro bono attorney for Kids In Need of Defense (KIND), and currently sits on their family law expert panel on “one-parent” SIJS. She has been named “Super Lawyer” four years in a row: 2011–14. Ms. Padilla is a regular legal commentator on the Spanish newscast *Primera Edición* for Univision, and is a frequent blogger on immigration and family law issues.

**Wendy Padilla-Madden** is counsel with Balch & Bingham LLP in Birmingham, AL, where she practices employment-based immigration law. Ms. Padilla-Madden is a member of the AILA National Verification and Worksite Enforcement Liaison Committee and also serves on the UPL Committee both at the national level and with the AILA Georgia-Alabama Chapter.

**Angelo A. Paparelli**, a partner in the 800-lawyer firm Seyfarth Shaw LLP, practices immigration law in Los Angeles and New York City. His full-service practice emphasizes business immigration and the EB-5 visa category. He founded the Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers, a worldwide alliance of leading immigration lawyers. A California-certified immigration and nationality law specialist, he has been rated three times as the World’s Leading Immigration Lawyer by the *International Who’s Who of Corporate Lawyers*, and a Star Individual by Chambers in several annual rankings. A recipient of AILA’s Edith Lowenstein Award, Mr. Paparelli blogs on our dysfunctional immigration system at [www.nationofimmigrants.com](http://www.nationofimmigrants.com) and co-authors the Immigration Column for the *New York Law Journal*.

**Daniel Parisi** is a partner at TGL Shipley Parisi in London, where his practice has a particular focus on consular processing and waivers of ineligibility. Mr. Parisi has spoken and written on issues of consular practice for AILA as well as other international organizations. He is the chair of the Communications Committee for the AILA Rome District Chapter for which he serves as the editor of its newsletter “When in Rome ....” He is also the editor of the newsletter for AILA’s Global Migration Section and the chair of its Communications/Education Committee. This year, Mr. Parisi has also been serving on AILA National’s DOS Liaison Committee as well as its LGBT Working Group.

**Sonia Parras-Konrad** has represented immigrant survivors of crimes of violence since 1997. Ms. Parras-Konrad founded MUNA legal clinic for immigrant survivors where she was the director for 12 years, and LUNA, an innovative domestic violence and sexual assault agency. In 2008, she represented more than 70 immigrants detained during one of the largest raids in U.S. history, obtaining approvals in many U visa cases. Ms. Parras-Konrad is the co-chair of NIPNLG and supervised the immigration legal clinic for survivors at Drake University School of Law from 2011–12. In 2009, she received the AILA Michael Maggio Pro Bono Award for her work on the Postville raid.

**Helen Parsonage** is a partner with Elliot Morgan Parsonage PLLC in Winston-Salem, NC, where she practices both immigration and criminal defense. She is a state board certified specialist in immigration law. Ms. Parsonage presents regularly on topics related to crimmigration to members of the criminal defense and immigration bars.

**Amy L. Peck** is a shareholder with Jackson Lewis, PC and managing partner at Peck Law, LLC. Ms. Peck dedicates her practice exclusively to immigration, worksite compliance, and I-9 law. She is one of 21 directors elected to serve on the AILA Board of Governors. She is a trustee of the American Immigration Council. She currently serves on the AILA USCIS Liaison Committee, and recently served on the AILA Interagency Committee. Ms. Peck received the President’s Award for Worksite Compliance in 2008, has received the top “AV” rating by Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, and has been listed in the *US News* “Best Lawyers” report (2010–13).

**Eleanor Pelta** is a past president of AILA. A partner in the labor and employment law practice of Morgan Lewis & Bockius, she manages the firm’s global immigration practice, with practice groups in San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Boston, and London. The practice focuses on assisting corporate clients in the management of large-scale global immigration programs, implementation of immigration policies and procedures, as well as assistance with all aspects of immigration compliance. Ms. Pelta was named one of the leading U.S. immigration lawyers by *Chambers USA* and *Chambers Global* and is listed in *Best Lawyers in America*. The *Legal Times* has named Ms. Pelta one of the “Top 10 Immigration Lawyers in DC.” Ms. Pelta currently serves on AILA’s Department of Labor Committee, Transparency Committee and Board of Governors. She served as a trustee of the American Immigration Council for several years, helped to organize the first immigrant achievement awards ceremonies, and was a founder of what is now the AIC Community Education Center. Ms. Pelta is also a member of the Board of New York’s Lower East Side Tenement Museum.

**Gail Pendleton** is co-director of ASISTA, which provides national advocacy, training, and technical assistance on rights and routes to status for immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and related crimes and is funded by the federal Office on Violence Against Women and private members. Formerly associate director of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, where she worked for 20 years, she received the AILA Human Rights Award in 2001, received her J.D. in 1985 from NYU School of Law and her A.B. from Harvard/Radcliffe College in 1981.

**Douglas R. Penn** is the managing member of the Law Offices of Douglas R. Penn, LLC in Stamford, CT. He has practiced in the field of immigration law since 1997. He has been a speaker on immigration law at conferences at the state and national levels. He is a past chair of the AILA Connecticut Chapter and currently chairs the Connecticut Chapter's Advocacy Committee. Nationally, he serves on the Business Immigration and the Practice Management Committees.

**Nancy A. Peterson** is a sole practitioner in St Paul, MN. She has been practicing immigration law for the past 22 years. She represents persons in removal defense cases including appeals, family-based immigration, naturalization, petitions under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), U visas, and asylum. Ms. Peterson has presented at several immigration law seminars over the past fifteen years. She serves as a mentor attorney at Advocates for Human Rights and was awarded "Volunteer of the Year" in 2007. She is admitted to practice law in Minnesota, the U.S. District Court of Minnesota, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. She is fluent in Spanish.

**Sarah K. Peterson Stensrud** is a senior attorney at Aronson & Associates in Minneapolis. Ms. Peterson-Stensrud focuses on employment-based immigration and is frequently invited to speak nationally on the subject. She actively participates in AILA on both a local and national level and currently serves as an elected director on the Board of Governors, vice chair of the Healthcare Professionals/Physicians Committee and member of the CSC Liaison Committee. Ms. Peterson-Stensrud was selected for inclusion in the *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers* and as one of Minnesota Lawyer's "Up and Coming Attorneys."

**Nora Phillips** is a partner in the immigration law firm of Phillips & Urias, LLP in Los Angeles. She was formerly a staff attorney at the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) in Los Angeles and an Equal Justice Works Fellow at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago. Her primary focus has been U nonimmigrant status, VAWA, and deferred action for childhood arrivals. She presents and trains extensively on these topics and served as an expert on U visas for the Los Angeles Federal Public Defender.

**John L. Pinnix** is a past president of AILA and a founding member of AILA Carolinas Chapter. Mr. Pinnix served on the Founding Board of the American Immigration Council (formerly AILF). He attained B.A. and M.A. degrees in History at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and his J.D. at the Wake Forest University School of Law. He has taught at the North Carolina Central, Duke, and Elon University law schools. Mr. Pinnix is a principal in the Raleigh, N.C. law firm Allen, Pinnix & Nichols, P.A., and is a North Carolina board certified immigration specialist.

**Mary E. Pivec** is in private practice in Washington, D.C. One of her primary focus areas is representing employers in immigration-related worksite investigations conducted by DHS, DOL, and DOJ (OSC) and in hearings and appeals resulting from such investigations. She is also regularly engaged as an expert in civil and criminal litigation involving complex immigration issues. Ms. Pivec is a past member of the AILA Board of Governors and the AILA Verification Committee, and a frequent speaker on immigration-related enforcement and compliance matters. She is a fellow of the ABA College of Labor and Employment Attorneys and has been recognized by *The Washington Post* in its selection of "Baltimore and Washington DC's Top Attorneys." She also was named among the Washington, D.C. "Super Lawyers," a Thomson Reuters service, in the Labor and Employment field, and has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1990, in the area of immigration law. Martindale Hubbell has ranked Ms. Pivec an AV attorney, its highest rating available.

**A. Renee Pobjecky** is a partner with Pobjecky & Pobjecky, LLP in Winter Haven, FL where she practices immigration law with an emphasis on waivers. She is the executive vice chair of the AILA Central Florida Chapter and currently serves as a member on the AILA Distance Learning Committee. Ms. Pobjecky enjoys traveling and lecturing on the subject of immigration law.

**Alan J. Pollack**, has been in immigration practice for 20 years. He is currently chair of the AILA New Jersey Chapter and head of that Chapter's UPL Committee. His firm was recently named one of the "Best Law Firms" in New Jersey by *U.S.*

*News and World Report* in the area of immigration. He has appeared on television and in the newspaper regarding immigration issues, has spoken nationally on immigration issues, and has published articles on immigration topics. He has served as the chair of various committees for the AILA New York and AILA New Jersey Chapter for many years, including the UPL, EOIR, DOL, and Ethics committees. He also served as a member of the AILA National UPL Committee. He has presented at several AILA national conferences as well as local and regional conferences on immigration issues.

**Scott D. Pollock** is the founder of Scott D. Pollock & Associates, P.C. in Chicago. He has practiced immigration law since 1985, and is a frequent speaker and author on immigration law topics. He is a past president of the AILA Chicago Chapter and has served on many of AILA's national and local committees. He is currently the vice chair of AILA's Students and Scholars Committee.

