



**2019 AILA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 19 – JUNE 22, 2019**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019

8:00 am-7:30 pm

Registration

Hall C Lobby, Convention Center Exhibit Level

FUNDAMENTALS

9:45 am-10:45 am

New Attendee Orientation

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Is this your first time attending the Annual Conference? If so, this session was designed especially for you! Attend this session to learn all you need to know about making the most out of your AILA Annual Conference experience.

*Kelli Jo Stump (DL), AILA Board of Governors/2019 Annual Conference Program
Committee Chair, Oklahoma City, OK*

*Gayle Oshrin, AILA 2019 Annual Conference Fundamentals & Special Sessions Chair,
New York, NY*

Josiah J. Curtis, AILA NMD Steering Committee Chair, Boston, MA

Stanley P. Walker, AILA Central Florida Chapter Chair, Fort Walton Beach, FL

Beth Werlin, Executive Director, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

10:45 am-11:00 am

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

11:00 am-12:00 pm

Essential Terms and Concepts

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will provide an overview of the general concepts, terms, language, and rules that are essential to the practice of immigration law.

- Nonimmigrant vs. Immigrant
- Adjustment of Status vs. Consular Processing
- Visa vs. Status, Visa Waiver, Visa Exempt
- Visa Expiration vs. Petition Expiration Date vs. Period of Admission
- Changing or Extending Status
- Violations of Status, Overstays, and Unlawful Presence
- Priority Dates and the Visa Bulletin
- Permanent Residence vs. Citizenship

Sharon Dulberg (DL), San Francisco, CA

Lakshmi Nayar, Irving, TX

Afia Yunus, Philadelphia, PA

12:00 pm -1:00 pm

Lunch Break

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Overview of Immigration Agencies

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will provide an overview of the different government agencies and sub-agencies and their roles in the immigration process.

- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS): U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- U.S. Department of State (DOS): Consular Posts, National Visa Center (NVC)
- U.S. Department of Labor (DOL): Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals (BALCA)
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ): Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER) (formerly known as the Office of Special Counsel (OSC))
- Executive Actions

Julianne Cassin Sharp (DL), AILA New Members Division Chair/Board of Governors, Detroit, MI

Michael Hunter, Panama City, FL

Jared C. Leung, Tempe, AZ

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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Andrew L. Wizner, Hartford, CT

2:00 pm-2:30 pm

Networking Break

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Nonimmigrant Visa Overview: Part I

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

The objective of this panel is to give new practitioners a basic overview of the nonimmigrant visa categories. Panelists in Part I of this two-part session will cover all nonimmigrant visa categories, from diplomats to temporary workers, and will address when each is appropriate for clients. The information in this panel is intended to serve as a basis for the more detailed analysis of these visas offered in other sessions.

- A, G, and NATO: Diplomats and Government Representatives
- B-1 and B-2: Visitors
- C and D: Aliens in Transit, Alien Vessel and Aircraft Crew
- E-1 and E-2: Treaty Traders and Investors
- F, J, and M: Students and Exchange Visitors
- H-1B, H-1B1, H-3, and E-3: Temporary Workers
- H-2A and H-2B: Seasonal Workers

Peter Benjamin Bade III (DL), San Francisco, CA

Ron Matten, AILA Canada Chapter Chair, Toronto, Canada

Ashley Foret Dees, Lake Charles, LA

Filomena Lepore Taylor, Paramus, NJ

3:30 pm-3:45 pm

Networking Break

3:45 pm-4:45 pm

Nonimmigrant Visa Overview: Part II

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

In Part II of this two-part introductory session, panelists will complete the basic overview of the nonimmigrant visa categories begun in Part I. All nonimmigrant visa categories, from foreign media representatives to victims of crime, will be discussed, and panelists will address when each is appropriate for clients. The information in this panel is intended to serve as a basis for the more detailed analysis of these visas offered in other sessions.

- I: Foreign Media
- K-1 and K-3: Fiancées and Family Members
- L-1A and L-1B: Intracompany Transferees
- O: Extraordinary Individuals
- P: Athletes, Artists, and Entertainers

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Q: The Cultural Visa
- R: Religious Workers
- S: Informants
- T: Victims of Human Trafficking
- TN: Canadian and Mexican Professionals
- U: Victims of Crimes

Sharon Lynn Cook (DL), Atlanta, GA
Sari Long, Washington, DC
Steven C. Thal, Minnetonka, MN

4:45 pm-5:00 pm
Networking Break

5:00 pm-6:00 pm
Overview of Family-Based Immigration

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Panelists will provide an overview of family-based immigration, and explain why the process can be complicated, often taking several years to complete. Those new to immigration should attend this session to gain a general understanding of family-based immigration law, and to prepare for the more in-depth fundamentals-level family panels.

- Family-Based Immigration Categories
- Immediate Relatives vs. Preference Categories
- Process for Applying for Family-Based Immigrant Visa
- Establishing the Bona Fides of the Relationship
- Changes in Family Situation/Relationships: Death, Divorce, Marriage, Age-Out, etc.
- Affidavit of Support

Ari J. Sauer (DL), Memphis, TN
Teddy Chadwick, Milwaukee, WI
Liz Pellegrin, Oakland, CA

6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Networking Break

7:00 pm-8:00 pm
I-751 Petitions to Remove Conditions on Residence

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Panelists will address the nuts and bolts of preparing and filing an I-751 petition. They also will discuss in detail certain aspects of the process, including best practices for documenting a good faith marriage and remedies for late submission.

- Who Is Required to Submit an I-751, When to File

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Preparing an I-751 Petition: The Basics
- What Exactly Is “Good Faith,” and How Is It Proved?
- Remedies for Late Submission
- Overview of Cases Where There Is Divorce, Abuse, or Death

Stanley P. Walker (DL), AILA Central Florida Chapter Chair, Fort Walton Beach, FL
Amy Novak, Vail, CO
Rossana Rolon Grau, Falls Church, VA

BUSINESS

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Regulatory and Policy Changes at USCIS and DOS: Part I

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

As the Trump administration winds its way into its third year, numerous profound changes to “business as usual” continue to take place, affecting everything from Requests for Evidence (RFEs) to Notices to Appear (NTAs), and everything in between. Keeping up with these changes is a nightmare, and knowing what to do next can be difficult to determine. In Part I of this session, panelists will assess the impact and implications of various regulatory and policy changes at USCIS since the last annual conference for both family and business cases and provide tips for coping with this rapidly changing environment. Panelists will also suggest sessions that might be of interest to attendees that relate to these changes.

- Regulations and Agency Memoranda
- Changes in Procedure, Proactive Filings
- RFEs
- Suing, Refiling
- Ethical Issues

Dagmar Butte (DL), AILA Board of Governors/2019 Annual Conference Business Chair, Portland, OR
Michael R. Jarecki, AILA Board of Governors, Chicago, IL
Kevin W. Miner, AILA Board of Governors, Atlanta, GA
Robert H. Cohen, Columbus, OH

2:00 pm-2:30 pm

Networking Break

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Regulatory and Policy Changes at USCIS and DOS: Part II

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on Part II of this two-part, intermediate-level panel will assess the impact and implications of various regulatory and policy changes at DOS and CBP since the last annual conference for family and business cases and provide ways of getting past “no”. Here too the

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** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

panelists will suggest other sessions later in the conference that explore these changes and related issues in greater depth.

- Regulations and Agency Memoranda
- Changes in Procedure, Proactive Filings
- Requests for Evidence (RFEs)
- Suing, Refiling
- Ethical Issues

Eleanor Pelta (DL), AILA Past President, Washington, DC

Alexis S. Axelrad, AILA Board of Governors/CBP Liaison Committee Chair, New York, NY

Sarah W. H. Owings, AILA Board of Governors, Atlanta, GA

Stephen R. Pattison, Portsmouth, NH

3:30 pm-3:45 pm

Networking Break

3:45 pm-4:45 pm

Scaling the Invisible Wall: Helping to Educate Employers and Workers on the Realities of Immigration Law Today

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Employers and their employees have long relied upon fairly predictable outcomes when filing business immigration applications. Today, however, a lack of such predictability is the new normal. This panel, intended for all attorneys regardless of level of expertise, will help practitioners effectively manage the crucial attorney-client relationship.

- Setting Realistic Expectations Up Front (and in Writing)
- Providing Constructive Solutions to Difficult Situations
- Tricky Conference Calls: Frustrated Clients, Conflicts of Interests, RFEs, Denials, and Status Violations
- Everything Is More Expensive Now: Talk About Costs Early

Michael P. Nowlan (DL), AILA Business Immigration Response Team Vice Chair, Detroit, MI

Anastasia Tonello, AILA President, New York, NY

William A. Stock, AILA Past President/Investment Committee Chair, Philadelphia, PA

David A. M. Ware, Metairie, LA

4:45 pm-5:00 pm

Networking Break

5:00 pm-6:00 pm

Post-Denial Strategies: How to Get from “No” to “Yes”

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Your petition has been denied—now what? This panel, intended for all practitioners regardless of expertise, will explore options when the government says “No” and you think they’re wrong.

- Motions to Reopen, Motions for Reconsideration, and Appeals: What, When, Why, and How Much
- Seeking Supervisory Review of Premium Processing Cases
- Is There Additional or New Evidence that Could Change the Outcome?
- When Filing a New Petition is a Better Option
- How the Beneficiary’s Status May Affect the Options

Stephen Yale-Loehr (DL), Ithaca, NY

Diane M. Butler, AILA Board of Governors/Membership Committee Chair, Seattle, WA

David Isaacson, New York, NY

Leslie K. Dellon, Staff Attorney (Business Immigration), American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Networking Break

7:00 pm-8:00 pm

EB-5: Who, When, Where, and Alternatives for the Enterprising Entrepreneur

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on this advanced-level panel will cover how to advise clients considering the limited options available to entrepreneurs and increasing wait times for investors in traditional EB-5 markets.

- Best Options for Student or Recent Graduate Entrepreneurs
- Options for Backlogged EB-5 Markets
 - EB-1A, EB-1C, or L-1
- Acquiring Citizenship to Qualify for E-2 while Waiting for Backlogs to Clear
- Growth in EB-5 Investments from New Markets
 - Growing Regions
 - Source of Funds Issues in Emerging Markets

David J. Wilks (DL), AILA VSC Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Ithaca, NY

Jennifer Hermansky, Philadelphia, PA

Megan Kludt, Northampton, MA

FAMILY

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

How to Represent Your Client Zealously at a USCIS Interview

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

In planning for representation of a client at a USCIS interview, preparation is key! Whether you already have some experience representing clients at a USCIS interview or have yet to do so, all practitioners will benefit from attending this panel. Our experts will discuss recommended strategies and share their unique, case-specific experiences. They also will discuss the impact of the growing number of adverse policies currently being implemented by USCIS.

- Use of the Adjudicator’s Field Manual and the USCIS Policy Manual
- Knowing When to Ask to Speak to a Supervisor, How Best to Handle an Aggressive Interviewing Officer
- Reminding USCIS What Rights Clients and Attorneys Have During the Interview
- “Stokes Interviews”: Whether to Agree to Signing Affidavits/Statements Prepared by the Officer in the Interview, When to Involve a Supervisor

Maurice H. Goldman (DL), Tucson, AZ

Sam E. Radin, Atlanta, GA

Myriam Sanchez-Hildenbrand, New York, NY

2:00 pm-2:30 pm

Networking Break

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Working with Interpreters

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The accuracy of the record can make or break a case, especially where credibility can turn on the translation of a word or phrase. Panelists will help attorneys ensure that their clients receive accurate translations and interpretations in their office, at interviews, and in court.

- When the Attorney Does Not Speak the Applicant’s Native Language: Communicating Through an Interpreter
- Interpreters at USCIS Interviews: Challenges and Overview of the 2017 Policy
- Challenging Interpreter Mistakes in Asylum and Other USCIS Interviews
- Reviewing the Record for Past Errors
- Helping Clients Find Interpreters and Translators

Tess Feldman (DL), East Palo Alto, CA

Vikram K. Badrinath, Tucson, AZ

Noelia Rodríguez-Quiñones, Chicago, IL

3:30 pm-3:45 pm

Networking Break

3:45 pm-4:45 pm

Filing for Adjustment or Naturalization with a Disabled Applicant: Special Issues You're Likely to Encounter and How to Overcome Them

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will address what to expect when filing adjustment of status, I-751, or N-400 applications with USCIS for clients with a disability. How do you work with, and obtain benefits for, someone who is bedridden, requires the use of a wheelchair, is unable to speak or communicate, or has appointed someone else to make their decisions because of a competency issue?

- Special Accommodations to Ask for, When to Ask, and the Problems You're Likely to Have Doing So
- Recommending that the Applicant Obtain a Power of Attorney
- Questions or Oaths You'll Have Issue with Because of Your Client's Disability
- What to Do if Your Client Is Unable to Attend the Interview Due to Medical Disability

Tristan Gunn (DL), Chicago, IL

Nicolas Chavez, Dallas, TX

Hannah Vickner Hough, Rochester, NY

4:45 pm-5:00 pm

Networking Break

5:00 pm-6:00 pm

Ever-Changing USCIS Policies: New Ethical Considerations in Family Immigration

(Ethics)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on this intermediate-level panel will discuss how attorneys can advise their clients on constant changes in policy and timing by USCIS, with an emphasis on the changes to the USCIS Notice to Appear (NTA) policy. Panelists also will address best practices for attorneys to address potential risks and concerns while meeting ethical obligations.

- Advising Clients in a New World: Managing Expectations on Timing, Counseling Clients When Changes Happen Mid-Case
- Changes in the USCIS Notice to Appear Policy, Ethical Obligations to Inform Clients of New Risks Due to Policy Changes
- Advising and Protecting Clients at Risk of Being Placed in Removal Proceedings

Kendra H. Scheuerlein (DL), Chicago, IL

Satnam Singh, Norfolk, VA

Giovanna Valdez, Chicago, IL

6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Networking Break

7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Identifying and Ethically Handling Fraud in Marriage Cases *(Ethics)*

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

USCIS is using more numerous and sophisticated tools to research our clients. As advocates, do we blindly believe our clients, or do we also investigate their relationships to ensure their bona fides? What are our ethical obligations as attorneys and as representatives of the court?

- Reviewing the Standard for Marriage Fraud
- Common Reasons Why USCIS Cites Fraud in Marriage Cases
- Researching Your Client's Relationships, Identifying Potential Red Flags
- Having Delicate Conversations with Your Clients—*e.g.*, Addressing Significant Age Differences
- Listening to Your Gut, Knowing When to Withdraw

Scott D. Pollock (DL), Chicago, IL

Barbara A. Marcouiller, Bellevue, WA

Edward W. Neufville III, Washington, DC

Alan J. Pollack, Newark, NJ

LITIGATION

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Preserving the Record and Utilizing Discovery Effectively in Trying Times (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

As the legal landscape changes and the deck is increasingly being stacked against our clients, effective preservation of the record is more important than ever. We must ensure that we approach each evidentiary filing, motion, and objection as an opportunity to create a strong record for appeal. Panel experts will assist practitioners in effectively identifying and using the various tools of discovery, and advise on how to make objections to documentary and testimonial evidence in removal proceedings.

- Objections to Venue and Lack of Judicial Impartiality, Motions to Recuse
- Objections: 5th Amendment, 4th Amendment, Hearsay, Authentication, Incomplete Documents, Best Evidence Rule, Relevance, Etc.
- Informal Discovery: FOIA Requests, Immigration Encounters, Criminal Background Checks
- Utilizing Discovery Tools in Removal Proceedings to Obtain Production of Books, Papers, and Other Documentary Evidence

Joanna Gaughan (DL), Raleigh, NC

Mackenzie W. Mackins, Sherman Oaks, CA

Linda Osberg-Braun, Miami, FL

Minda A. Thorward, Seattle, WA

2:00 pm-2:30 pm

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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Networking Break

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Challenging Misapplications of the Standard of Proof: Setting the Stage for Litigation

(Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Knowing who has the burden of proof is a mechanical endeavor, but meeting and describing the applicable standard of proof is an artform. As the government continuously pushes the boundaries for the standard of proof higher, making a preponderance of the evidence look clear and convincing (or worse), practitioners need to push back, properly describe the standard itself, and systematically challenge the conversion of lower to higher standards of proof.

- How to Research the Applicable Standard of Proof for Your Case: Reaching Beyond Immigration Law into Other Areas of Administrative and Case Law
- When and How to Challenge the Government's Use of the Incorrect Standard of Proof
- How to Satisfy the Standard of Proof When There Is a Broad Range of Discretion
- Setting Cases Up for Litigation Over Abuse of Discretion

Scott A. Emerick (DL), Los Angeles, CA

*Mary E. Kramer, AILA Author, Immigration Consequences of Criminal Activity, 7th Ed.,
Miami, FL*

Arturo Angel Burga, Rancho Cucamonga, CA

K. Alexandra Monaco, Las Vegas, NV

3:30 pm-3:45 pm

Networking Break

3:45 pm-4:45 pm

The Ethics of Dealing with Government Surveillance and Client Confidentiality (*Ethics*)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Immigration violations have become increasingly criminalized by the Trump administration. As a result, immigrants are being subjected to warrantless monitoring, searches, and seizures. At the same time, there has been an increase in reports of immigration attorneys receiving FISA notices regarding communications they've had with a client or witness. It is thus necessary to respond to these intrusions, both in the attorney's own practice and in the attorney's application of the law, to protect a client's rights.

- How Attorneys Can Protect Themselves Both Legally and Through Encryption
- How to Know When You or Your Client May Be Under Government Surveillance
- How to Respond to the Government's Use of Searches, Seizures, and Surveillance of Your Client
- What to Do When You Find out the Government Did Intercept Attorney-Client or Attorney-Witness Communications

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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Scott C. Titshaw (DL), Macon, GA
Andrew C. Lourie, New York, NY
Helen A. Sklar, Los Angeles, CA

4:45 pm-5:00 pm
Networking Break

5:00 pm-6:00 pm
Filing a Petition for Review and Beyond: Battling in Circuit Courts (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

It is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain relief for clients before the BIA, making appeals to the federal appellate courts a necessity. In this intermediate-level panel, learn strategies for drafting the petition for review and motions for stays of removal, what to do when your administrative record is less than stellar, and how to use subsequent case law developments to your advantage when you have lost at the BIA.

- The Steps of a Federal Court Appeal: Petitions for Review (PFR), Motions for a Stay, Briefings, Oral Arguments
- Holding a PFR in Abeyance: Other Collateral Relief
- When DHS Bypasses the BIA: Reinstatement, Administrative Removal, and Visa Waiver Overstays

Sabrina R. Damast (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Russell Abrutyn, AILA Amicus Committee Chair, Berkley, MI
Matt Adams, Seattle, WA
Susan Church, Cambridge, MA

6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Networking Break

7:00 pm-8:00 pm
Don't Let It Go: Contesting NTAs (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The Notice to Appear (NTA) must be served on the respondent in a particular manner, and must contain specific factual and procedural information. If service is improper, if the content is deficient or inaccurate, if there are grounds to contest the respondent's removability, or if the evidence has been unconstitutionally obtained, it is important for attorneys to object to and otherwise challenge the NTA on the record of proceedings. Panelists will discuss how to contest the NTA on these grounds.

- Motions to Terminate
- Motions to Re-NTA
- Motions to Suppress: Don't Get Depressed, It's Time to Suppress!

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Considerations to Discuss with Respondents in Reviewing Factual Allegations Listed in the NTA

Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia (DL), State College, PA

Nicholas J. Mireles, Los Angeles, CA

Benjamin Osorio, Fairfax, VA

LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT/SPECIAL SESSIONS

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Business Operations for Solo and Small Practices

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Attorneys that run solo and small practices frequently wear two hats—lawyer and business manager. Panelists will discuss key business operation issues that every business manager of a small or solo practice will need to address.

- Leases and Landlords
- Payroll, Benefits, and Employer Compliance
- Insurance
- Billing and Financial Management

Elizabeth L.A. Garvish (DL), Atlanta, GA

Dilip Patel, Tampa, FL

Kimberly O. Sutton, Springdale, AR

2:00 pm-2:30 pm

Networking Break

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

It's All About the Staff: Making Sure Your Practice Thrives

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Staffing is everything! Competent and content workers will make your office life manageable and your personal life happy, whereas one bad staff member can make everyone miserable. Panelists will address how to grow your practice by attracting and retaining excellent, efficient employees and avoiding bad apples.

- Staff Management: Growth and Retention of Staff
- Time Tracking, Calendaring, and Process Management
- How Much You Can (and Should) Delegate
- The Paralegal's Role and Limitations
- How to Handle Poor Performance: Steps to Take and Resources Available
- Working with Contract Attorneys: Best Practices, Ethical Duties, Agreements, and Technology Tips

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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Ruby L. Powers (DL), Houston, TX
Cindy Azoulay, Ramat Gan, Israel
Ganesh Kalyanaraman, Sacramento, CA
Paul H. Scott, Baton Rouge, LA

3:30 pm-3:45 pm
Networking Break

3:45 pm-4:45 pm
The Ultimate Conflict of Interest: What the Employer Needs to Know About the Employee's Criminal and Medical History

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists in this special session will discuss how to handle criminal background and medical history information learned in the context of an employment-based adjustment.

- Who Is the Client? Laying the Ground Rules for Confidentiality and Information Sharing Thorough Interviewing
- How to Research and Present Criminal Background Information
- Spotting Medical Grounds for Inadmissibility, and How to Present and Mitigate Them

John L. "Jack" Pinnix (DL), AILA Past President, Raleigh, NC
Kevin R. Lashus, Austin, TX
Maria del Carmen Ramos, Tampa, FL

4:45 pm-5:00 pm
Networking Break

5:00 pm-6:00 pm
Law Practice Management Under the New Normal

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The practice of immigration law has been dramatically altered under the current administration. Constantly changing policies, as well as increased denials, RFEs, and scrutiny, mean higher risk for clients and more work for the attorney. Panelists will discuss practice modifications to implement in order to ensure that your law firm operations and procedures meet the needs of the new reality.

- Evaluating Fee and Billing Policies
- Client Communication Strategies: What to Tell Clients, and How Frequently
- Steps to Reduce Attorney Risk in the Current Environment
- Diversifying Your Practice
- When to Refer Out or Get Co-Counsel

Jesse A. Lloyd (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Oakland, CA
Allen Orr, AILA 2nd Vice President, Washington, DC

(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

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Jonathan A. Grode, Law Student Outreach Committee Chair, Philadelphia, PA
Amy Erlbacher-Anderson, Omaha, NE

6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Networking Break

7:00 pm-8:00 pm
Whose Rules Do I Follow? Ethical Concerns for Multi-Jurisdictional Practitioners (*Ethics*)
Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level
Many immigration practitioners are licensed in multiple states or work outside of the jurisdiction where they practice. Further, many practitioners handle matters across state lines. Panelists will discuss strategies for complying with the rules of professional conduct both in the licensing jurisdiction and in the jurisdiction where the attorney is practicing.

- Determining the Applicable Licensing Jurisdiction
- Handling Client Funds and Flat Fee Matters When Jurisdictions Vary
- When to Seek Legal Counsel

Bryon M. Large (DL), Denver, CO
Matthew Blaisdell, AILA Consumer Protection & UPL Committee Chair, New York, NY
Meghan Moore, AILA Ethics Committee Vice Chair, Wyoming, MI
Gary Frost, Dallas, TX

WEDNESDAY TRAININGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

1:00 pm–2:00 pm
Make the Case for Immigration: Advocacy, Media, and Social Media Training
AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

2:30pm-3:30pm
Advanced Legal Research Using AILA Member Benefits and AILALink
AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

2:30pm-3:30pm
Unstick Yourself – Wellness Session
AILA Inspires Theater, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

3:45pm-4:45pm
AILALink Training
AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

3:45pm-4:45pm
When and How to Contest Removability

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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AILA Inspires Theater, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

5:00pm-6:00pm

Communicating Inclusion

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

5:00pm-6:00pm

Unstick Yourself – Wellness Session

AILA Inspires Theater, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening

Hall B-C, Convention Center Exhibit Level

7:45 pm–10:00 pm

Central Florida Chapter Reception

St. George 104, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

8:00 pm–9:30 pm

11th Annual Pro Bono/NMD Hospitality Suite

St. George 108, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

8:00 pm–10:00 pm

NY/NJ/CT Tri-State Reception

SandBar, South Beach Pool

Come meet your colleagues from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut on the first day of the Annual Conference. Drinks and refreshments will be provided. The AC is exiting but can be overwhelming, so come and network and find some friends so that you can navigate the conference together. The venue is "on campus" at the SandBar, located within the Gaylord Orlando.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019

7:00 am–4:15 pm

Registration

Hall C Lobby, Convention Center Exhibit Level

7:00 am–1:30 pm and 2:30 pm–5:30 pm

Exhibit Hall

Hall B-C, Convention Center Exhibit Level

PLENARY

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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8:00 am-8:30 am

Conference Kick-Off

Osceola Ballroom, Convention Center Ballroom Level

8:30 am-9:45 am

President's Installation

Osceola Ballroom, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Join your fellow AILA members to hear from AILA's outgoing president, Anastasia Tonello, about AILA's accomplishments during the last year. Following this, AILA's incoming president, Marketa Lindt, will share her vision for AILA's future. Don't miss this chance to get to know Marketa and hear her plans for continuing to strengthen AILA during her tenure!

10:00 am -11:00 am

Hot Topics Strategy Session with the AILA National Officers

Osceola Ballroom, Convention Center Ballroom Level

*Kelli Jo Stump (DL), AILA Board of Governors/2019 AILA Annual Conference Program
Committee Chair, Oklahoma City, OK*

Anastasia Tonello, AILA President, New York, NY

Marketa Lindt, AILA President-Elect, Chicago, IL

Jennifer Minear, AILA 1st Vice President, Richmond, VA

Allen Orr, AILA 2nd Vice President, Washington, DC

Jeremy L. McKinney, AILA Treasurer, Greensboro, NC

Farshad Owji, AILA Secretary, San Francisco, CA

Benjamin Johnson, AILA Executive Director, Washington, DC

11:00 am -11:50 am

Keynote Address

Osceola Ballroom, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The Honorable Julián Castro, Former Secretary, U.S. Housing and Urban Development, San Antonio, TX

FUNDAMENTALS

7:00 am-8:00 am

Introduction to Forms for Family-Based Immigrant Categories (*Morning Roundtable*)

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this hands-on, fundamentals-level session will examine a hypothetical family immigration case from start to finish. In doing so, they will provide guidance on how to use the relevant family-based forms and applications, and discuss the most common errors made when using these forms.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- I-130/ I-130A
- I-864
- DS-260
- I-824
- I-751

Suzanne E. Vazquez (DL), Orlando, FL
Matthew J. Maiona, Boston, MA
Irene Mugambi, Dallas, TX
Spojmie Ahmady Nasiri, Pleasanton, CA

9:45 am-10:45 am

Adjustment of Status

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will provide an overview of the adjustment of status (AOS) process in the family and employment context. They will also discuss initial requirements for AOS applications, the various forms and documents needed, and red-flag issues that could potentially complicate the process. An overview of the AOS interview also will be covered.