**Heather L. Poole** is in private practice in Pasadena, CA. She is a frequent speaker on complicated family immigration topics for national CLE providers, AILA, and the Los Angeles County and Orange County Bar Associations. Her articles are published in *Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine*, *Orange County Lawyer Magazine*, *The Alaska Bar Rag*, and AILA's *Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook* and *Forms & Fundamentals*, among others. She teaches Immigration Law at Fullerton College. Ms. Poole is vice chair of AILA's Southern California Chapter, member of AILA's National Benefit Center Liaison Committee, and former AILA NMD Steering Committee chair.

**Sharon Cook Poorak** is senior counsel in the immigration practice group of Seyfarth Shaw LLP in Atlanta. She has practiced immigration law for twenty eight years with an emphasis on business immigration matters. She has served as director of education for AILA National, director of the Detention Project for CSS, a guest lecturer on business immigration law at GSU School of Law, a member of numerous AILA national and local chapter liaison committees, and is a frequent speaker on immigration topics. Ms. Poorak has been named as a "Leading Immigration Attorney" by *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*; *International Who's Who of Business Lawyers*, and is consistently recognized by her peers in Chambers USA as being among the "Best Lawyers in America." She obtained her J.D. degree in May 1986 from GSU School of Law.

**Cathy Potter** practices immigration law in the Rio Grande Valley. Her firm is based in Harlingen, TX. She received a B.A. from Rollins College, and a Ph.D. in Russian History from Yale University. Following a career in academia, teaching and doing research in early Russian History at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, she retired and earned a J.D. at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2008. She is licensed in Pennsylvania, and is admitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the U.S. District Courts in the Western District of Pennsylvania, and the Southern and Western Districts of Texas.

**Ruby L. Powers** is the founder of Law Office of Ruby L. Powers, P.C. located in Houston, focusing her practice on waivers of inadmissibility, asylum, deportation, family- and employment-based petitions. She is board certified in immigration and nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. She attended the University of Texas and the University of North Carolina School of Law. Ms. Powers lived and studied in Mexico, Spain, Belgium, Turkey, and UAE and speaks Spanish and French. She serves as the AILA Texas Chapter DMV liaison and on the AILA Law Practice Management Committee. She is a frequent speaker and author on immigration law and law practice management topics. In 2011–12, she ran her law firm from Dubai and Turkey for 14 months.

**John Patrick Pratt** is a partner at Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger, Tetzeli & Pratt, P.A., in Miami. Mr. Pratt received his B.A. from Florida State University with honors in 1994. He graduated from Tulane University School of Law, receiving his J.D. in 1997. Mr. Pratt is admitted to the bar of the State of Florida, District of Columbia, United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, United States District Court of the District of Columbia, United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. He is a member of AILA and the ABA. Mr. Pratt currently serves on the Board of Directors of the AILA South Florida Chapter. Mr. Pratt also served as president of the AILA South Florida Chapter, and a member of the AILA National Board for 2010–11. In addition, he is "AV" Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and is Florida Bar board certified in immigration and nationality law (2005-15). He also served in the Florida Bar's Immigration and Nationality Law Certification Committee from 2006–09. Mr. Pratt concentrates on all areas of immigration and nationality law, including corporate immigration matters, employment-based immigrant and nonimmigrant petitions, family-based immigrant and nonimmigrant petitions, deportation or removal, and federal court litigation, including complex EB-5 related federal court litigation. Mr. Pratt is fluent in Spanish.

**Heather Prendergast** is an associate with David Wolfe Leopold & Assoc. Co., LPA in Cleveland. Her practice focuses on complex removal defense including trials, appeals, and federal court litigation; employment-based immigration for skilled professionals; family-based immigration; asylum; and naturalization. Ms. Prendergast serves on AILA's National ICE Liaison Committee. She is admitted to practice in Ohio, New York, the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Prendergast is a graduate of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Cleveland and Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY.

**John Quinn** has extensive experience in all aspects of immigration law providing comprehensive legal counsel regarding strategy, compliance, preparation of immigrant and nonimmigrant visa petitions, appeals, I-9 issues, and overall corporate immigration policies in many areas of immigration law, with a focus on business immigration. Prior to joining Wormser, Kiely, Galef & Jacobs, LLP, Mr. Quinn managed a team of 14 professionals providing full service immigration counsel to major corporations including employee and employer specific strategies, immigration policy, compliance, preparation of visa applications and appeals before government agencies.

**Dan Rabinovitz** is a trial lawyer whose practice includes a wide variety of litigation. He is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado, and Florida. Mr. Rabinovitz has tried hundreds of cases and regularly represents clients in the following areas: white collar crime and state criminal defense; business litigation; and securities litigation. Mr. Rabinovitz represents clients before the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, FINRA, as well as state securities regulatory agencies, including those in Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois. Mr. Rabinovitz has been an instructor for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) since 2002, teaching young lawyers how to conduct all aspects of civil and criminal trials. He was named a "Massachusetts Super Lawyer" in 2006 through 2013. Mr. Rabinovitz was also listed in the 2010–13 editions of *Super Lawyers Business Edition*, in the area of Business Litigation. Mr. Rabinovitz earned his B.A. from Union College in 1987, and his J.D. from Boston University in 1990.

**W. Scott Railton** limits his practice to U.S. immigration and nationality law, with an emphasis on employment-based immigration and border-related matters. He practices at Cascadia Cross-Border Law in Bellingham, WA, near the U.S.-Canada border. He is the immediate past chair for the AILA Washington State Chapter, a research affiliate to Western Washington University, and a graduate of the University Of Washington School Of Law.

**Trina Realmuto** is a staff attorney at the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, based in Boston. Her work primarily focuses on litigation before the federal courts on issues related to removal defense and government accountability. Previously, Ms. Realmuto has worked as an attorney consultant for AIC and as an associate attorney at Van Der Hout, Brigagliano & Nightingale in San Francisco. She has argued and litigated several precedent decisions on behalf of noncitizens and amicus curiae, written numerous practice advisories, and is a frequent presenter on immigration issues.

**Brent Renison** is a partner with Parrilli Renison in Portland, OR. He is chair of AILA's Access to Counsel Task Force and former chair of AILA's Immigration Reform Committee. He is top listed in *Best Lawyers in America*, and ranked as a leading individual by London-based Chambers and Partners. He worked for over five years to end the "widow penalty" through litigation and legislative advocacy, and for his efforts received the Ninth Annual Daniel Levy Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in Immigration Law in 2010 and the Oregon State Bar President's Award for Public Service in 2011. He served as an adjunct professor of immigration law for four years at the University of Oregon School of Law.

**Antonio G. Revilla III** is the founder and president of Revilla Law Firm, P.A. located in Miami. The firm concentrates in all areas of immigration and nationality law, including removal hearings and appeals. Mr. Revilla is a former assistant district counsel with legacy INS. He is also a former assistant public defender with the Office of the Public Defender in Miami-Dade County. Mr. Revilla received his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law in 1992, and his B.A. from Tulane University in 1989. Mr. Revilla is the chair of the AILA South Florida Chapter and a member of the AILA Board of Governors for the 2013–14 term. He is a member of the Florida Bar and is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Ninth and Eleventh Circuits.

**Labe Richman** has represented immigrants in criminal trial and post-conviction proceedings for 30 years. He was a trial advocacy professor at New York Law School and a faculty member of the Cardozo Appeals Clinic. He has published widely in the area of criminal law and has lectured at numerous law schools and bar associations in New York and New Jersey. He is counsel in *People v. Baret*, the case where the New York Court of Appeals will decide if *Padilla v. Kentucky*

will be given retroactive effect in New York. He also won an award from the New York County Lawyers Association for his innovative CLE, “Trial Communication Techniques.”

**L. Edward Rios** is a shareholder and chairs the immigration and international trade law group of Cox Smith Matthews, Inc. headquartered in San Antonio. He is board certified in immigration and nationality law by the State Bar of Texas, Board of Legal Specialization and is an active AILA member, having served on numerous national committees, including Media and Advocacy, CBP Liaison, Admissions and Border Enforcement, and Civil Rights/Civil Liberties Committees. He has served on the AILA Board of Governors and as chair of the AILA Texas Chapter in addition to providing pro bono legal representation through AILA’s Military Assistance Program.

**Manuel “Manny” F. Rios III** is a partner at Rios & Cruz, PS, in Seattle, where he has practiced immigration-related matters exclusively since 1997. Mr. Rios received a B.A. in English Literature from Arizona State University, and his J.D. from Gonzaga University School of Law. He is licensed to practice law in Washington State Courts, the United States Courts of Appeals for the Third and Ninth Circuits. He has served in a number of leadership positions in the AILA Washington State Chapter and has been the consultant attorney on immigration matters for the Mexican Consulate in Washington since 2002.

**Danielle M. Rizzo** is an attorney with the Law Offices of James D. Eiss, where she limits her practice primarily to employment-based nonimmigrant and immigrant visas. She is a former chair of the AILA Upstate New York Chapter. She currently serves as the chair of the AILA National Publications Committee and as a member of AILA’s national CBP Liaison Committee.

**Kimberley Best Robidoux** is a senior associate with Larrabee | Mehlman | Albi | Coker LLP in San Diego. A graduate of Albany Law School and Cornell University, she is licensed to practice in California, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. and has focused primarily on employment-based immigration law, including employment of foreign nationals and corporate compliance issues since 1996. She currently serves on the AILA National CSC Liaison Committee, AILA National Distance Learning Committee, and is past chair of the AILA San Diego Chapter (2011–12). A more detailed biography may be found at [www.larrabee.com/attorneys\\_robidoux.aspx](http://www.larrabee.com/attorneys_robidoux.aspx).

**Samuel C. Rock** practices federal taxation for foreign nationals and U.S. expatriots, IRS debt resolution, immigration, personal injuries, workers compensation, torts, litigation, and criminal law. Prior to entering full time private practice in 2000, he was an assistant district attorney, staff attorney for the Kentucky Court of Appeals, and was a litigation associate for a regional corporate law firm. For almost eight years he was an owner and general counsel of a Spanish speaking tax preparation service. Between 2009 and 2010, he served as the director of the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number program for a publicly traded tax preparation service. He is a national speaker and published author on issues relating to the intersection of taxation and immigration.

**George Rodriguez** is a co-founder and managing partner of Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. He has spoken on several immigration topics for AILA National, the AILA Texas Chapter, and the University of Texas. In addition to being the Texas practice management liaison, he is also the Dallas ICE liaison. Admitted to the Texas Bar, the Northern Federal District Court, and the Federal Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, he is “AV” rated by Martindale Hubbell. Recently, his firm was named by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the “Best Law Firms/Best Lawyers” for 2011–12 and 2013–14.

**Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez** is the founder and senior partner at Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates in Dallas, TX. She is currently serving as the immediate past chair for the AILA Texas Chapter. She serves on the ABA Commission on Immigration. She was selected as “2014 – D Magazines Best Lawyer in Immigration Law,” *Best Lawyers* “2014 Top Tier Immigration Law Firms in America,” and has been part of *Best Lawyers in America* for the last 10 years. Ms. Saenz-Rodriguez is active in AILA on both the local and national level. She is a frequent lecturer on the topic of removal and family-based immigration. She serves as a mentor for young lawyers and dedicates much of her time to pro bono activities and pro bono training for representation of unaccompanied minors. Now in her 23rd year of practice, she is passionate about her work and the need for immigration reform.

**Punam Singh Rogers** is a senior associate at Foley Hoag LLP. She represents a wide range of U.S. employers, from start-ups to multi-nationals, who are seeking to hire nonresident foreign professionals, scientists, business persons and artists. Ms. Rogers also represents asylees and refugees on a pro bono basis and frequently lectures on immigration-related topics.

**Olga Rojas** serves as counsel for the Archdiocese of Chicago. She concentrates her practice in immigration; specifically religious workers. She is currently the second vice chair for the AILA Chicago Chapter. She was the recipient of the 2005 Joseph Minsky Beacon of Light Award from the AILA Chicago Chapter for her work on advocacy. She is a graduate of DePaul University College of Law, and holds a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ms. Rojas was selected as one of the Illinois Rising Stars in 2008 and 2009 by *Illinois Super Lawyers Magazine*.

**Gregory Romanovsky** started his legal education in Moscow, Russia in 1992, and received the U.S. law degree (J.D.) from Boston College Law School in 2000. He has practiced U.S. immigration law exclusively since that time, representing clients before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the Executive Office for Immigration Review, the Board of Immigration Appeals, the U.S. District Courts, and the Circuit Courts of Appeals. From 2009 to 2013, Mr. Romanovsky served as chair of the Litigation Committee for the AILA New England Chapter. He is now part of the Executive Board for AILA New England. In addition to his work at Romanovsky Law, he has been working with the Mayor's Office for the City of Boston to provide free immigration consultations to recent immigrants, who cannot afford the services of a private attorney. A frequent speaker at immigration law conferences and workshops, Mr. Romanovsky has been named by *Super Lawyers Magazine* as a "New England Super Lawyer" in the field of immigration law.

**Adam J. Rosen** is a member of the Murthy Law Firm and a supervising attorney in the special projects department. His practice includes PERM and I-140 issues including complex ability to pay and education equivalency as well as AC21 portability before USCIS and in Federal Court. Mr. Rosen represents companies and individuals before USCIS, the Department of Labor, and the State Department. He is active with the AILA DC Chapter and served on AILA National's Board of Publications and the 2014 Annual Conference Committee. He has published several articles on foreign education equivalency and labor certification and speaks on immigration law.

**Lory D. Rosenberg**, IDEAS Consultation and Coaching LLC, provides lawyers with cutting-edge legal analysis, strategy, writing and advocacy to resolve complex cases and appeals. She was a member of the Board of Immigration Appeals from 1995-02, and an adjunct professor at Washington College of Law. A certified coach, Ms. Rosenberg mentors lawyers to break through business, personal, and financial blocks, leverage their talents and expertise, and take their practices to the next level. She is the co-author of *Immigration Law and Crimes*, a prior director of the Defending Immigrants Partnership and the AIC Legal Action Center, and a three-time elected director on the AILA Board of Governors. Her website is [www.ideaswithlory.com](http://www.ideaswithlory.com).

**Jeff Rosenblum** was appointed general counsel of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in 2012. From 2010 to 2012, he served as a supervisory attorney in EOIR's Office of General Counsel. Jeff worked as an attorney for the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, General Counsel's Office, from 2006-10, and for the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Solicitor, from 2002-06. Prior to joining the government, Jeff worked in private practice in Chicago and Washington, DC. He has also served as an adjunct professor at George Mason University Law School since 2005, where he teaches employment and ethics classes. Jeff graduated law school in 1999 from Loyola University Chicago School of Law, and he received his undergraduate degree in 1994 from the University of Maryland at College Park.

**Martin Rosenbluth** is a staff attorney with the Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ) in Durham, NC where he coordinates the organization's immigrant rights work including education and advocacy on 287(g) and secure communities. He also represents individuals in removal defense cases. Mr. Rosenbluth is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law at Chapel Hill. Prior to attending law school, he worked as a human rights researcher for "Al-Haq," the West Bank affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists. He is a member of the AILA Carolinas Chapter.

**Cliff Rosenthal** is a partner at Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP. He is currently a member of the AILA National Board of Publications. He is also a past chair of AILA's Religious Worker Committee and a former member of AILA's Healthcare Committee. He is listed in *The International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*.

**Charles Roth** is director of litigation at the National Immigrant Justice Center. He focuses on federal litigation in the courts of appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. He also has a longstanding interest in citizenship matters, and is the update editor for Daniel Levy's *U.S. Citizenship and Naturalization Handbook*. Mr. Roth litigates in a variety of areas, including asylum and protection, enforcement issues, crim-imm, federal court jurisdiction, relief eligibility, and challenges to summary or expedited forms of removal.

**Alberto Ruisanchez** is the acting deputy special counsel in the Civil Rights Division's Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices at the U.S. Department of Justice. He graduated summa cum laude from Georgetown University and magna cum laude from Harvard Law School, where he was an editor on the *Harvard Law Review*. After clerking for Judge Juan Torruella on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, Mr. Ruisanchez was accepted into the Attorney Generals Honors Program at the U.S. Department of Justice. Since then, he has been working in various sections of the Civil Rights Division helping to enforce anti-discrimination laws.

**Wayne Sachs** specializes in deportation defense as well as criminal defense of noncitizens. Mr. Sachs is frequently sought out for consultation and referrals by criminal defense counsel who represent foreign-born defendants seeking analysis of immigration law consequences. Likewise he is a sought after resource for immigration law practitioners seeking to avoid or ameliorate immigration consequences by fashioning plea agreements, advocating for deportation-safe sentences, and post-conviction litigation. Mr. Sachs has been appointed as expert immigration counsel by the U.S. District Court under the Criminal Justice Act and has also testified in state court as an expert witness in the area of immigration law. He is frequently called on by his peers to provide instruction at seminars designed to train other lawyers how to effectively represent clients before the criminal and immigration courts.

**Anis N. Saleh** is president of the Miami firm of Saleh & Associates, P.A., where he practices in all areas of immigration law, including employment-based and family cases, removal hearings, and federal court litigation. Mr. Saleh is "AV" rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2007–14), *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* (2007–13), *Florida Super Lawyers* (2006–14), *Who's Who in American Law*, and *Who's Who in the World*. He is also Florida Bar Board Certified in Immigration & Nationality Law and is a past chair of the Florida Bar's Immigration Certification Committee, as well as a past president of the AILA South Florida Chapter.

**Jenny Salomon** is an immigration attorney at Microsoft Corporation in Redmond, WA, where she manages the company's PERM Labor Certification program in addition to providing legal strategy and advice to employees. Ms. Salomon is vice chair of the State Bar of Texas Immigration and Nationality Section. Previously, Ms. Salomon worked at Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP and FosterQuan LLP.

**Paul Samartin** is a partner at Laura Devine Solicitors in London and head of the firm's U.S. immigration practice. He specializes in business, entertainment, and personal immigration to the U.S., advising multinational corporations and private individuals on a variety of U.S. immigration matters. Mr. Samartin is a regular speaker on a wide range of business- and family-related U.S. immigration issues and is an active member of the AILA Rome District Chapter.

**Ari Sauer** is an associate with the Memphis office of Siskind Susser, PC. His practice is focused on employment- and family-based immigration and naturalization law. He is the outgoing chapter chair of the AILA Mid South Chapter and has served on the AILA Board of Governors for the past three years.

**Bennett Savitz** has practiced exclusively in the area of immigration law since 1994, and founded Savitz Law Offices, P.C. (*ImmigrationOptions.com*) in 2000. He has served as the chapter chair of the AILA New England Chapter, as well as on several local and national AILA committees, helping shape policies and procedures for the entire immigration bar. He is a frequent speaker and writer on various aspects of immigration law. Since 2008, Mr. Savitz has been selected as one of "Boston's Best Lawyers in Immigration Law" by *Best Lawyers of America*. He currently teaches a graduate school course on Immigration Law at Lesley University.