- Requirements of AOS Applications
- The AOS Package and Ancillary Applications: I-485, I-485 Supplement J, I-864, I-765, I-131
- Supporting Documentation
- Common Red Flags: Entry Without Inspection, Intent at Entry, Unauthorized Employment, Etc.
- INA §245(i) Adjustment
- Overview of the Interview Process
- Assessing Eligibility to Adjust Status Instead of Consular Processing

Edward R. White (DL), Boston, MA
Tala Hartsough, San Francisco, CA
Michael Jeb Richard, Lake Charles, LA

10:50 am-11:50 am

Immigrant Visa Consular Processing: The Basics

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will address immigrant visa processing from petition approval through initial entry to the United States. Topics will include working with the National Visa Center (NVC), assisting clients with gathering required documents and completing forms, dealing with U.S. consular posts, preparing clients for interviews, managing expectations, and more.

- Overview of the Immigrant Visa Process
- Working with the Middleman: the NVC
- Common Issues with Form DS-260, Form I-864, and Document Collection

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Interview Scheduling
- Preparing Clients for the Medical Exam and Consular Interview
- Management of Administrative Processing Issues
- What to Expect on U.S. Entry
- Scenarios Where it Is More Advantageous to Consular Process than Adjust

Steven D. Heller (DL), East Sussex, UK

Leslie T. Ditrani, Boston, MA

Avi Friedman, Santa Monica, CA

Lynn Marie Lee, Springfield, VA

11:50 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break, Expert Bar and Exhibit Hall

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Nonimmigrant Visa Consular Processing: The Basics

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will discuss the basics of nonimmigrant visa consular practice at U.S. consulates and embassies abroad. They will examine the overall process and identify common challenges faced by clients when they apply for nonimmigrant visas.

- Does the Foreign National Need a Visa?
- The Visa Application Process: Step-by-Step Instructions, Tips on Dealing with the Nonimmigrant Visa Unit
- Common Issues in Completing Form DS-160
- Understanding Extreme Vetting and Administrative Processing Challenges
- Red Flags: Inadmissibility and Waiver Issues

Poorvi Rohit Chothani (DL), Mumbai, India

Gary N. Chodorow, Beijing, China

Christi H. Jackson, London, UK

Cliff Rosenthal, Santa Monica, CA

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Introduction to Naturalization

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will cover the basics of becoming a U.S. citizen. The requirements and process of naturalization will be presented, and common red flags and risks of filing for naturalization will be discussed.

- Eligibility Requirements for Naturalization

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Continuous Residence and Physical Presence
- Good Moral Character
- English Language and Civics Testing

Stuart J. Reich (DL), New York, NY
Matthew L. Benson, Cincinnati, OH
Jennifer Doerrie, Fresno, CA
Aleksandr Y. Troyb, Stamford, CT

3:50 pm-4:05 pm
Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Business Immigration 101: Things I Wish I Knew When I Started Practicing
Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Those new to business immigration law practice will benefit from this informative overview of an immense and complex subject. Panelists will provide new practitioners with a broad, but thorough, understanding of the basic “ins and outs” of business immigration. Panelists also will give real world tips on what practitioners need to know before taking on a business case. Topics to be covered include what to expect from timing, with whom the practitioner will interact (e.g., foreign national, human resources, managers, and general counsel), and costs. Panelists also will identify the information needs to be provided up front, and what expectations should be set.

- General Overview of the Life Cycle of Nonimmigrant and Immigrant Business Cases
- Roles of the Various Stakeholders—*i.e.*, Immigration Lawyer, Company Contact, Foreign National, and Foreign National’s Manager
- Advice for New Business Immigration Practitioners: Tips on Pricing and Communication

Avram E. Morell (DL), New York, NY
Hudaidah F. Bhimdi, AILA 2019 Annual Conference Due Process Chair, Fairfax, VA
Tiffany Martinez, AILA NMD Steering Committee Vice Chair, San Francisco, CA
Janora L. Hawkins, Atlanta, GA

BUSINESS

7:00 am-8:00 am

If You’ve Got Religion, Can You Get a Visa? (*Morning Roundtable*)
Orange Blossom, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

Panelists will explore the special factors practitioners must take into consideration regarding religious worker visa categories.

- Who Qualifies for a Religious Worker Visa? Who Can Be a Petitioner?
- Navigating the Application
- How to Get to a Green Card

(DL) = Discussion Leader
** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Alternative to I-360

Joel Pfeffer (DL), Pittsburgh, PA
Benjamin Joshua Griffin, Las Vegas, NV
Talar Iskanian-Hashasian, New York, NY

11:50 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Motivating Business Clients With Problem Cases to Litigate (Closed to Government Participation) (Lunch Session)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Liaison is closed and appeals take too long. USCIS has rescinded deference to prior approvals and a potential notice to appear is now looming. Time to sue! The experts in this session will provide an overview of the litigation process to business practitioners, identify who can sue, and address the risks and benefits.

- Causes of Action in Federal Court: Administrative Procedure Act (APA), Federal Question Jurisdiction, Mandamus, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Etc.
- Exhaustion of Remedies and Standing: Who Can Sue? Can a Group of Affected Employers Sue as a Class?
- Creating the Record: Preparing a Well-Documented Petition and RFE Response Before Federal Court Litigation
- Structuring Fees So Clients Are Encouraged to Pursue Litigation, Recovery of Fees
- Risks and Benefits: What Is the Return on the Employer's Investment?

Olivia Serene Lee (DL), San Francisco, CA
H. Ronald Klasko, AILA Past President/Administrative Litigation Task Force Chair,
Philadelphia, PA
Tammy Fox-Isicoff, AILA Board of Governors, Miami, FL
Michael E. Piston, Troy, MI

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Assault on the H-1B: “No, It’s Not the Latest Hollywood Action Movie”

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on this advanced-level panel will examine the various ways in which the H-1B visa has been attacked by USCIS, particularly under the current administration. Panelists then will discuss best practices to counter these attacks and offer strategic solutions to the myriad problems these attacks create.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Yesterday’s Specialty Occupation May Not Be a Specialty Occupation Today: Strategies for Addressing These Trends
- “Specialty Occupations” in the IT Industry and Other Problematic Occupational Categories
- “Document, Document, Document”: Practice Tips for Leveraging a Case Toward Approval in Light of Recent Memoranda and Executive Orders
- The Impact of Current Adjudicatory Trends on Portability and Extensions Beyond the Six-Year Limit for H-1B Visa Holders

Kelli Duehning (DL), San Francisco, CA

Vic Goel, Reston, VA

Jacob T. Muklewicz, Salt Lake City, UT

Karen M. Pollins, Jenkintown, PA

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

RFEs and NOIDS: Templates vs. Special Unicorns

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this intermediate-level session will take a deep dive into current RFE and Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID) trends in the era of “no mercy adjudication” for direct and third-party employment.

- How Recent RFE Policy Guidance Has Been Applied: What Is USCIS Looking For?
- Anatomy of an RFE: How to Read What It Says and Understand What It Means
- Legal Sources and Techniques to Help Craft a Successful RFE Response
- When Is an Expert Opinion Worth It?
- Building a Record for Litigation
- What to Do When a Denial Is Issued, Handling Denials Issued Without an RFE

Ian David Wagreich (DL), Chicago, IL

Lisa Krueger Khan, Orlando, FL

Jessica Mullins-Ta, Dallas, TX

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

BALCA and DOL FAQ Updates

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

In this session, designed for all attendees, panelists will discuss the latest news on the Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals and the U.S. Department of Labor.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Motions Before BALCA and Backlog
- Travel and Relocation
- How Has BALCA Interpreted Clarity and Equivalency of Requirements?
- Why Should I Check BALCA Decisions, If I Have Never Filed an Appeal?
- H-2s

Deborah J. Notkin (DL), AILA Past President, New York, NY

Loan T. Huynh, AILA DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Minneapolis, MN

Jason Abrams, New York, NY

Yuah Jessica Choi, Philadelphia, PA

Paul R. Almanza, Associate Chief Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC

FAMILY

7:00 am-8:00 am

RFE, NOID, and NOIR Strategies (*Morning Roundtable*)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on this intermediate-level session will discuss current trends in RFEs, NOIDs, and Notices of Intent to Review (NOIRs) by USCIS. They also will provide guidance on how to address many of the most common and/or difficult requests made by USCIS.

- New USCIS Policy on Adjudication Without RFEs and NOIDs
- How to Respond to Overreaching RFEs and NOIDs: Resubmitting Evidence, Requests for Police Reports, and Thinking Outside the Box for New Evidence
- Strategies for Obtaining Supervisory Review on Clearly Erroneous or Overzealous RFEs, NOIDs, and NOIRs

Douglas R. Penn (DL), Stamford, CT

Julie T. Emerick, Chicago, IL

Jorge A. Gavilanes, Atlanta, GA

Cynthia Irvine, Kent, WA

11:50 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Naturalization: To File or Not to File

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

A transgression outside of the statutory period may not affect your client's eligibility for citizenship, but still may make your client removable. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will look at the recent case law regarding N-400 eligibility in removal proceedings and explore the strategic considerations in determining whether to file for naturalization when there is a risk of removal.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Conduct Outside of the Statutory Period That Can Make Your Client Removable
- To File or Not to File? Is There a Backup Plan?
- Jurisdiction Over N-400 Once an NTA Is Issued
- Know Your Local Office and Other Practice Tips

*Kari Ann Fonte (DL), AILA USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee Vice Chair,
Coral Gables, FL*

Allen E. Kaye, AILA Past President, New York, NY

Katie M. Vannucci, Chicago, IL

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

What Do You Mean I'm Not a U.S. Citizen?

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Recently, both USCIS and DOS have questioned the citizenship of petitioners when there is a midwife birth, a delayed birth certificate, or a foreign birth certificate. Panelists will examine this new development, and identify ways to counter agency attempts at delegitimizing genuine evidence of U.S. citizenship.

- Proving the Legitimacy of Midwife Births and Delayed Birth Certificates
- Ways of Researching Derivative or Acquired U.S. Citizenship
- N-600 vs. Passport
- False Claims to U.S. Citizenship When Your Clients Believed They Were Citizens

Lindsay A. Curcio (DL), Brooklyn, NY

Reginald A. Pacis, AILA Membership Engagement Vice Chair, Detroit, MI

Daniel Caudillo, El Paso, TX

Matthew G. Holt, San Diego, CA

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Travel Ban: Which Countries, Which Types of Visas, and Waivers

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this intermediate-level panel will discuss the latest state-of-affairs for the travel ban. They will identify which countries are currently subject to the travel ban, which visa categories from each country are affected, and how to successfully apply for a waiver at the consular post.

- Which Visa Categories Are Subject to the Ban?
- How the Ban is Being Implemented on the Ground at Consular Posts

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- How to Apply for a Waiver, How Long to Wait for a Decision
- How Best to Advise Clients on What to Expect if They Are Subject to the Ban

Kara Lynum (DL), St. Paul, MN
Sirine Shebaya, Washington, DC
Parastoo G. Zahedi, Vienna, VA

LITIGATION

7:00 am-8:00 am

Federal Court Updates (*Morning Roundtable*)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Panelists in this session will reflect on recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court and the federal circuits. They will help you understand where the courts disagree with one another, and where the rules have changed either in favor of or against your client's interests.

- Recent Supreme Court Decisions
- Retroactivity Arguments
- Recent Circuit Court Splits

Thomas E. Moseley (DL), Newark, NJ
Amy Prokop Lenhart, Los Angeles, CA
Ben Winograd, Alexandria, VA

11:50 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Federal District Court Litigation for the Immigration Practitioner: Part I—What You Need to Know Before You Go (*Closed to Government Participation*)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

In the current immigration climate, virtually everything seems destined to deteriorate into an unnecessary fight that must be resolved in federal court. Panelists in Part I of this two-part, introductory-level session will provide an overview of the common types of immigration-related actions in federal district court, and give guidance on best practices regarding the procedure for making a claim for relief.

- Introduction to Federal District Court Practice: I Know I Need to Go to Federal Court, But Where Do I Start?
- Common Types of Filings
 - Habeas Corpus, Administrative Procedure Act Claims, Mandamus
 - Petitions for Review of Denied or Delayed Naturalization Applications
- Nuts and Bolts: Where to File, Who to Serve, Documents Needed to Initiate a Case

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Cyrus D. Mehta (DL), New York, NY
Gregory P. Copeland, New York, NY
Tamara L. Jezic, Woodbridge, VA
Mary Kenney, American Immigration Council Senior Staff Attorney, Washington, DC

2:35 pm-2:50 pm
Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm
Federal District Court Litigation for the Immigration Practitioner: Part II—Litigating to Victory (Closed to Government Participation)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

In the current immigration climate, virtually everything seems destined to deteriorate into an unnecessary fight that must be resolved in federal court. Panelists in Part II of this two-part, introductory-level session will focus on the substance of crafting a federal court complaint and keeping the fight alive through motions and discovery. They also will address getting paid after winning.

- Creative Uses of Habeas Corpus
- Mandamus for Delayed Adjudications
- Exhaustion of Remedies
- Discovery
- Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) Fees and Other Considerations

Andrew Free (DL), Nashville, TN
Ira J. Kurzban, AILA Author, Kurzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook/AILA Past President,
Miami, FL
Gregory Romanovsky, Boston, MA

3:50 pm-4:05 pm
Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm
Now That You Have Won: Make the Government Pay! (Closed to Government Participation)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Suing the government can be challenging, personally rewarding, and, most importantly, lead to successful outcomes for your clients. But while clients have become increasingly willing to litigate, many aren't able to afford it, so what is there left do? First of all, don't give up! There are many ways to get the government to help foot the bill, including FOIA fees, claims under the EAJA or Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA), representation under Franco-Gonzalez, Bivens Claims, and even bad faith claims. So, go ahead: build a strong case, get out there, and litigate!