**Peter T. Schiron, Jr.** is an assistant general counsel for Deloitte LLP in New York City where he oversees the organization's U.S. and global immigration compliance programs by guiding leadership and management teams in formulating U.S. and global immigration policies and best practices that ensure compliance with immigration laws and promote the success of Deloitte's business models. Additionally, Mr. Schiron co-leads Deloitte's advocacy and legislative agenda in Washington, D.C. for passage of high-skilled immigration legislation. He is a frequent speaker on business immigration and global workforce compliance.

**Kenneth K. Schmitt** received his J.D. from St. Louis University in 1993. He is a principal of US Legal Solutions in St. Louis, MO and he represents employers in various employment-related petitions and individual immigrants in removal cases as well as criminal and civil litigation matters. He has assisted many immigrant clients to start businesses and become foreign labor employers themselves. He presently is a member of the DOL Committee, frequently addresses

community organizations and provides frequent commentary on immigration topics to St. Louis radio and TV outlets. Mr. Schmitt is a recipient of the 2012 AILA National Advocacy Award.

**Liam Schwartz** is the principal at Liam Schwartz & Associates, practicing in Israel. Mr. Schwartz is a member and former chair of AILA's DOS Liaison Committee. He is a member of the AILA Global Migration Section Conference Committee, and a former chair of the AILA Rome District Chapter. Mr. Schwartz received a President's Commendation for Outstanding Leadership (AILA) and was named to the "Top Ten Most Highly Regarded Individuals in the field of Corporate Immigration Law 2013" (LexisNexis). He holds a J.D. degree from Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School and a B.A. degree from Johns Hopkins University. He is admitted to practice in New York, New Jersey, and Israel.

**Eileen Scofield** heads the immigration practice at Alston & Bird, concentrating on immigration law and related legal matters for U.S. – and foreign-based clients. With more than 29 years of experience, she has both advised and litigated with the DHS USCIS, DHS ICE and the DOJ Civil Rights Division on various worksite enforcement issues. She regularly manages many multi-agency and workforce-related government agency subpoenas, audits and investigations; advises on federal /state legislation; actively leads/participates in numerous pro-bono projects; provides advice on compliance standards, audit responses, internal processing, follow-up and conclusion. Ms. Scofield has been recognized by Chambers USA, *Best Lawyers in America*, is an FBA ILS Officer, and serves on various AILA national committees.

**Laurel Scott** is the founding attorney at Scott and Associates. She received a B.A. from Simon's Rock College, a Master's Degree from Duke University, and a J.D. from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA where she completed the Temple University Immigration Law Clinical. She spent a year studying at the Queen's University of Belfast and completed an internship at the European Parliament. She started work on her first waiver of inadmissibility in 2003, and quickly realized that waivers were an ideal niche for her new firm. Over the years, she emerged as one of the nation's leading experts in this type of case, publishing numerous articles on the subject and speaking at many events for immigration lawyers. She is licensed in Texas.

**Heather N. Segal** is a partner at Guberman Garson Immigration Lawyers in Toronto, Canada and has been practicing in the area of immigration law for over 15 years. She obtained her Master of Law degree from the University of California at Berkeley: Boalt Hall School of Law and is licensed to practice in California. Ms. Segal practices exclusively in the area of Canadian immigration law and American consular and border immigration law. She has served as the director to AILA's Board of Governors since 2006 and is an active member of the National Department of State Liaison Committee; Global Migration Section Steering Committee; National Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Committee; AILA Rome District Chapter DOS Committee and Spring Conference Committee. She is widely recognized for her expertise in immigration law and she speaks regularly at conferences and seminars throughout the world. She has also been named one of Canada's "Best Lawyers" according to *The Best Lawyers in Canada*.

**Marcine Seid** is the principal attorney of the Seid Law Group in Palo Alto, CA. She is currently an elected director of the AILA Board of Governors and is a frequent speaker for many of AILA's national, regional, and local conferences. Ms. Seid has served on numerous AILA committees including AILA's CSC Liaison Committee, AAO Liaison Committee, Business Committee, Compliance Auditing Standards Committee. She has co-authored two immigration books, *Immigration in the Workplace* and *Immigration Compliance Auditing for Lawyers* published by the American Bar Association.

**Suzanne B. Seltzer** is a partner of Klasko, Rulon, Stock & Seltzer LLP, in charge of the New York office. Ms. Seltzer chairs the AILA Service Center Operations Liaison Committee. She is also founding member of the NY Anti-Trafficking Network and currently sits on its Steering Committee. Ms. Seltzer is included in *Best Lawyers in America* (2007–12), *New York Super Lawyers* (2007–11), and *New York Magazine's Best Lawyer's in New York* (2008–2012), and Chambers USA (2011–2012). A magna cum laude graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, she received her law degree from Georgetown University's Law Center (cum laude).

**John L. Sesini** is former partner and head of the family/removal practice group at Grzeca Law Group in Milwaukee, WI. His practice is entirely devoted to representing individuals with issues in removal defense, family immigration, naturalization and citizenship, asylum, federal appeals and litigation, and the immigration consequences of criminal convictions. Prior to focusing exclusively in immigration law, Mr. Sesini practiced criminal law for many years. As a result of his criminal law background, he is frequently sought to consult in criminal cases throughout Wisconsin and has successfully vacated dozens and dozens of criminal convictions for his clients.

**Andrew W. Shackelford** is an associate with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP in Phoenix. He has practiced in the field of corporate immigration and nationality law since 2001. Mr. Shackelford currently represents corporate clients in a variety of industries including the pharmaceutical, insurance, engineering, and technology fields. His practice includes all aspects of corporate U.S. immigration including nonimmigrant visas, permanent residence, citizenship, I-9 compliance and immigration support for corporate restructuring. In addition, he represents LGBT individuals and families in connection with nonimmigrant visa petitions family-based and employment-based permanent residence applications and naturalization applications.

**Paromita Shah** has served as associate director since 2005, specializing in immigration detention and enforcement. She is a contributing author and co-presenter of the “Deportation 101” curriculum, participates in regular advocacy efforts with ICE officials, and has created an abundance of resources for communities affected by heightened immigration enforcement efforts. Previously, Ms. Shah served as director of Capital Area Immigrants’ Rights (CAIR) Coalition in Washington, D.C., where she conducted presentations in regional county jails, trained attorneys, assessed detainee claims for relief, and conducted liaison meetings with DHS and DOJ. She also worked as a staff attorney at Greater Boston Legal Services.

**Anita P. Sharma** has been the asylum attorney at the PAIR Project since 2003. Since 2006, she has served on the Asylum Liaison Committee for the AILA New England Chapter. From 2010–12, Ms. Sharma co-chaired the immigration section of the Boston Bar Association. She was selected for the BBA’s 2008–09 Public Interest Leadership Program and received the BBA’s John G. Brooks Public Service Award in 2006 for her outstanding representation of asylum-seekers and mentorship of pro bono attorneys. Ms. Sharma is a co-author of PAIR’s *Representing Asylum Seekers* manual and often participates at trainings on asylum law and procedure.

**Rekha Sharma-Crawford** is a co-founder of the Sharma-Crawford Law Firm, formed with her partner and spouse Michael Sharma-Crawford. This rapidly growing firm has been dedicated, since 2003, to serving those in need of complex immigration representation. They also serve their community by operating the first nonprofit legal clinic for the Kansas City Immigration Court, providing low-bono and pro bono representation for those in removal proceedings. Ms. Sharma-Crawford received her J.D. from Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Houston.

**Rebecca Sharpless** is a member of the faculty of the University of Miami School of Law, where she directs the Immigration Clinic and teaches immigration law. She speaks widely on immigration law, including at events such as the AILA Annual Conference and seminars of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild. She organizes continuing legal education seminars on immigration topics and has been called upon to testify on immigration issues. Professor Sharpless is a longstanding board member of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild.

**Thomas Shea** is a senior staff attorney with CUNY Citizenship Now! in New York City. He was formerly the director of training and technical assistance at the New York Immigration Coalition where he lectured regularly on various immigration law topics such as citizenship, naturalization, family-based immigration, and relief from removal.

**Edward Shulman** is the founder and principal of The Shulman Law Group, LLC in Paterson, NJ. He is the former chair of the AILA New Jersey Chapter and the NJ Bar. Mr. Shulman has been named in *Best Lawyers*® and *Super Lawyers*®. He was showcased in *Newsweek Magazine* and *Time Magazine* as a Leading Immigration Attorney in the United States and has been a frequent lecturer to AILA, the NJ Bar, and numerous educational institutions including Princeton University. He has been cited for his legal opinion in various written publications including the *New York Times*. He has been a legal consultant for the TV shows *Law & Order* and *Drop Dead Diva*.

**Carl Shusterman** is the managing attorney of the Law Office of Carl Shusterman based in Los Angeles. He has specialized in immigration law for over 35 years and his seven-attorney law firm represents clients in all 50 states. Prior to entering private practice in 1982, he served as an attorney for legacy U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). He has chaired numerous AILA committees, spoken at dozens of AILA conferences and has contributed a number of scholarly articles to AILA’s publications. For many years he has been named as one of the Best Attorneys in America and as a SuperLawyer.

**Howard A. Silverman** is a partner in the law firm of Ross Silverman LLP with over 29 years of experience in the field of immigration and nationality law. He is a former chair of the AILA New England Chapter and vice chair of the AILA ICE Liaison Committee. He is currently co-chair of the AILA New England Chapter Enforcement and Removal Operations Liaison Committee. Mr. Silverman has been a speaker at immigration law programs and workshops, and has three times been presented with the Mentor of the Year Award from the PAIR Project for his volunteer work supervising pro bono attorneys representing political asylum applicants.

**Teri A. Simmons** is a partner with Arnall Golden Gregory, an Atlanta-based firm employing over 160 attorneys. She directs the international/immigration department which focuses on the representation of foreign-owned corporations in the United States, with a particular emphasis on German owned companies. Ms. Simmons has practiced law since 1989, and is fluent in written and spoken German, as are 10 of her colleagues. She is one of the leaders of the immigration law section of the international employment law alliance. She represented the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games and was responsible for managing all of the immigration issues confronting the committee together with visa processing for employees from abroad, visitors, athletes, broadcasting professionals, and cultural artists. From 1999 to 2001, she served as chair for the AILA Atlanta Chapter. She has also served on board of AILA and on multiple liaison committees including the Immigrant Investor and Customs & Border Protection Committee. She is included in *Best Lawyers* for Business Immigration expertise, Chambers International, and in Legal 500. The Federal Republic of Germany awarded her the national German Friendship award and the City of Nürnberg presented her with the International Prize of Honor. She earned her Bachelor's degrees in Mathematics and German from Furman University, a Master of Arts degree in German Studies from the University of Virginia, completed post graduate work at the University of Tübingen, Germany and a J.D. at the University Of Georgia School Of Law. She is fluent in written and spoken German.

**Greg Siskind** is a founding partner of Siskind Susser and a member of AILA for over two decades. He writes several books including the annually published LexisNexis *J-1 Visa Guidebook*, the ABA's *Lawyers Guide to Marketing* on the Internet and SHRM's *Employer's Immigration Compliance Desk Reference*. In 1994, he created the first immigration law website and in 1998, he created the world's first law blog. He has written numerous chapters for AILA publications, served on dozens of AILA CLE panels and been a member/chair of a number of AILA committees. He now serves on the AILA Board of Governors.

**Heather Sivaraman** is an attorney with The Law Offices of Dayna Kelly. She is a member of AILA and the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Taskforce. Ms. Sivaraman represents physicians and healthcare corporations before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and other federal agencies. Ms. Sivaraman was selected to appear in *The International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers* and *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers* each year since 2012. She serves as Advocacy chair for the AILA Carolinas Chapter and is former chair of the NC Bar Association Immigration Law Committee.

**Charlotte Slocombe** is a senior manager with Fragomen LLP in London. She is on the AILA Mexico City District Chapter Board and chair of the Consular Liaison Committee for the AILA Rome District Chapter (RDC). She has been conference chair for the Athens, London, and Paris conferences of RDC. Ms. Slocombe is New York licensed and is a U.K. Solicitor of England and Wales. She has practiced U.S. immigration law since 2005.

**Charlotte W. Smith** is an associate at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP in New York City. She joined Fragomen in 2006, and practices exclusively in the field of immigration and nationality law. She currently advises financial services companies on all aspects of corporate U.S. immigration, including nonimmigrant visas, employment- and family-based permanent residency applications, and U.S. citizenship applications. She currently serves as a co-chair of the AILA NY DOL Committee and formerly served as a co-chair of the Chapter's Citizenship Day Committee.

**Deborah S. Smith** directs the Immigration Clinic at the University of Idaho College of Law. Previously, Ms. Smith practiced with the Montana Office of the Appellate Defender, where she specialized in the immigration consequences of crimes and other appellate matters; before that, she was in private practice in Helena, MT, focusing on all areas of immigration law. She has been an adjunct professor of law at the University of Montana School of Law. She presently chairs AILA's Bylaws Committee, and serves on AILA's Amicus Curiae Committee and the Annual Conference Program Committee. Ms. Smith is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School.

**Philip Smith** is a partner in the Portland-based immigration law firm NELSON | SMITH, LLP. Mr. Smith's practice includes removal defense and federal litigation, as well as family and employment immigration. He often assists refugees

and asylum seekers, and has successfully handled asylum cases from a number of countries, including China, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia, Senegal, Somalia, Ghana, Nepal, Libya, Syria, Iraq, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Mr. Smith is a member of the Hawaii, Tennessee, and Oregon Bars, as well as the U.S. District Court of Oregon, the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. He received his law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and prior to his legal career he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Sri Lanka.

**Jay Solomon** practices immigration law in Atlanta. He has engaged in a decades-long study of 8 CFR §§204 and 214. He is currently struggling with the meaning of “a” in the phrase “a degree,” hoping to advance to multiple letter indefinite articles.

**Rita Sostrin** ([rsostrin@sostrinimmigration.com](mailto:rsostrin@sostrinimmigration.com)) is a partner at Sostrin Immigration Lawyers, LLP in Los Angeles. Ms. Sostrin focuses her practice on immigration of individuals of extraordinary abilities, including artists, entertainers, academics, and physicians. She is a regular speaker and writer on advanced immigration law topics. Ms. Sostrin is chair of AILA’s California Service Center Liaison Committee, member of AILA’s Service Center Operations Committee, senior editor of the *Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook*, and member of AILA’s Periodicals Review Board. In 2008, she was honored by AILA’s Presidential Award for her outstanding contributions. She is included in *The International Who’s Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, *Chambers USA*, *Best Lawyers in America* and *U.S. News & World Report Best Lawyers*.

**Grant Sovern** is chair of the immigration practice at Quarles & Brady, a 450-attorney firm with offices in Chicago, Madison, Milwaukee, Phoenix, Tucson, Tampa, Naples, and Washington, D.C. He served as chair of AILA’s SSA liaison committee for many years and also has served on the Verification Liaison Committee and the Inter-Agency Taskforce. He speaks at conferences and seminars, including regional and national AILA conferences. He teaches immigration law at the University of Wisconsin Law School, serves on the board of the Community Immigration Law Center, and is a graduate of Tufts University and the University of Michigan Law School.

**Sheila Starkey Hahn** is a solo practitioner in Memphis, practicing employment- and family-based immigration. She is past treasurer of the AILA DC Chapter and served as the AILA DC Chapter’s ambassador to AIC. She has acted as the AILA DC Chapter Citizenship Day chair and pro bono liaison.

**Irene A. Steffas** advocates for children, when the United States closes adoptions in countries—Cambodia, VN and Nepal—and by responding to RFEs, NOIDs and denials. Such experience has resulted in greater insights and deeper understanding of U.S. regulations. COA certified Steffas & Associates specializes in Hague adoptions, where the firm is an official adoption service provider. Such cases include incoming-children immigrating from Belize, Brazil, Canada, Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom; and outgoing-children emigrating to Mexico, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Ms. Steffas lectures nationally and internationally on the subject of intercountry adoptions and the Child Citizenship Act.

**Elissa Steglich** is the managing attorney at the American Friends Service Committee’s Immigrant Rights Program in Newark, NJ. In addition to supervising legal staff, she provides direct representation to asylum seekers, immigrant children, and immigrant survivors of violence and human trafficking. Ms. Steglich teaches immigration law as an adjunct professor at Rutgers School of Law. She has served on national committees regarding the treatment of immigrant children and provided trainings to service providers, attorneys and judges on immigration relief for children and youth. She serves on the Board of the Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights in Chicago. Ms. Steglich received her J.D. (with honors) from the University of Texas School of Law.

**Andrew Stevenson** is a shareholder at Lane Powell PC in Seattle. He focuses his practice on business immigration law, including professional employment and investor visas, corporate immigration compliance, DHS and DOL audits, solving admission problems at the U.S. border, and consular processing. He has also handled many waivers of inadmissibility, family-based immigration petitions, and other complex individual cases. Mr. Stevenson is the vice-chair of AILA’s national CBP Liaison Committee, and has earned certification as a specialist in immigration and nationality law from the State Bar of California.

**Margaret D. Stock** is a member of the Alaska Bar who earned her undergraduate, graduate, and law degrees at Harvard University. A retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve Military Police Corps, she was named a 2013 MacArthur Fellow (“genius grant” recipient) by the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation for her work on the

connection between immigration and national security. Ms. Stock is the author of the AILA book, *Immigration Law & the Military*, and co-author of the fifth edition of the AILA book, *Professionals: A Matter of Degree*, with Martin Lawler. She is the principal attorney at Cascadia Cross Border Law Group LLC in Anchorage, AK.

**William A. Stock** is a founding partner of Klasko, Rulon, Stock & Seltzer, LLP, a firm devoted exclusively to the practice of immigration and nationality law with offices in Philadelphia and New York. He handles all aspects of immigration law, including assisting companies and individuals in obtaining employment- and family-based visas; resolving citizenship issues and obtaining naturalization; and defending clients in DHS and Department of Labor enforcement proceedings. He is featured in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *The Chambers Global Guide*, *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*, and *Who's Who of Business Lawyers*. He has received the highest "AV" rating from the Martindale-Hubble Peer Review system, has taught immigration law at Villanova University School of Law, is a frequent speaker and author on immigration law topics, and currently serves as Second Vice President of AILA.

**Lincoln Stone** practices law with Stone Grzegorek & Gonzalez LLP, [www.sggimmigration.com](http://www.sggimmigration.com), in Los Angeles. Mr. Stone is certified as a specialist in immigration and nationality law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization.

**Erich C. Straub** practices immigration law in Milwaukee, WI and Chicago. He has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America* since 2006 and in *Super Lawyers* since 2009. He has been a faculty member of AIC's Litigation Institute since 2006. He was chairperson of the AILA Wisconsin Chapter and served on the Board of Governors from 2007–09.