- Getting Paid by the Government: When It Can Be Done, and for What Types of Cases

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Documenting and Perfecting Your Claim for Fees: What Needs to Happen to Ensure You Get Paid
- Ensuring the Money is Yours: How to Structure Your Contract So You Get Paid First
- Getting the Big Bucks: Justifying the Payout to Balance Your Value and Risk
- Holding the Government Accountable: Don't Let Them Weasel Out of Fees During Negotiation!

Olsi Vrapi (DL), AILA Texas Chapter Chair, Albuquerque, NM

Marc Van Der Hout, AILA Board of Governors, San Francisco, CA

Emily Creighton, Deputy Legal Director, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT/SPECIAL SESSIONS

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Congressional Advocacy for Your Clients (*Lunch Session*)

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will focus on how immigration attorneys can use congressional advocacy as an important tool to help clients. Topics covered will include how to counsel clients on congressional advocacy, how attorneys can contact congressional offices on behalf of their client, and how to bill clients for congressional advocacy. Panelists also will discuss how to develop a relationship with congressional offices, the types of cases congressional offices are likely to help with, and when to contact a congressional office.

- Appropriate Types of Cases for a Congressional Office, When to Contact
- Counseling Clients on Congressional Advocacy, Managing Expectations
- How to Develop a Relationship with a Congressional Office
- How to Convince a Congressional Office to Help Your Client
- How to Engage Corporate Clients in Congressional Advocacy Efforts

Ericka C. Curran (DL), Jacksonville, FL

Joseph John Shepherd, AILA CSC Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA

Dilruba Hashim, Washington, DC

Greg Chen, AILA Director, Government Relations, Washington, DC

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

All Immigration ALL the Time: How Immigration and Asylum Continue to be the Center of Gravity (*American Immigration Council Lunch Session*)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

American Immigration Council panelists will catch their collective breath to review where the Trump administration has sought to alter the immigration landscape and keep it at the center of the DC policy debate. Topics will include the impact of the government shutdown, negotiations over the fate of Dreamers and TPS holders, attempts to unwind protection at the border, the explosive use of detention, and the steady unraveling of the immigration courts. Panelists will also discuss what to expect in the year ahead as we approach the next presidential election.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Royce B. Murray (DL), Policy Director, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC
Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, Policy Analyst, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC
Katie Shepherd, National Advocacy Counsel, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Counseling Employers on the DACA Workforce

Orange Blossom, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

Following the Trump administration's attempts to restrict and rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), companies have sought to keep their DACA employees work-authorized. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will explore the current status of employment authorization under DACA, including litigation challenging the rescission and proposed congressional bills. They also will address how to counsel employers on their DACA workforce.

- Current Status of Employment Authorization Under DACA
- Counseling Employers on DACA Employees and Employment Candidates
- Dual Representation
- Potential Waivers and Other Forms of Relief for DACA Recipients
- I-9 Employment Verification Issues

Camiel Becker (DL), San Francisco, CA

Andrew K. Nietor, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Diego, CA

April Caminez Bentley, Tallahassee, FL

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Marijuana and Immigration: Are We Paranoid?

Orange Blossom, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

Marijuana use is now legal in some U.S. states and Canada. What are the implications if an individual used marijuana in these places? Panelists will explore issues related to marijuana, including possession, growing, and selling. They also will discuss the difference between these acts, and the impact of having done them in both legal and illegal jurisdictions. In addition, panelists will discuss the issues that arise if an individual is seeking an employment-based visa in connection with a marijuana-related business, or if the individual wants to use income gained from such an enterprise for an affidavit of support.

- What Happens If You Admit to Smoking Pot in a Jurisdiction Where it is Legal, but Have No Conviction, When Entering the United States?
- How Do CBP and DOS Deal with an Admission of Possession?

(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Advising the Client with a Medical Marijuana Prescription
 - How Best to Answer Drug Use Questions During Medical Exams and in the Interview
- Issues Raised When Applying for an Employment-Based Visa in Connection with a Marijuana-Related Enterprise
- Can Marijuana-Related Income Be Used for an Affidavit of Support?

Heather N. Segal (DL), Toronto, Canada

Denyse Sabagh, AILA Past President, Washington, DC

Zachary Nightingale, San Francisco, CA

Leonard D.M. Saunders, Blaine, WA

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE CAMPAIGN FEARLESS LAWYER LOUNGE: REMOVAL SKILLS SESSIONS

8:30 am–9:50 am

Ask the Former Immigration Judge

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Jeffrey S. Chase, New York, NY

Susan G. Roy, Princeton Junction, NJ

10:00 am–11:00 am

Ask the Asylum Expert: How to Present Your Asylum Case in Court

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Amy Bittner, AILA Ohio Chapter Chair, Columbus, OH

Tamara L. Jezic, Woodbridge, VA

Sarah B. Pitney, Washington, DC

11:10 am–12:10 pm

Ask the Immigration Practitioner: Tips for Starting Out in Removal Defense

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Amber L. Weeks, AILA Distance Learning Committee Co-Chair, Albuquerque, NM

Sui Chung, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Miami, FL

Christina Brown, Denver, CO

12:20 pm–1:20 pm

Surprises in Immigration Court: How to Handle the Unexpected

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Davorin John Odracic, Milwaukee, WI

Andrea Saenz, Brooklyn, NY

Rekha Sharma-Crawford, Kansas City, MO

THURSDAY TRAININGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

7:00 am–8:00 am

Yoga

Tallahassee, Convention Center Ballroom Level

7:00 am–8:00 am

Fee v. Hourly - Head to Head

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

8:00 am–9:00 am

Cardio Dance

Tallahassee, Convention Center Ballroom Level

9:45am–10:45am

Exchange Visitor Program and J-1 Visa: Private Sector Categories 2019 Update

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

10:50am–11:50am

Advanced Legal Research Using AILA Member Benefits and AILALink

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

Georgia-Alabama Chapter Meeting

St. George 108, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

Texas, Oklahoma & New Mexico Chapter Meeting

Tallahassee, Convention Center Ballroom Level

12:00 pm–1:30 pm

MidSouth Chapter Meeting

Tampa 1-2, Convention Center Ballroom Level

12:25pm–1:25pm

Getting the Most Out of Your AILA Membership

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

1:35pm–2:35pm

Practical and Ethical Considerations in Detention Cases

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

1:35pm–2:35pm

Tracking Trump Immigration Actions and Planning for a New Administration

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Stanford Law School Professor and Yale Senior Scholar, Lucas Guttentag, will present a preview of his “TrumpTracker Immigration Index,” a new, interactive tool designed to comprehensively catalogue every Trump administration immigration policy change. The Tracker ImmDex displays each new policy, provides the source document, and links to predecessor policies and documents that have been superseded. This innovative tool is designed to create a blueprint for prompt reversal of Trump administration policies by a new administration. Professor Guttentag’s preview will demonstrate the tool and seek input/feedback from the audience.

Speaker: Lucas Guttentag, Professor of the Practice of Law, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA; Distinguished Senior Scholar, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT

2:00 pm–3:00 pm

Gay & Lesbian Interest Group Meeting

Tampa 1-2, Convention Center Ballroom Level

2:50pm-3:50pm

Case Resolution Strategies

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

2:50pm-3:50pm

The Productivity Formula

AILA Inspires Theater, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

4:05pm-5:05pm

Fastcase: Research Member Benefit for AILA Members

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

4:05pm-5:05pm

Ask the Experts: Exchange Visitor Program and J-1 Visa

AILA Inspires Theater b, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

4:30 pm–5:30 pm

Ohio Chapter Reception

St. George 108, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

5:30 pm-6:45 pm

AILA Annual Membership Meeting

Orange Blossom, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

7:30 pm–9:00 pm

AILA Annual Awards

Antojitos in Universal CityWalk™

10:00 pm–12:00 Midnight

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Presidents Party

The Wizarding World of Harry Potter™ – Hogsmeade™ in Universal's Islands of Adventure™

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019

7:00 am–4:15 pm

Registration

Hall C Lobby, Convention Center Exhibit Level

9:00 am–1:00 pm and 2:30 pm–6:00 pm

Exhibit Hall

Hall B-C, Convention Center Exhibit Level

FUNDAMENTALS

7:00 am–8:00 am

H-1B Overview (*Morning Roundtable*)

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The H-1B visa category has long served as the “workhorse” visa for foreign nationals coming to the United States to engage in temporary “professional” employment. This still-popular visa has become more restricted over the years, however, largely due to the limited numbers of visas available. Panelists will provide an overview of this visa category, discuss how the process works, identify best practices for avoiding common problems, and alert new practitioners to current challenges.

- Is the Employer Offering a Position that Qualifies as a “Specialty Occupation?”
- Is the Employer Offering and Willing to Pay the Higher of the Actual or Prevailing Wage?
- Does the Foreign National Qualify for the Offered Position?
- The H-1B Cap and the Annual Lottery
- Preparing an H-1B Visa Petition, Document Retention
- Hot Topics Likely to Affect Your Case

Janet L. Henner (DL), New York, NY

Sarah Hawk, Atlanta, GA

David M. Palmer, San Francisco, CA

8:10 am–9:10 am

L-1 Overview

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

With the constantly increasing globalization of commerce, the L-1 nonimmigrant visa for intracompany transfers has become a much sought-after vehicle to bring foreign nationals into

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

the United States. The speakers for this fundamentals-level panel will provide an overview of the L-1A and L-1B visa categories and identify current trends in visa processing.

- L-1A: Managers and Executives
- L-1B: Specialized Knowledge
- Individual Petition vs. Blanket Ls: Process and Timetable
- Establishing a “Qualifying Relationship”: Subsidiaries and Affiliates
- Establishing How the Petitioner (and Its Affiliate) Are “Doing Business”
- New Office Ls

*Matthew D. Stump (DL), USCIS Service Center Operations Liaison Committee Chair,
Oklahoma City, OK*

Claire S. Pratt, AILA Northern California Chapter Chair, San Francisco, CA

Marko C. Maglich, White Plains, NY

Courtney Rineer, Orlando, FL

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

E-1/E-2 Overview

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The Treaty Trader (E-1) and Treaty Investor (E-2) visa categories allow nationals of countries with which the United States maintains a treaty of commerce and navigation to be admitted to the United States when investing in a U.S. entity or engaging in international trade. As other visa categories grow increasingly restrictive, the E-1/E-2 can be a great option for those that qualify. Panelists will provide an overview of the E-1 and E-2 visa categories, and discuss general qualifications and the application process.

- General Qualifications of the (E-1) Treaty Trader and (E-2) Treaty Investor
- Who Can Apply for an E-1/E-2: Nationality and Existing Treaties
- Qualifying Positions
- Overview of the Application Process

Claire D. Nilson (DL), London, UK

Henry J. Chang, Toronto, Canada

Ian E. Scott, New York, NY

Teri A. Simmons, Atlanta, GA

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

10:40 am-11:40 am

Employment-Based Immigration Preference Categories

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will provide a basic overview of the immigrant visa preference categories, numerical limitations, the Visa Bulletin, and other key concepts relating to the employment-based (EB) immigration process.

- EB-1: Multinational Executives and Managers, Extraordinary Ability Aliens, and Outstanding Researchers/Professors
- EB-2: National Interest Waivers, Aliens of Exceptional Ability, Professionals Holding Advanced Degrees
- EB-3: Professionals, Skilled, Unskilled, and Other Workers
- EB-4: Special Immigrants
- EB-5: Investors

Gayle Oshrin (DL), AILA 2019 Annual Conference Fundamentals & Special Sessions Chair, New York, NY

Jeanne G. Kildow, Minneapolis, MN

Maggie M. Murphy, Austin, TX

Robin D. O'Donoghue, Cambridge, MA

11:40 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Introduction to Forms for Employment-Based Immigrant Categories (*Lunch Session*)

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this hands-on, fundamentals-level session will employ a common hypothetical to illustrate how to use the relevant employment-based forms and applications. They also will discuss the most common errors made when using these forms.

- ETA 9141
- ETA 9089
- I-140
- I-485
- I-485 Supplement J

Maxine D. Bayley (DL), San Francisco, CA

Rosanna M. Fox, Ridgewood, NJ

Pamela Genise, Owings Mills, MD

Victoria Jaensch Karins, Sarasota, FL

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Labor Certification 101: Part I

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Nearly all EB-2 and EB-3 cases require a certification from DOL that the U.S. employer has been unable to find willing, qualified, and available U.S. workers. Panelists on Part I of this two-part session will discuss the basic concepts and steps associated with DOL's PERM process for preparing and filing applications for labor certification.

- The Steps of the Labor Certification Application Process
- The Job Description and the Minimum Requirements
- “Actual Minimum Requirements” and “Business Necessity”: How to Document When They Exceed Normal
- Prevailing Wage: What It Is, How and When to Obtain
- Registration and Filing the ETA 9089
- Roles of the Various Stakeholders—*e.g.*, Immigration Lawyer, Company Contact, Foreign National's Manager, and Foreign National

Amy Fallon (DL), New York, NY

Marit Elizabeth Gurley, Bloomington, MN

La Verne A. Ramsay, San Francisco, CA

Scot A. Silzer, Orlando, FL

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Labor Certification 101: Part II

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Recruitment is at the core of the labor certification process and must be conducted with scrupulous attention to the regulations and FAQs. There is no room for error! Panelists on Part II of this two-part session will offer guidance on DOL-mandated recruitment and post-recruitment documentation to help practitioners successfully navigate the PERM recruitment process.