**Kelli J. Stump** focuses her immigration law practice on complex deportation, federal litigation, and family and employment-based immigrant petitions and waivers of inadmissibility. As a member of AILA, Ms. Stump is currently the vice chair of the AILA Texas Chapter (TX, NM, and OK). Additionally, she is the vice chair for the AILA National ICE Committee and also serves on the AILA Annual Conference Committee. She has authored several articles on immigration law and she has served as an editor for the AILA annual conference handbook and fundamentals book.

**Matthew D. Stump** is an attorney with Stump & Associates in Oklahoma City, OK. He focuses his practice on employment-based nonimmigrant and immigrant business visa issues, as well as I-9 and corporate compliance. As an active member of AILA, Mr. Stump serves as vice chair of AILA's Vermont Service Center Liaison Committee. He served four years as AILA's liaison to the Oklahoma City Sub-Office of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and was a member of AILA's 2012–13 National Distance Learning Committee. He frequently serves as a panelist or speaker for immigration conferences, HR conferences, and CLEs.

**T. Douglas Stump**, founder and senior attorney at Stump & Associates, P.C., has over 30 years of experience in immigration law. His practice focuses on employment-based immigration, complex deportation, federal court litigation, unlawful presence waivers, and other family immigration matters. He has a full-service immigration law firm with offices in Oklahoma City and Tulsa and represents a large portfolio of clients across the United States. He has served in AILA leadership roles for over 12 years and has chaired or served on almost every major AILA liaison committee. He is past chair of the AILA Texas Chapter and a member of IMMLAW, a national consortium of immigration law firms. He has also served on the board of directors for AIC. Mr. Stump has consistently been listed in *Best Lawyers in America* for immigration law and was recently recognized by *Best Lawyers* as "Immigration Lawyer of the Year" in 2013 and 2014 for Oklahoma City. He was recognized in *Oklahoma Magazine* as one of the "Top 50 Super Lawyers in Oklahoma" and is referenced in *Chambers and Partners Immigration Nationwide*. He has co-edited over 30 books on immigration, spoken at hundreds of national and international conferences, and regularly appears as an expert on radio and TV programs addressing immigration law-related issues. Mr. Stump is married to Kaye Stump and father of Kelli Stump and Matt Stump, both of whom are AILA members practicing with him. He is an avid waterfowler, private pilot, and bass fisherman, having previously competed professionally on the Bassmaster Tournament Trail.

**Robin M. Stutman** is the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Executive Office for Immigration Review's (EOIR) Chief Administrative Hearing Officer. She previously served as EOIR's General Counsel from August 2009 to March 2012. From 1987 to August 2009, Ms. Stutman served in the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices, Civil Rights Division, DOJ, as a Special Litigation Counsel, Supervisory Attorney, and Senior Trial Attorney. From 1986 to 1987, she was in private practice. From 1982 to 1986, Ms. Stutman worked as a trial attorney in the Federal Programs Branch, Civil Division, DOJ, entering on duty through the Attorney General's Honors Program. From January to May 1981, she served as a legal intern to the Honorable Joyce Hens Green, U.S. District Court

for the District of Columbia. Ms. Stutman received a B.A. degree in 1978 from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and a J.D. in 1982 from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law. She is a member of the District of Columbia bar.

**Hardeep “Dee” Sull** is the managing partner of Sull and Associates in Las Vegas. Sull and Associates provides comprehensive immigration law services to corporations and individuals. She currently serves as a member of the Global Migration Section Conference Committee and on this year’s Annual Conference Committee. She earned a Masters in Law from the University of Minnesota and an LL.B. from The Norwich Law School, University of East Anglia. Ms. Sull lectures nationally on the subject of immigration law.

**Tarik H. Sultan** has concentrated his practice exclusively in immigration law, both in private practice and as an attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice with the U.S. Immigration Court. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for immigration law and *SuperLawyers* as one of the top 5 percent in immigration law. Mr. Sultan is listed in the Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers. He was selected as the 2012 *U.S. News* Lawyer of the Year in Tucson for the field of immigration. Prior to forming Wolf & Sultan P.C., he practiced in the corporate immigration practice group of a 600+ lawyer international law firm.

**Carlina Tapia-Ruano** is a past president of AILA and its first Hispanic president. She founded Tapia-Ruano & Gunn PC in Chicago, and has practiced law for over 30 years. Her area of practice includes family, employment, and removal defense. She has written and lectured extensively. She has testified before the U.S. Congress, been a faculty member of AIC’s Litigation Institute, De Paul College of Law, and the Illinois Institute of Technology-Chicago Kent School of Law.

**Carla Tarazi** is a partner in the San Francisco office of Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP. Ms. Tarazi has an extensive background in all aspects of employment- and family-based immigration, including citizenship matters. Ms. Tarazi currently focuses her practice on representing multinational corporate clients in employment-based immigration issues, specifically PERM labor certifications, preference visa petitions, and both consular processing and adjustment of status applications. She provides guidance in the administration and management of immigration programs for clients seeking the firm’s wealth of experience in best practices for immigration programs. Ms. Tarazi is an active member of AILA and has spoken at both regional and national AILA conferences on employment-based immigrant visa issues. She has also served on the AILA California Service Center Liaison Committee; and she has served as a member of the San Francisco Bar Association Volunteer Legal Services Program which provides pro bono legal services.

**Paige Taylor** is a partner with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy in Dallas, where she advises and represents clients across a variety of industries, including telecommunications, technology, energy, engineering, and electronics. She is the current chair of the State Bar of Texas Immigration & Nationality Section and a member of AILA’s Department of Labor Liaison Committee. She is a frequent speaker on immigration topics at local and national conferences.

**Steven C. Thal** practices immigration law in Minnetonka, MN. He is a 1982 graduate cum laude of the University of Minnesota Law School. Prior to law school he spent two years in the Peace Corps in Ecuador, South America. Mr. Thal holds an “AV” rating from Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in their Directory of Preeminent Lawyers. *Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine* and *Twin Cities Business Monthly* have recognized him as a "Super Lawyer" in immigration law. He has received the AILA National Presidential Commendation for "creative and tireless advocacy" on behalf of immigrants. He is an Emeritus Trustee of AIC. He has served as chair of the AILA Minnesota/Dakotas Chapter and as chair of the Immigration Section of the Minnesota Bar Association.

**Devin T. Theriot-Orr** is a senior associate at Gibbs Houston Pauw in Seattle where he practices a broad array of family, employment, removal and humanitarian-based immigration law, with a particular focus on complex litigation. As it pertains to the topic of attorneys’ fees, Mr. Theriot-Orr has received significant EAJA fee awards in the Seventh and Ninth Circuits, as well as before the Western District of Washington in several different cases. He regularly presents at local and national conferences. He is also an adjunct professor of law at Seattle University where he teaches immigration law.

**Susan Timmons Marks** is the associate director of AILA’s Practice & Professionalism Center (PPC). The PPC specializes in assisting AILA members with practice management issues, ethics questions, meeting their pro bono obligations and providing community education and resources to combat the unauthorized practice of immigration law. Ms. Timmons Marks has been at AILA for seven years and developed AILA’s Pro Bono Program “from scratch.” She

also manages all of AILA's work surrounding consumer protection and anti-UPL efforts. She is a 2006 graduate of CUNY School of Law.

**Milissa R. Tipton-Dunkins** practices immigration law at Lawrence E. Davis P.C. in Oklahoma City, OK. She has a B.S. in Administration of Justice from WSU and a J.D. from Oklahoma City University. Mrs. Tipton-Dunkins is a member of the OBA and the Western District of Oklahoma. She is a current board member of Legal Aid of Oklahoma, an active member of AILA, and serves on the Mentoring Committee for the OKC Federal Bar Association. Mrs. Tipton-Dunkins is the Oklahoma City liaison for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She speaks on immigration and various motivational topics.

**Scott Titshaw** is a law professor at Mercer University. He previously practiced immigration law and served as chair of the AILA Georgia-Alabama Chapter. He earned a J.D. cum laude from the University of Georgia and an LL.M. magna cum laude from the Universität Hamburg. After law school, he clerked for a federal district court and was a legal translator with Germany's Constitutional Court. He recently published "Revisiting the Meaning of Marriage: Immigration for Same-Sex Spouses in a Post-Windsor World," 66 VAND. L. REV. EN BANC 167 (2013)(available at <http://ssrn.com/author=1237700>).

**Aimee Clark Todd** is of counsel at Troutman Sanders LLP. Her practice concentrates on business immigration, including work visas, permanent residence, I-9 and E-Verify compliance, with an active pro bono practice for immigrant survivors of abuse and other crimes. A frequent speaker and author, former AILA NMD chair and AILA Atlanta Chapter chair, she is recognized as one of America's Leading Lawyers for Immigration Law by Chambers USA, as a "Rising Star" by *Georgia Super Lawyer*, and recipient of the GAIN 2013 Mentor of the Year Award, 2007 AILA Sam Williamson Mentor Award and 2006 Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation Pro Bono Award.

**Anastasia Tonello** is the managing partner of Laura Devine Attorneys LLC in New York City, the associated law firm of Laura Devine Solicitors in London where she is also a partner. Having managed successful practices in New York and London, Ms. Tonello is well placed to advise clients on the real world issues facing businesses as they expand into the U.S. She was a charter member and officer of the AILA Rome District Chapter and currently serves as secretary on AILA's Executive Committee. She received a B.A. from Indiana University and a J.D. from the University of Notre Dame. Ms. Tonello is admitted to the Bar of the State of New York and is a solicitor of England and Wales. Accolades include, *Who's Who Legal*, *Legal 500 UK Edition*, Chambers Guide (UK, Global and USA) and *SuperLawyers*. You can follow her on Twitter at *anastasianyon*.

**Reid Trautz** is director of the AILA Practice & Professionalism Center, where he oversees the component programs (practice management, ethics, consumer protection, mentoring, and pro bono) and provides guidance to members to help improve their businesses and the delivery of legal services to clients. Mr. Trautz is a nationally recognized advisor, author and presenter on practice issues, including business process improvement, marketing, law practice technology, and legal ethics. He is admitted to the bars of Minnesota (inactive), Virginia, District of Columbia, and U.S. Supreme Court, and is a fellow of the College of Law Practice Management.

**Frederick Troncone** joined the Ombudsman's Office in March 2008, and currently serves as the senior advisor for employment immigration issues. Previously, Mr. Troncone practiced immigration law in the private sector in Hawaii and Washington DC beginning in 1989, and was elected chair of the AILA Hawaii Chapter in 1996. Before adding immigration to his labor and employment law practice, Mr. Troncone served for five years as an attorney-advisor to the National Labor Relations Board General Counsel's Office, Division of Enforcement Litigation, in Washington. DC.

**Roger Tsai** is the chair of the immigration practice at Holland & Hart, a Denver-based law firm with over 400 lawyers in 15 offices. He is a graduate of the University of Houston Law School and University of Michigan. He authored AILA's primer on I-9s, *Fundamentals of Immigration Compliance*, and has spoken at immigration compliance conferences hosted by the Federal Bar Association and AILA. Mr. Tsai has served on AILA's Board of Governors, the ABA Commission on Immigration, and AILA's Business Immigration, DOL Liaison, and Verification committees. For his pro bono efforts, he was recently named the Utah State Bar's Young Lawyer of the Year.

**Nita Nicole Upadhye** is the principal at NNU Immigration in London. She has over 10 years of experience as a U.S. practitioner based abroad, with a focus on intracompany transferee visas, investor visas, visas for members of the foreign

media and renunciation of U.S. citizenship. She is the 2013–14 chair of the AILA Rome District Chapter and is one of the original members of the Rome District Chapter.

**Marc Van Der Hout** is the founding partner of San Francisco's Van Der Hout, Brigagliano & Nightingale Immigration Law Firm and has been a long-time member of AILA's Board of Governors. In over 30 years of practice, he has litigated many cases of national importance, including the *ABC* and *LA8* cases, and has twice received AILA's Jack Wasserman award for litigator of the year. Mr. Van Der Hout is a past president of the National Lawyers Guild, a past chair of the Guild's National Immigration Project, and has been a member of NIP's governing board for over two decades.

**Thomas Vanasse** is a litigator at Wildes & Weinberg, P.C. in New York City. He represents clients in complex immigration cases before USCIS, Immigration Court, and Federal Court. He speaks frequently about immigration topics at national and local AILA conferences. Prior to Wildes & Weinberg, Mr. Vanasse worked for five years as a staff attorney at the New York Association for New Americans. Mr. Vanasse started his immigration career as an asylum officer at the New York Asylum Office from 1994 to 2000.

**Peter S. Vincent** is the principal legal advisor and senior counselor for international policy for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Mr. Vincent joined ICE as the principal legal advisor in May 2009. As the principal legal advisor, he oversees the largest legal program in DHS. Mr. Vincent supervises over 1,000 attorneys and an additional 450 legal and mission support specialists who represent ICE in removal proceedings before immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals. In addition, he advises ICE's numerous enforcement components on issues ranging from customs law to Fourth Amendment search and seizure issues. In his role as Senior Counselor for International Policy, Mr. Vincent advises the Office of the Director on issues related to the formulation and execution of the agency's international diplomatic engagement. In July 2002, following a successful career as a litigator in private practice, Mr. Vincent joined the former Immigration and Naturalization Service. He later served on the National Security Litigation Team in the San Francisco Office of the Chief Counsel for ICE. As a trial attorney, he represented the government in immigration proceedings involving terrorists and individuals who provided material support to foreign terrorist organizations. In addition, he advised the local Joint Terrorism Task Force on issues relating to counterterrorism and foreign counterintelligence. In November 2006, Mr. Vincent was appointed to serve as the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) assistant judicial attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Bogotá, Colombia. In December 2008, he was promoted to judicial attaché. In those capacities, Mr. Vincent advised DOJ, the U.S. Department of State, and various law enforcement and intelligence-gathering agencies on matters concerning extradition, terrorist organizations, and narco-trafficking. During his tenure at the U.S. Embassy, he coordinated nearly 500 extraditions to the United States, including the extradition requests for dozens of high-profile leaders of designated foreign terrorist organizations such as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the National Liberation Army (ELN), and the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC). In November 2011, Mr. Vincent was named as the Acting Director of the agency's International Operations. With attachés in 75 offices in 48 countries, including 7 combatant commands, International Operations is the largest international investigative component within the DHS. Mr. Vincent served as Acting Director through July 2013. Mr. Vincent graduated with high honors from the University of California at Berkeley with a B.A. in political science. He received his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law where he served as the editor-in-chief of the *Virginia Journal of International Law*.

**W. John Yahya Vandenberg** is a partner at Hogan & Vandenberg in Philadelphia. He is an active member of the AILA Philadelphia Chapter Executive Committee. Mr. Vandenberg has spoken in the past on *Lozada* best practices, difficult family-based adjustments, VAWA relief for men, and removal proceedings in a detained setting. He has served as an adjunct lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania Transnational Legal Clinic, and presented to immigration law classes at the Villanova and Widener University Schools of Law. In 2012, he received the first Matthew Baxter Mentorship Award for service to the chapter.

**Michael S. Vastine** is professor of law and director of the Immigration Clinic at St. Thomas University School of Law in Miami. His practice and research focus on the deportation consequences of criminal convictions and the due process rights of immigrants. A widely published author, he has also litigated cases of impact before the U.S. Courts of Appeal and Florida Supreme Court. He received the 2013 AILA Elmer Fried Award for Excellence in Teaching and serves on the Board of Directors of the AILA South Florida Chapter. He earned his J.D. from Georgetown Law Center, M.Music from Temple University and B.Music from Oberlin Conservatory.

**Sonal J. Mehta Verma** is an attorney with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP in Washington, D.C. She is a former AILA DC Chapter chair, has served as an elected member of the AILA National Nominating Committee, and currently serves on several other AILA national committees. Ms. Verma has more than 15 years of experience handling all aspects of immigration and nationality law. Focusing her practice on corporate immigration matters, she provides corporations and individuals with guidance and advice on all immigrant and nonimmigrant visas. She also provides advice and counsel for family-based matters, asylum cases, and removal issues. Selected for inclusion in the *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*, she is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of immigration topics for community organizations, HR professionals, and law school classes. Ms. Verma has also appeared as a guest on C-SPAN to discuss current trends in immigration law.

**Paul W. Virtue** is a partner with Baker & McKenzie LLP's global mobility practice in Washington, D.C. He is former executive associate commissioner and general counsel of legacy INS. Mr. Virtue formerly served as chair of the AIC Board of Trustees. He has taught immigration law and is a frequent lecturer nationally on the subject of worksite compliance and other aspects of immigration law.

**Mark R. von Sternberg** is a senior attorney with Catholic Charities Community Services/Archdiocese of New York. He also serves as an adjunct professor at Pace, Saint Johns and New York Law Schools where he teaches immigration and refugee related subjects. Mr. von Sternberg is the author of an internationally recognized treatise regarding the grounds of refugee protection as applied in the United States and Canada. In 2002, he received AILA's Pro Bono Award. Mr. von Sternberg is a former chair of the ABA's Immigration and Naturalization Committee and of New York City Bar's Immigration and Nationality Law Committee.

**Olsi Vrap** is the managing partner at Noble & Vrap, P.A., with offices in Albuquerque, NM; Santa Fe, NM; and El Paso, TX. Mr. Vrap is the co-chair of the Annual Conference Planning Committee and has served in various capacities for AILA including as a member of the Amicus Committee, Board of Publications, various conference planning committees, and liaison committees. Mr. Vrap has also been an author and editor for various AILA publications. He is an adjunct professor of law at the University of New Mexico School of Law teaching courses in advanced immigration practice and crimmigration.

**Ian D. Wagreich** manages the business immigration & compliance practice group at Latimer LeVay Fyock LLC. His clients include multinational corporations, hospitals, nonprofit arts institutions, religious organizations, universities, athletic organizations and individual investors and entrepreneurs. He is currently chair of AILA's USCIS Benefits Policy Liaison Committee. In 2011, Mr. Wagreich was a recipient of AILA's President's Commendation for outstanding leadership. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of AIC. He speaks frequently about immigration issues at universities and continuing legal education seminars.

**Kathleen Campbell Walker** is a past president (2007–08) and general counsel (2009–10) of AILA. She is a shareholder with Cox Smith Matthews firm in its El Paso office. She is board-certified in immigration and nationality law by Texas Board of Legal Specialization (TBLS) and has testified before Congress on border issues and immigration reform. She was named by *Texas Lawyer* as the "Go To" lawyer in Texas for Immigration law (2012) and as one of 30 Extraordinary Women in Texas law (2008) and has been recognized in Chambers USA (Band One), *International Who's Who of Business Lawyers*, and *Best Lawyers in America*. She is "AV" rated preeminent in Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings.