- Recruitment Timeline and Deadlines
- Mandatory Recruitment: Newspaper of General Circulation, State Job Order, and Notice of Filing
- Supplemental Recruitment: Websites, Career Centers, Employee Referral Programs (ERPs), Local Papers, and Other Alternatives
- Reviewing Resumes and Use of Checklists
- Maintaining Evidence of Recruitment, Recruitment Report, the Audit File, and Document Retention

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Beth E. Carlson (DL), Minneapolis, MN
David G. Katona, New York, NY
Angela C. Mapa, San Francisco, CA
Sonal J. Mehta Verma, Rockville, MD

BUSINESS

7:00 am-8:00 am

It's Preponderance, People! (*Morning Roundtable*)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

USCIS is bound by the preponderance of the evidence standard, but doesn't always seem to properly apply it. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will show attorneys how to help USCIS understand what the standard is, how it is being misapplied, and how to establish the standard in employment-based nonimmigrant and immigrant visa cases.

- Difference Between “Burden of Proof” and “Burden of Going Forward”
- *Matter of Treasure Craft*
- L-1B Policy Memorandum: Are Ls Just Different?
- H-1B Issues
- Other Business Petitions
- Ability to Pay

David Grunblatt (DL), Newark, NJ
John Patrick Pratt, AILA Board of Governors, Miami, FL
Ilana J. Drummond, San Francisco, CA

8:10 am-9:10 am

What Do You Mean I Can't Come In? CBP Issues for the Business Client

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists in this session, intended for all practitioners regardless of expertise, will examine what business clients often experience at the port-of-entry and suggest ways to better prepare current and future business clients for what to expect and what to do.

- Current Trends for Border L-1, TN, and B-1 Applicants
- How Best to Prepare Business Clients for Port-of-Entry Procedures
- How to Resolve CBP Issues Before, During, and After a Client's Entry
- Selecting a Port-of-Entry or Preflight Inspection Facility When Applying for Admission
- Canadian- and Mexican-Specific Issues

Danielle M. Rizzo (DL), Buffalo, NY
Leslie A. Holman, AILA Past President, Burlington, VT
Ramon E. Curiel, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Antonio, TX
Marjorie Baltazar, Chicago, IL

(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

Due Diligence and Ethical Considerations in Client Intake (*Ethics*)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this session, intended for all levels of expertise, will explore practical and ethical considerations during the first client meeting, before the practitioner agrees to take on an employment-based case.

- Parties to Involve in the First Meeting: Employer, Employee, and/or Manager
- Asking the Right Questions of All Parties to Obtain the Needed Information
- Documentation to Review at the Outset: Prior Approval Notices, Academic Credentials, Employment Verification Letters
- Obtaining a Complete Personal and Immigration Background
- Information/Document Triggers and How to Respond
- Determining When to Walk Away

Lisa Baker Jones (DL), Santa Clara, CA

Robert E. Juceam, AILA Past President, New York, NY

Angelo A. Paparelli, Los Angeles, CA

Punam S. Rogers, Boston, MA

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

Employment-Based Adjustment Interviews: What to Expect at the Field Office and When to Consular Process

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

All employment-based adjustment of status (AOS) applicants must now be interviewed. Panelists on this session, designed for all levels of expertise, will discuss issues that arise in this context, how to prepare clients for interviews at the USCIS field office, and whether/when consular processing is a better alternative.

- What to Expect in an Employment-Based AOS Interview
- Representation at the Interview: Attend with the Client, Refer Out, or Send Alone
- Complex Issues: Portability, Cross Chargeability, Arrests, Aggressive Questioning of Derivative Family, Etc.
- Addressing Changes in Circumstances Between Filing of the Application/Petition and the Interview
- When Is the Supplement J Needed?
- AOS vs. Consular Processing: When to Consider Consular Processing Instead

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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David W. Cook (DL), Columbus, OH
Palma R. Yanni, AILA Past President, Washington, DC
Robert Casazza, Jr., New York, NY

11:40 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Navigating the Complexities of Worksite Enforcement: I-9 Compliance and Investigations
(Lunch Session)

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this session, intended for all levels of expertise, will convey best practices for I-9 completion and maintenance, address potential pitfalls in the era of “Buy American, Hire American” and examine trends in audits and investigations and how to best respond to them.

- Potential I-9 and E-Verify Landmines in the Age of “Buy American and Hire American,” and Counseling Clients to Avoid Them
- Latest Developments in I-9 and E-Verify Guidance: I-9 Audits, DOJ’s Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER) Independent Investigation Triggers, Etc.
- Enforcement Trends: What Are ICE Auditors and IER Investigators Looking for When Conducting Investigations?

Josie Gonzalez (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Alka Bahal, Morristown, NJ
Scott F. Cooper, Madison, WI

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Giving a Boost to the Little Guy: Strategies for Advising Small and Emerging Businesses
Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Small and emerging businesses are playing an increasingly important role in both the domestic and global economies and leading the way into future. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will focus on helping you to make sure the leaders of these critical businesses can live and work in the United States.

- Alternatives to New Office L Extensions
- Qualifying for an L Visa When in the United States in Another Nonimmigrant Visa Status
- Options for H-1B Cap Exemption
- Timing Considerations to Maximize Approvability: Sometimes It Pays to Wait
- Impact of Shareholder Identity and Control on Visa Eligibility

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Elise A. Fialkowski (DL), Philadelphia, PA
Elizabeth Chatham, Phoenix, AZ
Helene N. Dang, Houston, TX
David A. Harston, Denver, CO

2:35 pm-2:50 pm
Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Risky Business: Ethics and Risk Management in the Current Climate (*Ethics*)
Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this session, intended for all practitioners regardless of expertise, will discuss current and emerging ethical questions faced by business immigration attorneys.

- When to Refer: Wrongful Denials, Outside Comfort Zone, Breakdown of Attorney-Client Relationship, Conflict
- Dual Representation: When It Is Required, When a Dual Representation Waiver Goes Too Far, What to Do When the Beneficiary Gets in Trouble
- Liability for Online Marketing: Keeping Posts Up to Date, Avoiding the Accidental Client Relationship

Kenneth Craig Dobson (DL), AILA Ethics Committee Chair, New York, NY
Ellen Freeman, AILA Board of Governors, Pittsburgh, PA
Douglas D. Hauer, Boston, MA

3:50 pm-4:05 pm
Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Making a Permanent Commitment: Taking Your Investment to the Next Level
Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

U.S. immigration law offers pathways for both nonimmigrant visa (NIV) and immigrant visa (IV) investors. The standards and procedures for NIV and IV investors differ, however, and those differences, if not fully considered and anticipated, can create problems for foreign nationals who want to switch from NIV to IV. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will explore the nuances of these differences.

- Dual Intent Doctrine
- E-2 Status and Self-Petitions
- NIV to IV: Deciding on the Best Option, Steps to Take After Entry to Ensure This Happens
- How to Leverage E-1/2 Equity into an EB-5 Investment
- Family Strategies

(DL) = Discussion Leader
** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Lisa M. Galvan (DL), Cincinnati, OH
Bernard P. Wolfsdorf, AILA Past President, Santa Monica, CA
Margo Chernysheva, Las Vegas, NV
Cristina Steele-Kaplan, Loveland, CO

FAMILY

7:00 am-8:00 am

How to Prepare a Personal Statement for Waivers (*Morning Roundtable*)

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

We routinely ask our clients to share the most intimate and painful details of their lives with us, something that is not always easy for them to do. How can advocates gain the trust of clients and get the information needed to craft a powerful and effective personal statement, while also avoiding retraumatizing the client? Panelists on this intermediate-level session will help practitioners think about and prepare successfully for the declaration process.

- Strategies on Declaration Taking: Interviews, Guided Written Statements, Outsourcing
- Client Issues: Language, Not Being Forthcoming, Staying Focused
- Editing: Keeping the Client's Voice, Readability, Helping to Draft a Compelling Declaration

Breanna Cary (DL), Oklahoma City, OK
Ashley M. Arcidiacono, Carlsbad, CA
Rocio S. Becerril, Chicago, IL
Edivette Lopez-Benn, Marietta, GA

8:10 am-9:10 am

Documenting Hardship: Thinking Outside the Box

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will share their most creative strategies for demonstrating extreme hardship for waiver applicants.

- Types of Nontraditional Evidence
- Leveraging Forensic Experts and Psychological Reports
- Focusing on the Past and Documenting Prior Suffering or Grief
- Using Charts and Graphs to Make your Point
- Winning on "Totality of the Circumstances"

Jason C. Mills (DL), Fort Worth, TX
Kelli A. Fennell, Chicago, IL
Artie Renee Pobjecky, Winter Haven, FL

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

9:25 am-10:25 am

Working with Consular Posts on Unique Applications

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists in this advanced-level session will help you identify creative ways to use consular processing for clients residing abroad.

- Returning Resident Visas: What Are They, and How Do You Get One for Your Client?
- In-Country I-130 Filings
- Coordinating with USCIS: Re-Entry Permits and Fingerprinting
- Travel Foils for Returning Lawful Permanent Residents
- Filing for a Passport Abroad

Heather D. Prendergast (DL), AILA Board of Governors, Cleveland, OH

Neena Dutta, AILA Board of Governors, New York, NY

Michael H. Davis, Minneapolis, MN

Charlotte Slocombe, London, UK

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

Consular Processing: When Things Go Wrong

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will discuss successfully preparing clients for consular processing and best practices for communicating with the consulate. Panelists also will focus on getting a second look at denials, consular non-reviewability, and revocations of I-601As, which frequently result from public charge and smuggling grounds of inadmissibility.

- Preparing Clients for a Successful Interview
- Medical Exam Issues, Including Alcohol and Drug Use and Tattoo Analysis
- Handling I-864 Issues, Understanding the Weight Consular Officers Give to Financial Documents
- Communicating with the Consulate and Through LegalNet
- When Your Client's I-601A Is Revoked: Refiling the Extreme Hardship Waiver, Advising Your Client of the Processing Times for a New Adjudication

Kehrela M. Hodkinson (DL), London, Great Britain

Mandi B. Bucceroni, Philadelphia, PA

Laura Fernandez, Milwaukee, WI

11:40 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Obtaining Health Care and Public Benefits (*Lunch Session*)

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will look at eligibility requirements for obtaining certain types of benefits for clients, including healthcare. They also will discuss the implications of receiving public benefits for future applications.

- Prima Facie VAWA Determinations: Eligibility for Public Benefits and the New Public Charge Regulations
- Affordable Healthcare Act: Who Can Apply?
- Public Benefits Charge: Latest Updates
- When Your Client Received Public Benefits Despite Being Ineligible for Them
- Public Charge Concerns for Adjustment and Naturalization Applicants

Sonia Parras Konrad (DL), Des Moines, IA

Ana Pottratz Acosta, St. Paul, MN

Elaine H. Witty, Memphis, TN

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Improving Your Client and Staff Relationships Through Diversity Training (*Diversity CLE*)

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Studies have shown that most people hold unconscious, implicit assumptions that influence their judgments and perceptions of others. This bias causes both action and inaction, either one of which, in this context, can reduce the quality of the workforce and create an unfair and even destructive environment.

- Effective and Culturally Sensitive Communication Techniques When Working with Colleagues, Clients, and Opposing Counsel
- Stepping into the Client's Shoes: Educating Yourself to Communicate Client Cultural Norms and Values When Presenting the Case
- Increasing Self-Awareness and Demonstrating Respect to Colleagues and Clients

Rebecca Kitson (DL), Albuquerque, NM

*Victor D. Nieblas Pradis, AILA Past President/Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair,
City of Industry, CA*

Sheela Murthy, Owings Mills, MD

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

SIJS: From State Court to Green Card

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this intermediate-level introduction to Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) will cover all stages of SIJS filings, from working with state or juvenile courts to obtaining a green card.

- Special Considerations for One-Parent SIJS Court Orders
- Obtaining the Required Language of Orders
- I-360 Application Process
- Common RFE Issues on I-360s and How to Solve Them
- Overview of the Adjustment of Status Process for SIJS cases, Including Applying for a Fee Waiver
- SIJS for Those in Removal Proceedings

Christina Iturralde (DL), Atlanta, GA

Sally Joyner, Memphis, TN

Melissa M. Lopez, El Paso, TX

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Advanced T Visa Issues

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on this intermediate/advanced-level panel will cover special T visas situations, including T visas for children, T visas for those in removal proceedings, and how to overcome agency delays and difficult RFEs.

- T Visas for Adults and Minors: Tips When Screening, Common Fact Patterns, Avoiding Conflicts and Confidentiality Issues
- Best Practices: Tips from the Experts in Preparing for RFEs, Overcoming Delays, and More.
- T Visas in Removal Proceedings: What You Need to Know

Jacquelyn Bradford (DL), St Petersburg, FL

Alma Montes de Oca, Phoenix, AZ

Heather M. Ziemba, Wilmington, NC

Rachel Zoghlin, Bethesda, MD

LITIGATION

7:00 am-8:00 am

Pereira v. Sessions: Implications One Year In (Morning Roundtable)

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

In June 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court held that a Notice to Appear that does not specify a time or place to appear fails to trigger the stop-time rule. The decision has had much broader implications for those in removal proceedings or with a prior order of removal. Panelists will provide insight into using the Pereira decision fully in defending clients.

- Reopening Proceedings Where Stop-Time Rule Improperly Applied
- Motions to Terminate: Challenging Jurisdiction in Immigration Court
- Challenging In Absentia Removal Orders
- Challenging Underlying Removal Orders in Criminal Reentry and Reinstatement Cases

Matthew J. Archambeault (DL), Philadelphia, PA

Laura Lichter, AILA Past President, Denver, CO

Martin Rosenbluth, Lumpkin, GA

Caroline Walters, Staff Attorney, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

7:00 am-8:00 am

Informal Waivers: “Wait, How Do I Apply for That?” *(Morning Roundtable)*

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Terrorism-related inadmissibility, the travel ban, and other causes barring a foreign national from being admissible theoretically have helpful waivers associated with them. However, there is no publicly available waiver process that has been formalized in a manner that allows an individual to file an application directly and requires the government to consider it. When faced with the legal existence of a waiver, but no formal waiver methodology, it is necessary to be creative to push the agency into considering your client’s eligibility for the waiver sought.

- What Informal Waivers Exist but Lack a Formal Application Process?
- How Can You Put Together a Waiver Packet When the Elements of the Waiver Are Opaque or Vague?
- How to Submit a Waiver Application When the Government Rejects Your Submissions and Has No Formal Way to File

Mahsa Khanbabai (DL), North Easton, MA

Sima Alizadeh, Berkeley, CA

Susan G. Roy, Princeton Junction, NJ

8:10 am-9:10 am

Representing Vulnerable Populations

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will address the challenges associated with representing clients in vulnerable populations. The discussion will include how to represent clients with mental competency issues and with minors.

- Representing the Child vs. Representing the Family Unit

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Capacity Issues Relating to Minors
- Requesting a Competency Hearing, How to Proceed After a Finding
- Special Concerns with Detained Clients

Kerry E. Doyle (DL), Boston, MA

Jodi Goodwin, Harlingen TX

Lori A. Nessel, Newark, NJ

Kristie-Anne Padron, Miami, FL

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

Crimmigration—Part I: Retroactivity and Vagueness Challenges

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Retroactivity and vagueness challenges are the latest cutting-edge tools to protect your clients with criminal histories. Panelists in Part I of this two-part session will cover the latest federal court case law on these topics, discuss when to raise these challenges, and brainstorm possible expansions of the case law on the horizon.

- Void for Vagueness: How to Use *Johnson* and *Dimaya* to Challenge Crimes Involving Moral Turpitude (CIMTs)
- *Garcia-Martinez* and *Obeya*: Retroactivity Challenges to the BIA's Shifting Definition of a CIMT
- Vagueness and Retroactivity Challenges Before the Agency
- Motions to Reopen for Clients Ordered Removed for Now-Suspect “Crimmigration” Reasons

Ava Benach (DL), Washington, DC

Kari E. Hong, Newton, MA

Sara C. Sluszka, Seattle, WA

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

Crimmigration—Part II: Beyond the Categorical Approach

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The categorical and modified categorical approaches are important tools in the crimmigration world, but they don't cover all the bases. Panelists in Part II of this two-part session will review conduct-based grounds of removability as well as the circumstance-specific approach, and address any new case law regarding the application of the categorical and modified categorical approaches.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Circumstance-Specific Approach: Marijuana, Domestic Violence, and Fraud
- Conduct-Based Removability and Good Moral Character Issues
- After Post-Conviction Relief: The Conviction is Gone Now—Aren't We Safe?
- Case Law Updates: Categorical and Modified Categorical Approaches

Michael Sharma-Crawford (DL), Kansas City, MO

Lance Curtright, San Antonio, TX

Brian Murray, Fairfax, VA

Keli M. Reynolds, Los Angeles, CA

11:40 am-1:35 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Weaving Enchanted Tales When Filing Waivers in Immigration Court (*Lunch Session*)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will discuss how waivers can be used to overcome inadmissibility and deportability in removal proceedings, as well as best practices to demonstrate hardship effectively. They also will discuss how to determine what level of hardship is required and when you can apply for which waivers specifically before the court.

- Choosing Between Multiple Forms of Relief: Waivers and Cancellation
- Effective Use of Witnesses and Experts
- Evidencing That Your Client Deserves Favorable Discretion
- Legal and Evidentiary Considerations for Clients Convicted of “Violent or Dangerous” Crimes

Elina M. Santana (DL), Miami, FL

Lauren Anselowitz, Newark, NJ

Erich C. Straub, Milwaukee, WI

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Recognizing and Responding to Gang Affiliation Allegations

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Extreme vetting and allegations of gang affiliation are on the rise, and those caught up in it are top immigration enforcement priorities for DHS. Panelists will discuss gang databases, the over-inclusive process law enforcement employs to allege gang membership, and how these allegations arise in and impact removal proceedings. Panelists will share best practices on how to anticipate and combat unfounded allegations.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Gang Databases and Law Enforcement’s Over-Inclusive Allegations of Gang Membership
- How to Anticipate and Head Off Allegations Effectively
- Considering the Controlled Application Review and Resolution Program (CARRP) and Terrorism-Related Inadmissibility Grounds (TRIG) Within the Gang Context

Michelle N. Mendez (DL), Silver Spring, MD

Laila Hlass, New Orleans, LA

Andrea Saenz, Brooklyn, NY

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Post-Matter of A–B– and Domestic Violence-Based Asylum Strategies (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Attorney General Sessions attempted to eliminate domestic violence and gang violence as bases for asylum in Matter of A–B–, but attorneys across the country continue to successfully argue these claims before immigration judges and throughout the federal circuit courts. Learn from the experts what is working and what is not in the realm of “particular social group” (PSG) claims.

- Strategies for Formulating PSGs in Domestic Violence and Gang-Based Asylum Claims
- Effective Use of Expert Witnesses and Country Conditions to Demonstrate the Government’s Inability and/or Unwillingness to Protect
- Circuit Court Treatment of *Matter of A–B–*

Victoria Neilson (DL), Pleasantville, NY

Karen Musalo, San Francisco, CA

Jeffrey S. Chase, Brooklyn, NY

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Ethical Issues in Removal Cases: Pinocchio and His Advisors? (Ethics)

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Whether you are fighting with your client over fees, needing to withdraw without prejudicing the case, addressing conflicts of interest between clients, or dealing with unethical behavior of other parties and the government, you need a solution. Panelists will address these ethical conundrums through a group discussion of hypotheticals.

- Discussion of the Model Rules Through Common Real-Life Scenarios

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- How to Withdraw Ethically Before Different Agencies and While Petitions Are Pending
- What to Do When EOIR/DHS Rules Conflict with Your State Bar Rules (*i.e.* Candor to the Tribunal vs. Client Confidentiality)
- Addressing Conflicts of Ethical Rules Between Jurisdictions

Amber L. Weeks (DL), Albuquerque, NM

Melissa Lujan, Oklahoma City, OK

Rekha Sharma-Crawford, Kansas City, MO

Michael S. Vastine, Miami Gardens, FL

GOVERNMENT & LIAISON COMMITTEE OPEN FORUMS

8:10 am-9:10 am

U.S. Department of State (DOS) Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Kenneth J. Harder (DL), DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Houston, TX

Sandra S. Reguerin, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Phoenix, AZ

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

*Alexis S. Axelrad (DL), AILA Board of Governors/CBP Liaison Committee Chair,
New York, NY*

Ramon E. Curiel, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Antonio, TX

*Frank Russo, Assistant Director of Field Operations, New York Field Office, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection, New York, NY*

**Gaetano Cordone, Orlando Port Director, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Orlando, FL*

**Todd A. Hoffman, Executive Director, Admissibility and Passenger Programs, Office of Field
Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC*

**Luis A. Mejia, Director, Enforcement Programs Division, Office of Field Operations, U.S.
Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC*

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

*Sarah K. Peterson (DL), AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Chair,
Minneapolis, MN*

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Vincent W. Lau, DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Cambridge, MA
Shawn M. Packer, Counsel, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC
William “Bill” Rabung, Director, Division of Operations, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC
Brandt Carter, Center Director, Atlanta National Processing Center, ETA, DOL, Atlanta, GA
Gema Hall, Atlanta National Processing Center, ETA, DOL, Atlanta, GA

11:40 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

CIS Ombudsman Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Susan M. MacLean (DL), Chicago, IL

Robert H. Cohen, Columbus, OH

Stacy Shore, Acting Deputy Director, Office of the CIS Ombudsman, DHS, Washington, DC

Frederick R. Troncone, Senior Advisor, Office of the CIS Ombudsman, DHS, Washington, DC

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Bennett Savitz (DL), AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA

Robin D. O’Donoghue, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Member, Cambridge, MA

Sharvari (Shev) Dalal-Dheini, Director of Government Relations, Washington, DC

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Merlyn N. Hernandez (DL), AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA

Andrew K. Nietor, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Diego, CA

**Executive Office for Immigration Review, Falls Church, VA*

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Open Forum

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Jesse A. Lloyd (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Oakland, CA

Sui Chung, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice-Chair, Miami, FL

Merlyn N. Hernandez, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA

Amanda Bethea Keaveny, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Member, Charleston, SC

FRIDAY TRAININGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

7:00 am-8:00 am

Yoga

Tallahassee, Convention Center Ballroom Level

7:00am-8:00am

AILALink Training

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

7:30 am-9:00 am

DC Chapter Meeting

Tampa 1-2, Convention Center Ballroom Level

8:00 am-9:00 am

Carolinas Chapter Meeting

Castillo de San Marcos Fort, Atrium Level

8:00 am-9:00 am

Law Professors Interest Group Meeting

Tampa 3, Convention Center Ballroom Level

8:10am-9:10am

Fastcase: Research Member Benefit for AILA Members

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

9:25am-10:25am

Delivering Effective Closing Statements

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

10:40am-11:40am

Writing a Successful J-1 Training/Internship Placement Plan (DS-7002)

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

10:40am-11:40am

All You Wanted to Know About Malpractice Insurance, But Were too Afraid to Ask

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

Missouri/Kansas Chapter Meeting

Sanibel 2-3, Convention Center Ballroom Level

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

In-house Counsel Interest Group Meeting

Tampa 3, Convention Center Ballroom Level

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

African-American Interest Group Meeting

St. George 108, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

Rome-EMEA Chapter Meeting

St. George 114, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

12:00 pm–4:00 pm

The Council Board of Trustees Meeting

Orange Blossom, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

12:25 pm–1:25 pm

AILA Athletics, Culture, Entertainment, and Science (ACES) Committee Meeting

Tampa 1-2, Convention Center Ballroom Level

12:25pm-1:25pm

Removal Case Organization and Management: Case Workflows from Open to Close

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

1:35pm-2:35pm

Getting the Most Out of Your AILA Membership

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

1:35pm-2:35pm

Competency and Capacity: Staying on the Ball for Your Clients and You

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

2:50pm-3:50pm

Make the Case for Immigration: Advocacy, Media, and Social Media Training

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

2:50pm-3:50pm

AILA Needs You – Becoming an AILA Leader

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

AILA Inspires Theater, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

4:00 pm–5:15 pm

AILA NorCal Chapter Reception

Sanibel 2-3, Convention Center Ballroom Level

4:05pm-5:05pm

How to Start and Build an Immigration Law Practice

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

5:00 pm–6:00 pm

Colorado Chapter Reception

St. George 108, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

5:00 pm–6:00 pm

Canada Chapter Reception

St. George 104, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

5:00 pm–6:30 pm

Hispanic Latino Interest Group Meeting

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

5:00 pm–6:30 pm

National Immigration Project Reception

Tallahassee, Convention Center Ballroom Level

5:00 pm–7:00 pm

IMG Taskforce Reception

Tampa 1-2, Convention Center Ballroom Level

6:00 pm-10:00 pm

American Immigration Council's 2019 American Heritage Awards

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

AILA INSPIRES SPEAKER SERIES

12:25pm-1:25pm

Congressional Speaker Series: State of Immigration in the 116th Congress

sponsored by Immigrants' List Civic Action

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

How will immigration law be impacted by legislation this session? Who are the leaders in Congress on this issue and what is their strategy for moving forward? Hear our panel of elected

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

officials, staffers, and political experts discuss these issues with Immigrants' List board members.

Introduction by:

Ira J. Kurzban, AILA Author, Kurzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook/AILA Past President, Immigrants' List Civic Action Founding Member and Board of Directors, Miami, FL

Speakers:

Benjamin Johnson (DL), AILA Executive Director, Washington, DC

**U.S. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, Seattle, WA*

**U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell, Miami, FL*

**U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy, Orlando, FL*

Betsy Lawrence, Counsel, Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship, House Judiciary Committee, Washington, DC

John Miyasato, President, Crossroads Campaigns Solutions, Washington, DC

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

7:15 am–12:00 pm

Registration

Hall C Lobby, Convention Center Exhibit Level

8:30 am–3:00 pm

Exhibit Hall

Hall B-C, Convention Center Exhibit Level

FUNDAMENTALS

7:00 am–8:00 am

Inadmissibility and Removability

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this fundamentals-level panel will introduce the grounds of inadmissibility and removability that crop up in some way in virtually all immigration matters.

- Inadmissibility vs. Removability: INA §§212(a), 237(a)
- Common Grounds of Inadmissibility
- Common Grounds of Removability

H. Raymond Fasano (DL), New York, NY

Bridgette M. Bennett, Groveland, FL

Andres Lopez, Charlotte, NC

Hardeep Sull, Las Vegas, NV

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

8:10 am-9:10 am

Introduction to Waivers of Inadmissibility

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Whether filing for a nonimmigrant visa or an immigrant visa, your otherwise inadmissible client may be eligible for a waiver. Panelists will provide an overview of immigrant and nonimmigrant waivers, focusing on who qualifies and how to file. They then will direct attendees to additional panels and resources that provide more in-depth coverage of this complex topic.

- The Nearly Limitless Nonimmigrant Visa Waiver
 - The I-192
 - When and Where to File
 - The Adjudication Process
- The More Limited Immigrant Visa Waiver
 - Form I-601 (and sometimes I-601A)
 - The Qualifying Relative
 - Differences Depending on Ground of Inadmissibility
 - Documenting Hardship
 - Discretion

Heather L. Poole (DL), Los Angeles, CA

Aaron Hall, AILA Amicus Committee Vice Chair, Aurora, CO

Milena E. Portillo, Orlando, FL

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

Anatomy of a Removal Proceeding: Part I

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Representing clients in removal proceedings requires skill, innovation, and perseverance. Panelists on Part I of this two-part fundamentals session will provide you with the basics you need to be an effective litigator in removal court.