**David A. M. Ware** is a 1981 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law. He has practiced exclusively in the area of immigration and nationality law since 1982, with a consistent academic focus. Mr. Ware is active in AILA, NAFSA, and NACUA, and is a frequent speaker and author on immigration topics, including recent AILA and ILW publications and *BusinessWeek* online.

**Jacqueline L. Watson** is a native of El Paso and undergraduate alum of the University of Texas at El Paso. She earned her J.D. at the University of Texas School of Law. Certified in immigration and nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Ms. Watson has practiced immigration law in Austin since 1999. She is currently an associate at the Law Office of Thomas Esparza, Jr. and serves as the treasurer of the AILA Texas Chapter (TX, OK, and NM).

**Tahmina Watson** is the founder of Watson Immigration Law in Seattle, where she practices employment- and family-based immigration law. She was a barrister in London before immigrating to the U.S. herself. Ms. Watson is a frequent

author and blogger on the subject of U.S. immigration law and is regularly quoted and published in the media. Her blog *Watson Immigration Law Blog* has gained significant reputation over the years. She has contributed to AILA's *VOICE: An Immigration Dialogue* and *AILA's Immigration Practice Toolbox*. She currently serves as the co-chair of the AILA-WA-Parents Committee.

**Amber L. Weeks** is the senior associate attorney at Noble & Vrapı, P.A., with offices in Albuquerque, NM; Santa Fe, NM, and El Paso, TX. In addition to handling a broad range of immigration and naturalization cases and appeals, she specializes in removal defense and plea withdrawals for immigrant clients with criminal convictions. She also handles federal litigation challenging mandatory detention of immigrant clients and was co-counsel for the first impression case of *Melero Valdez v. Terry*, 874 F. Supp. 2d 1262 (D.N.M. 2012). She formerly served as a law clerk for the New Mexico Court of Appeals.

**Beth Werlin** is the deputy director of the American Immigration Council's Legal Action Center. Much of her work focuses on protecting the due process rights of noncitizens facing removal. She has represented plaintiffs and amicus curiae in immigration litigation in the federal courts and before the Board of Immigration Appeals, and is the author of numerous practice advisories.

**Isaac Wheeler** is legal director of the Immigrant Defense Project in New York where he supports and engages in criminal-immigration impact litigation. He was previously an immigration staff attorney at The Bronx Defenders. He served as a law clerk to then-Judge Sonia Sotomayor of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Judge Allyne R. Ross of the Eastern District of New York. He has taught as an adjunct professor at Cardozo and NYU law schools. Mr. Wheeler is a 2003 graduate magna cum laude of NYU Law, where he was a Root-Tilden-Kern Scholar, Sinsheimer Service Scholar, and Editor-in-Chief of the *NYU Review of Law & Social Change*.

**Edward R. White** practices immigration law in Boston. His practice is focused primarily on business and employment-based immigration. Mr. White is chair of the AILA New England Chapter. He served previously as chapter Congressional liaison and NDA coordinator for the New England Chapter for several years. He volunteers as an attorney with the Office of New Bostonians at Boston City Hall and Irish Immigration Center. Mr. White is a 1987 honors graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and 1992 graduate of DePaul University College of Law, and since 2000, has managed his own immigration law practice in Boston.

**Emily Assunta White** manages the removal defense and immigration litigation practice at Stern & Curray, LLC in Denver. She has served as chair and member of both the national AILA ICE Liaison Committee and the AILA Colorado Chapter ICE Liaison Committee.

**Robert White** is a principal in the Schaumburg, IL office of Masuda Funai. For more than 20 years, Mr. White has represented businesses and colleges exclusively in the employment-based immigration area. Mr. White routinely gives presentations to businesses and colleges on various employment-based immigration topics. Mr. White is a member of the Leadership Team of NAFSA: Association of International Educator's Region V. He was also chapter chair of the AILA Chicago Chapter. Mr. White is currently the chair of AILA National's Social Security/Driver's License/SAVE Taskforce.

**Fuji Whittenburg** is an associate with Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP in Santa Monica, CA. She currently serves as a member on AILA National's Athletics, Culture, Entertainment, and Science (ACES) Committee where she has served since 2011 addressing current issues and identifying trends that are unique to the processing of O and P nonimmigrant visas, and EB-1/EB-2 immigrant petitions for aliens of extraordinary and exceptional ability. She has participated as an invited speaker with the California and Southern California Chapters of AILA, and has been invited to contribute to various AILA publications including the *AILA's Immigration Practice Toolbox* and the *Annual California CLE Conference Handbook*. In addition, Ms. Whittenburg enjoys serving the academic community and is regularly invited to speak to university students and graduates regarding post-graduation options.

**Cheryl Williams** specializes in employment- and family-based immigration. She has developed a particular niche in representing churches, temples, mosques and other houses of worship, and their foreign workforce, in R-1 and I-360 matters. A graduate of the University of Alabama, Ms. Williams earned a B.A. in Communication in 1991 as valedictorian of her graduating class. She spent several months in France studying at La Sorbonne before returning to the U.S. to attend Vanderbilt University School of Law. After graduation in 1995, Ms. Williams joined Rose Immigration Law Firm. She joined Siskind Susser, PC's Nashville office in 2013.

**Crystal L. Williams** has been on the staff of AILA for 15 years, and has served as executive director since October 2009. She also has been AILA's deputy director for programs, as well as director of Liaison & Information, and served briefly with the Policy & Planning office of legacy U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Previously, she practiced immigration law in Atlanta. Prior to that, Ms. Williams served as director of the Legalization Assistance/Appeals Project for the then-American Immigration Law Foundation (AILF); and had previously managed business operations at Federal Publications for such periodicals as *Interpreter Releases* and *Immigration Briefings*. She is a 1982 graduate of Georgetown University Law Center.

**Ben Winograd** is an attorney at the Immigrant & Refugee Appellate Center, LLC, in Alexandria, VA. He is the author of the "Index of Unpublished Decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals," and specializes in cases before the BIA and federal circuit courts. He also maintains IRAC's Twitter account: @AppellateCenter. He previously worked at the American Immigration Council, where he authored practice advisories and argued cases as amicus curiae.

**Gayle Wissinger** has more than 25 years in the insurance industry where she has held various positions related primarily to underwriting with both large and small companies. Since 2000, she has focused on lawyers professional liability, and has served in multiple roles, including operations manager, director of underwriting, and product manager. In her current position as program manager with Hanover Professionals, she works directly with the decision makers in law firms as she develops coverage products that are relevant to them.

**Andrew Wizner** is a partner with Leete, Kosto & Wizner, LLP where he practices employment-based immigration law. Mr. Wizner is past chair of the AILA Connecticut Chapter and current chair of the Hartford USCIS Liaison Committee. He received a Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and obtained his J.D. at Vanderbilt University School of Law. Mr. Wizner has contributed articles to *The Connecticut Law Tribune*, *The Physician Immigration Book*, and various AILA publications. He is listed in *SuperLawyers* and *International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers*. *Best Lawyers* named Mr. Wizner Greater Hartford's 2013 "Best Lawyer of the Year" in Immigration Law.

**Bernard P. Wolfsdorf** is a past president of AILA, where he was awarded the Service Excellence award. He is the managing partner at Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP ([www.wolfsdorf.com](http://www.wolfsdorf.com)) a 20-lawyer immigration firm. For the past four years, Mr. Wolfsdorf has been selected as "Global Corporate Immigration Lawyer of the Year for 2014" by *Who's Who Legal*, the research partner of the IBA and ABA. Mr. Wolfsdorf serves on AILA's EB-5 Investors Committee. *Best Lawyers in America* has selected Mr. Wolfsdorf as its "Lawyer of the Year for Los Angeles." Martindale-Hubbell has awarded him an "AV" preeminent rating. Chambers USA America's Leading Lawyers describes him as "[o]ne of the hardest-working immigration lawyers around." He can be reached at [Bernard@Wolfsdorf.com](mailto:Bernard@Wolfsdorf.com).

**Richard Yemm** is an associate with the Wolfsdorf Immigration Law Group in Santa Monica, CA. Having graduated with honors from the University of Exeter School of Law in the United Kingdom, he is also certified by the California State Bar as an Immigration and Nationality Law Specialist. He previously served as DMV Liaison and now serves as the CBP Liaison for the AILA Southern California Chapter.

**Lisa H. York** is a solo practitioner in Denver. Her practice focuses on immigration law with a special emphasis on national interest waiver, extraordinary ability and outstanding researcher cases. From 2012–14, she chaired the AILA USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee and served on the AILA Annual Conference Committee. In 2013, she was awarded an AILA President's Commendation Award. Previously, she served on AILA's Ethics and Practice Management Committee and the 2010 Fall Conference Committee. Ms. York is a past chair of the AILA Colorado Chapter and was named a "Rising Star" by *Colorado Super Lawyers* from 2009–13.

**Becki Young** is of counsel at Baker & McKenzie in Washington, D.C., focusing on global employment-based immigration law. She has represented employers in a variety of industries including investment banking & securities, IT, nonprofit, manufacturing, health care and hospitality. She has facilitated the sponsorship of trainees, professional workers, and aliens of extraordinary ability; guided clients through the permanent residency process; and counseled employers on immigration issues. In addition, she has assisted many family-based applicants with their U.S. immigration matters. Ms. Young is licensed to practice law in D.C. and Maryland. A member of AILA, she serves on the National Practice Management Committee.