- Commencement of Proceedings: Breaking Down the Notice to Appear
- INA §212 vs. §237 Proceedings
- Is My Client Removable or Inadmissible? Who Bears the Burden?
- Available Forms of Relief

John Gihon (DL), Altamonte Springs, FL

Amy Bittner, AILA Ohio Chapter Chair, Columbus, OH

Eric M. Mark, AILA New Jersey Chapter Chair, Newark, NJ

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

10:25 am-10:40 am
Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

Anatomy of a Removal Proceeding: Part II

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Now that the basics have been covered, panelists in Part II of this two-part fundamentals session will focus on the more procedural side of representing clients in removal proceedings.

- Master Calendar Hearings and Pleading to the NTA
- Filings with the Immigration Court: Motions, Applications, and Evidence
- The Importance of a Pre-Hearing Brief
- Procedure of the Individual Hearings: What Happens? How Do You Prepare?

Avantika Shastri (DL), San Francisco, CA

*Maria T. Baldini-Potermin, AILA Federal Court Litigation Section Steering Committee Chair,
Chicago, IL*

Lindsey Gauzza, New York, NY

11:40 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Crimmigration 101 (Lunch Session)

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

There are immigration consequences to criminal activities. To this end, the experts on this fundamentals session will examine the intersection between criminal and immigration law. They will provide attendees with an overview of the terms, documents, and burdens to immigration cases in immigration court for clients with a criminal history.

- Crimes Under INA §§212(a)(2), 237(a)(2), or 237(a)(3)
- What Is a Conviction?
- Analyzing the Charges, Plea Agreement, and Record of Conviction
- Immigration Issues in Plea Bargaining
- Examples of Crimmigration in Employment Cases
- Basic Tips for Educating the Criminal Lawyer and the Client

Cory Forman (DL), New York, NY

Elizabeth Lopez, Reno, NV

Kathleen Moccio, Minneapolis, MN

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Detention 101

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Representing detained clients can be one of the more difficult and demanding immigration practice areas. Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will discuss issues related to detention practice, including client access, bond hearings and mandatory detention.

- Difficulty with Access to and Contact with Clients
- Release, Parole, and Bond by ICE
- When Detention Is Mandatory by Statute
- Bond Requests and Hearings

Brian J. Hoffman (DL), Wooster, OH

Merlyn N. Hernandez, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA

Elizabeth H. Matherne, Ocilla, GA

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

VAWA, T Visas, and U Visas

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will provide an overview of remedies for victims of various types of crimes, including mental and physical abuse, violence, and human trafficking.

- VAWA: What Constitutes Abuse and Proving Eligibility
- U Visas: Crimes Involving Violence, Who the Victim Is
- Obtaining Certification for U Visas
- T Visas: Victims of Labor and Sex Trafficking

Christine Popp (DL), Bloomington, IN

Julie E. Dinnerstein, New York, NY

Samantha Del Bosque, Houston, TX

Michelle L. Edstrom, Oklahoma City, OK

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Asylum 101

Sun A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists on this introductory session will provide an overview of the asylum process for newer practitioners. They will discuss affirmative and defensive asylum, as well as rapidly changing

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

case law and adjudication procedures. Panelists also will address important recent developments affecting asylum law practice.

- The Five Basic Grounds for Asylum
- Identifying and Articulating Your “Particular Social Group”
- Establishing the Nexus Between Harm and the Protected Ground
- Grounds of Ineligibility and Statutory Bars to Asylum
- Employment Authorization and the Asylum Clock

Randall A. Chamberlain (DL), New York, NY

Sayoni Maitra, San Francisco, CA

Michele Garnett McKenzie, Minneapolis, MN

Sarah B. Pitney, Washington, DC

BUSINESS

7:00 am-8:00 am

“Nurses, PTs, and OTs ... Oh My!” The Yellow Brick Road to a Green Card

(Morning Roundtable)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Panelists on this session, intended for all levels of expertise, will explore the nuances of filing Schedule A petitions and petitions for other allied healthcare workers. They also will provide guidance on how to avoid common pitfalls.

- Supervisory and Other Non-Basic Physical Therapy and Nurse Positions
- Internal Posting Notice, Farmer Memorandum, Placement in Schedule A vs Traditional PERM
- Setting Job Requirements
- Visa Screen, Licensing, and Professional Equivalency
- Current Adjudication Trends

Joseph P. Curran (DL), Northampton, MA

Ronald A. Nair, AILA Bangkok District Chapter Chair, Norwalk, CT

Michael F. Hammond, Cincinnati, OH

8:10 am-9:10 am

Square Pegs in Round Holes: Drafting a Job Description

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Employers seeking immigration benefits for their employees have an unenviable task. They are required to supply the government with a job description that accurately and adequately describes the job, is not seen as unduly restrictive or generic, and meets the criteria for the immigration benefit sought. This must all be balanced with avoiding automatic, or not-so-automatic, audit triggers, and then survive later USCIS scrutiny. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will explore the art of drafting effective job descriptions.

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- Using Governmental and Industry Publications to Describe Positions for Both Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visa Petitions Throughout the Case Lifecycle
- The Bounds of Restrictive Requirements—*i.e.*, Educational, Language, and Licensure
- Managing Client Expectations in the Process of Drafting a Job Description

Richard M. Green (DL), Irvine, CA
Alexander Dgebuadze, Woodland Hills, CA
Pamela Lucas, Hartford, CT

9:10 am-9:25 am
Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am
Students Under Scrutiny

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

For years, students have been insulated from the consequences of status violations by virtue of their duration of status (“D/S”) designation. Now, the Trump Administration is coming for them. Join our expert panelists as they try to help practitioners advise their clients in this era of increased, overreaching enforcement. They will provide an overview of existing policies and regulations regarding students, and discuss types of employment allowed under regular and STEM Optional Practical Training (OPT). They also will advise on employer obligations, placement of employees, risks to the employee, and more!

- Employer Obligations on I-983
- Placement of Employees at Client Work Locations
- Issues Regarding OPT or Curricular Practical Training (CPT), and Switching to Other Visa Statuses
- Advising on Risks to Employee Rather than Employer
- What Constitutes Unemployment

Matthew B. Meltzer (DL), Chicago, IL
Stephen D. Springer, Washington, DC
Bob White, Schaumburg, IL

10:25 am-10:40 am
Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am
Mergers and Acquisitions Due Diligence: How to Avoid Nasty Surprises (*Ethics*)

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Many immigration lawyers cringe when their clients tell them about a great merger opportunity, because the opportunity carries with it immigration compliance headaches. Whether the attorney learns of the merger before or after it occurred determines the size of the headache. The experts on this advanced-level panel will explore due diligence obligations before the merger, and

(DL) = Discussion Leader
** = invited, not confirmed*

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examine whether resuscitation is possible if the merger has already occurred and has created negative immigration consequences.

- Transactional Due Diligence: Does the Offered Transaction Format (e.g., Merger/Spin-Off/Reverse Merger/Asset Sale) Preserve the Qualifying Bases of Existing Visas?
 - If Yes: Do Any Amended Petitions Need to Be Filed or Labor Condition Applications Posted?
 - If No: Are There Alternative Visas to Seek or a Possible Change to the Transaction Structure?
 - Is This a Timing Issue?
- Compliance Due Diligence
 - Assessing Whether Your Client is Acquiring an I-9 Compliant Company
 - Do All Existing Nonimmigrant Foreign Nationals Comply with the Terms of Their Visas and Petitions?
 - Will Your Client Become H Dependent or Subject to Higher Fees?

*Tiffany B. Hill (DL), San Francisco, CA
Shavit Yarden, New York, NY
Carrie M. Ziegler Thomas, Milwaukee, WI*

11:40 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

**Setting Yourself Up for EB-1 Success: You Can Get There From Here! (*Lunch Session*)
*Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level***

Panelists on this advanced-level session will use a hands-on approach to provide tips on how clients can best position themselves for EB-1 success.

- Using a PR Firm to Get to “Extraordinary”: Which Criteria Can Be “Acquired,” Ethical Considerations, Selecting Media and Article Topics
- Working with a Client Who Is Not Yet Extraordinary
- EB-1A vs. EB-1B for Research Scientists: Comparisons and Strategies
- EB-1 vs. National Interest Waivers: Strategic Considerations
- Easiest and Most Difficult Criteria to Prove Given Adjudication Trends in the Service Centers and AAO

*Peter L. Ashman (DL), Las Vegas, NV
Jonathan Moore, Richmond, VA
Kalpana V. Peddibhotla, Newark, CA
Francisco "Frank" Symphorien-Saavedra, Orlando, FL*

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

The Untapped Possibilities of the Q Visa (*Lunch Session*)

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Although initially created in 1990 as a vehicle for Disney employees, this visa classification can be used for positions other than theme park employees. If the offered position in the United States has a cultural component, the Q-1 is an option that should be explored. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will explore the Q visa and its usefulness outside of Disney.

- What Jobs Qualify? Developing a Cultural Job Description
- Cultural Exchange Program: What Qualifies? Establishing That It Takes Place in a Public Setting
- Employee Qualifications for the Q-1
- RFE Trends and Pitfalls
- Creative Uses of the Visa

David R. Fullmer (DL), Santa Monica, CA

James O'Malley, New York, NY

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Labor Condition Applications: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

Employers who petition for an H-1B visa make a lot of promises to the government. Panelists will explore those promises, as well as the liabilities both the employer and counsel undertake in the labor condition application (LCA) Process.

- Counseling Clients Regarding the Employer's Obligations Under the LCA, Enforcement of Those Promises
- Public Access Folder (PAF): What Must Be (and Shouldn't Be) Included, How Long It Must Be Retained
- Managing Client Expectations Concerning the PAF
- Role of the Attorney in Preparing and Monitoring Compliance with the PAF

Josiah J. Curtis (DL), AILA NMD Steering Committee Chair, Boston, MA

Andrew J. Desposito, Ontario, CA

John Quinn, New York, NY

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

We Are the Champions: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visa Options for Athletes, Coaches, and Agents

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

The experts on this intermediate-level panel will introduce the world of sports immigration to practitioners who are not already proficient in working with athletes and their employers.

- O and P Visas: Criteria and Process for Athletes, Coaches, and Essential Support Personnel
- Self-Petitions for Immigrant Visas: Extraordinary Ability and National Interest Waiver Petitions
- Team Petitions: Special Procedures for Labor Certifications and EB-2 Exceptional Ability
- How to Market to Get Sports Clients
- Dual Intent? Applications to Adjust Status for O and P Visa Holders

Amy Maldonado (DL), East Lansing, MI

Steven M. Ladik, AILA Past President, Frisco, TX

Ksenia A. Maiorova, Orlando, FL

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Unconventional Uses of O-1 and EB-1 Visas

Hall D, Convention Center Exhibit Level

As USCIS continues to complicate traditionally used immigrant and nonimmigrant pathways, practitioners may need to look to creative alternatives—e.g., O-1 and EB-1-1 petitions—especially for those in unconventional, emerging, or unique occupations. The experts on this advanced-level panel will consider more creative strategies for our more creative clients.

- O-1A vs. O-1B: Standards and Burdens
- O-1 or EB-1: Considerations
- Unconventional Uses of the O-1/EB-1
 - Uncommon Fields of Endeavors
 - Emerging Fields Where the Foreign National Is a Pioneer
 - Fields of Particular Current Significance Where the Foreign National Is Active
- Is the E Visa an Option?

Fiona M. McEntee (DL), Chicago, IL

Brenda Boudreaux, San Francisco, CA

Protima Daryanani, New York, NY

Mechelle Zarou, Toledo, OH

FAMILY

7:00 am-8:00 am

J-1 Waivers for Newlyweds (*Morning Roundtable*)

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Learn how to evaluate and apply for a waiver of the two-year home residency requirement for certain J-1 visa holders in this intermediate panel.

- Evaluating the Need for a J-1 Waiver
 - Reviewing the DS-2019 and the Skills List
 - Obtaining an Advisory Opinion
- No Objection Request
- Extreme Hardship Request: Reviewing the *Matter of Hranka* Standard
- Coordinating with the I-130 and I-485 Applications

Tracie L. Klinke (DL), AILA 2019 Annual Conference Family Chair, Atlanta, GA

Sandra S. Reguerin, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Phoenix, AZ

Elissa Taub, Memphis, TN

Lisa Helen York, Englewood, CO

8:10 am-9:10 am

Complex I-130 Issues: Part I—The Petitioner

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Too often, practitioners focus on the beneficiary and don't think to look at the petitioner's background. The experts in Part I of this three-part intermediate panel will look at areas you can't afford to overlook. They will discuss issues that may arise with the petitioner, highlighting areas to focus on and review.

- Issue Spotting
 - Prior I-130 Filings
 - Recent Naturalization
 - Criminal History: Restraining Orders, Outstanding Warrants
- Adam Walsh Act: What It Is, How to Avoid It, How to Fight It

Mark R. Barr (DL), Denver, CO

Ally Bolour, AILA Board of Governor, Los Angeles, CA

Ana Lisa Garza Peña, San Antonio, TX

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

The Border Apocalypse: Fighting for Justice When the Rule of Law Is Under Attack *(No CLE)*

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists for this session have all lawyered in “Trump’s Border Apocalypse,” providing legal orientation, “Know Your Rights” training, and border accompaniment to asylum seekers trapped in Tijuana at the U.S.-Mexico border. At the border, the real crisis is not caravans, but

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

the complete refusal of federal law enforcement to adhere to federal and international human rights law. Topics discussed will include the family separation policy, updates on the parents deported without their children and how the U.S. government continues to forcibly separate families, the coordinated collaboration of governments to prevent unaccompanied children seeking asylum from accessing the U.S. port of entry, the real world impact of the Migrant Protection Protocols, the criminalization of human rights defenders working with asylum seekers at the border, and the need for transnational advocacy responses.

Jose Constantino Campos (DL), Philadelphia, PA

Katie Shepherd, National Advocacy Counsel, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

Erika Pinheiro, Director of Policy and Litigation, Al Otro Lado, Tijuana, Mexico

Nicole Ramos, Director of Border Rights Project, Al Otro Lado, Tijuana, Mexico

Lindsay Toczylowski, Executive Director, Immigrant Defenders, Los Angeles, CA

9:25 am-10:25 am

Complex I-130 Issues: Part II—The Beneficiary with a Removal Order

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts in Part II of this three-part intermediate panel will deal with the ethical and practical issues of filing an I-130 petition for beneficiaries who have removal orders, including in absentia orders.

- The Risks of Filing an I-130 While in the United States
- Is It Ethical to File an I-130 If There Is a Chance That ICE Will Appear at the I-130 Interview and Execute the Order?
 - Will *Pereira v. Sessions* Be a Saving Grace for Clients?
 - What to Do If a USCIS Officer Demands the Beneficiary Appear at an I-130 Interview
- Update on Litigation Against USCIS on the Issue of Whether Beneficiaries Have to Appear at I-130 Interviews Domestically

Sui Chung (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice-Chair, Miami, FL

Anne E. Kennedy, Houston, TX

Craig R. Shagin, Harrisburg, PA

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

Complex I-130 Issues: Part III—Avoiding and Conquering I-130 Denials

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will discuss how best to avoid receiving an I-130 denial, and what to do when a denial is issued.

- Advocating for Your Clients When the Interview Doesn't Go as Planned

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

- What to Do If There's a Clear Error of Law in the Denial Decision
- Preparing an I-130 Denial Appeal
- The Life Cycle of an I-130 Denial: How to Get to the BIA from the Field Office

Jordan Forsythe Greer (DL), Charlotte, NC

Jacqueline Watson, AILA Board of Governors, Austin, TX

Gloria A. Goldman, Tucson, AZ

Rebecca Sharpless, Coral Gables, FL

11:40 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Complicated I-751s (Lunch Session)

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Not every marriage endures happily ever after. In many cases, a waiver is required to remove conditions on residency. Panelists will guide practitioners through the types of waivers available and discuss best strategies for applying successfully. In addition, panelists will discuss filing petitions when the honeymoon period has passed, and the couple has a strained relationship or has separated.

- How to Proceed if the Couple Is Still Technically Married but Separated
- What to Expect When Filing an I-751 Based on One of the Waiver Conditions
- Common Issues at Interviews
- RFE Trends, Common Burden of Proof Issues

A. Carin Weinrich (DL), Seattle, WA

Kwabena Larbi-Siaw, Dallas, TX

Patricia B. Minikon, Greenbelt, MD

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

VAWA/U Visa Mini-Track: Part I—Creative Classifications

Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on Part I of this two-part intermediate/advanced-level panel will discuss unusual or creative Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and U strategies and fact patterns that practitioners often overlook.

- Special Considerations with VAWA for Men, Children, or Parents
- Unusual VAWA Cancellation of Removal Fact Patterns
- "... or Any Similar Crime": Classifying Crimes, Non-Enumerated Crimes for U Status

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Alyssa C. Reed (DL), Denver, CO
Davina Campos, Chicago, IL
Timothy A. Fallon, New York, NY

2:35 pm-2:50 pm
Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm
VAWA/U Visa Mini-Track: Part II—Updates from VSC and the Field
Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The experts on Part II of this two-part, intermediate/advanced-level panel will provide the most recent updates from VSC and the field with regards to U visas.

- *Is Sanchez Sosa Still Good Law?*
- *EOIR Jurisdiction over I-192 Waivers*
- *Backlog Issues: How Many Years Your Client Actually Will Spend in the Backlog*
- *Detained Petitioners: How to Expedite*
- *The NTA Memorandum: How Does It Affect U Visa Petitioners?*
- *U Visa Litigation*

Morgan M. Weibel (DL), AILA VAWA, Us, and Ts Committee Vice Chair, San Bruno, CA
Mirella Ceja-Orozco, St. Paul, MN
Kyle Dandeleit, New York, NY
Gail L. Pendleton, Suffield, CT

3:50 pm-4:05 pm
Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm
Taxation and Family Immigration: When the Numbers Get Foggy
Osceola A, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will focus on worldwide taxation, sticky issues in affidavits of support, and demonstrating ability to meet income requirements. The use of assets for affidavits of support also will be discussed. Panelists also will examine the new tax code and how it affects immigrants and business.

- *Unique Affidavit of Support Issues*
- *When the Sponsor Is Self-Employed: Business Tax Returns*
- *Income from Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Other Disability*
- *The New Tax Code and Its Effects on Immigrants*

Lilia G. Alcaraz Tocchini (DL), Phoenix, AZ
Anthony Korda, Naples, FL
Susan W. Ramos, Asheville, NC

(DL) = Discussion Leader
** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

LITIGATION

7:00 am-8:00 am

Forcing U Visa Adjudications in Federal Court (Closed to Government Participation) (Morning Roundtable)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Where does U visa practice and federal court litigation meet? Panelists will discuss how to use the federal courts to force adjudication of U visas, bona fide employment authorization documents (EADs), and implementation of standards for a U-visa specific waiver. Panelists also will cover what to do when the immigration judge refuses to give you time to file and obtain a decision on a U visa.

- How to Strategically Use a Pending U Visa Application During a Federal Court Appeal
- Bona Fide EAD Litigation
- Mandamus for Detainees with Pending U Visas
- District Court Litigation to Force Implementation of the INA §212(d)(14) Waiver

*Charles Roth (DL), Chicago, IL
Laura F. Bachman, Phoenix, AZ
Grace Huang, Seattle, WA
David L. Wilson, Minneapolis, MN*

8:10 am-9:10 am

Denaturalization in the Wake of “Operation Janus” and “Operation Second Look” (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

USCIS has created task forces recently to investigate whether to revoke naturalized citizenship, thus leading to deportation. Operation Second Look, following up on information gathered under Operation Janus, looks into cases where the government believes certain individuals never should have been naturalized in the first place. These efforts could lead to thousands of naturalizations being revoked.

- Affirmative Defenses and Motions to Dismiss
- Discovery in a Denaturalization Case
- Negotiating with the Office of Immigration Litigation (OIL) and Preparing for Trial

*Karen T. Grisez (DL), Washington, DC
David W. Leopold, AILA Past President, Cleveland, OH
Kathrin S. Mautino, San Diego, CA*

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

*(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

9:25 am-10:25 am

Prolonged Detention After Jennings

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The loss of Rodriguez bonds was a blow to our clients, but are they doomed to indefinite detention? The experts on this advanced panel will cover other prolonged detention case law, the viability of habeas, and the possibility that Rodriguez will be revived on constitutional grounds.

- Post-Order Bond Hearings: Are Casas and Similar Bond Hearings Still Alive?
- Habeas Petitions: How to Judge When Your Client's Detention Has Become Unreasonable
- Updates on the Rodriguez Constitutional Arguments
- Negotiating with ICE for Release: Is It Even Worth Trying?

Mark Stevens (DL), Fairfax, VA

Ahilan Arulanantham, Senior Counsel, ACLU of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Roy Petty, Dallas, TX

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

Life After a Removal Order

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Your clients have been ordered removed, have taken their appeals, and have not prevailed. Panelists will address how to use post-conviction relief, the addition of qualifying relatives, changes in the law, and post-removal waivers to try to obtain legal status for your client after a removal order. They also will discuss the role an attorney can play in a safe return to the home country.

- Motions to Reopen After Changes in Personal Circumstances
- Motions to Reconsider After Changes in Law
- Post-Removal Waivers and Other Post-Removal Relief
- Planning for Removal: Suitcases, Family Contacts, and Reintegration Services

Nora E. Phillips (DL), Los Angeles, CA

Nadeen Aljijakli, Solon, OH

Lillian S. Axelrod, Memphis, TN

J. Christopher Keen, Orem, UT

11:40 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Creating Second Chances: Relief After Reinstatement of Removal (Lunch Session)

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

In an era of increased enforcement and policy-created chaos at the border, reinstatement of removal orders are more pervasive. What if your client fears persecution or torture if returned to the home country, has been a victim of crime in the United States, or the underlying removal order was unlawful? Does Pereira help in these instances? The experts on this panel will provide guidance on how to fearlessly attack reinstatement orders and defend against removal.

- Reasonable Fear Interviews
- Collateral Attacks: Challenging Underlying Removal Orders
- Motions to Reopen and Equitable Tolling
- Seeking U Visa and/or T Visa Relief After Reinstatement
- When Reinstatement Is Wrongly Alleged

Ivan Yacub (DL), Woodbridge, VA

Lory D. Rosenberg, Asheville, NC

Trina Realmuto, Directing Attorney, American Immigration Council, Boston, MA

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Rescuing Your Waiver When It Is in a Procedural Black Hole (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The laws and regulations contain numerous potentially very helpful immigration benefits that exist in theory but have never had a formal method implemented to obtain them. But don't let this dissuade you from considering them. Whether you are seeking a Proclamation 9645 waiver, a TRIG waiver or exemption, a private bill, or an employment authorization document for a code never implemented, there may be litigation and political methods to make their use on behalf of your clients possible.

- A Quick and Dirty Guide to Private Bills and Other Political Gambles
- Demanding Due Process When a Case Is Delayed in Order to Process a Waiver You Have Never Seen
- Legal Theories to Sue for Unimplemented Benefits

Margaret D. Stock (DL), AILA Author, Immigration Law & the Military, 2nd Ed., Anchorage, AK

Charles H. Kuck, AILA Past President, Atlanta, GA

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Gloves-Off Administrative Processing (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

From “Visas Donkey” to DHS CARRP investigations associated with pending visa applications, to the infamous travel ban, practitioners that deal with embassies have become increasingly frustrated by never-ending delays on even the most virtuous of cases. The experts on this advanced-level panel on administrative processing will encourage practitioners to seek and receive better answers than the usual “wait,” “call a senator/representative,” or “ask nicely.”

- What Causes Administrative Processing? How Can it Be Avoided or Limited?
- With Limited FOIA Resources, How Can a Practitioner Reverse Engineer the Cause of Delay or Denial?
- When and How to Litigate Administrative Processing
- Does Mandamus Work, or Does Nonreviewability Win?

Jay Gairson (DL), Seattle, WA

Faye M. Kolly, Austin, TX

Jennifer Nimer, Dublin, OH

3:50 pm-4:05 pm

Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm

Filing a Mandamus Against the Consulate (Closed to Government Participation)

Osceola C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Consular non-reviewability is viewed as an impenetrable barrier against suing DOS. It is not. Panelists will offer guidance on how to file mandamus actions against the consulate despite recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions regarding judicial review of consular action.

- How to Argue Against the *Din v. Kerry* Decision, Overcoming the Question of Consular Non-Reviewability
- Cases That Have Been Argued in Federal Mandamus Actions Since *Din v. Kerry*
- Establishing Standing Despite Non-Reviewability
- Alternatives to Mandamus When Suing DOS

Charles H. Kuck (DL), AILA Past President, Atlanta, GA

Joseph Barnett, Santa Monica, CA

Christopher Casazza, Wayne, PA

LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT/SPECIAL SESSIONS

7:00 am-8:00 am

Using Effective Legal Writing to Win Your Case and Retain Your Client (Morning Roundtable)

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Good writing skills are an essential component of a legal practitioner's toolbox. Whether it's a detailed brief, memorandum, letter, or short email communication, writing can strongly enhance or detract from a practitioner's professionalism and ability to convey an argument. In addition, during this tumultuous political climate, written documents to the various immigration agencies laying out strong arguments for why a client is eligible for a benefit or relief is increasingly important to win cases at the outset, as well as to lay the groundwork for future appeals and litigation. Panelists will give practice tips for effective legal writing in this challenging period.

- Writing in the Era of Trump: How to Win Over Various Immigration Agencies Using the Power of the Pen
- Tips for Setting the Grounds in Writing for Victory at the Appellate Stage or Potential Litigation
- Effective Client Communication: How to Craft Professional Communication

Cynthia B. Rosenberg (DL), Baltimore, MD

Evangeline Abriel, Santa Clara, CA

Rebeca Sánchez-Roig, Miami, FL

8:10 am-9:10 am

Flat Fees vs. Hourly Billing

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

“How do you charge—flat fee or hourly rate?” This is a question that has perplexed immigration practitioners since the beginning of time. Panelists will discuss the pros and cons of flat fees and hourly billings, and suggest ways in which you can maximize your earnings.

- Billing by the Case or by the Hour: The Best Fit for Your Practice
- Use of a Hybrid Approach
- How to Identify and Work with Needy Clients
- Addressing Unforeseen Complications
- How to Track Efficiency and Actual Cost of Flat Fees

Margaret Hobbins (DL), Bethesda, MD

Farshad Owji, AILA Secretary, San Francisco, CA

Ann Cun, San Leandro, CA

Patricia Gannon, New York, NY

9:10 am-9:25 am

Networking Break

9:25 am-10:25 am

Risk Management Best Practices for Immigration Lawyers (*Ethics*)

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Panelists will provide guidance on avoiding common grounds of malpractice, and advise on what to do if you have been sued for malpractice. Even if the suit is frivolous, and even if you have malpractice insurance, defending yourself against malpractice allegations will be disruptive to your practice and law office. Come to this session to learn valuable risk management tips to avoid this.

- Determining Whether You Are Qualified to Take on a Case
- Common Malpractice Claims Against Lawyers
- What You Can Do to Prevent a Malpractice Claim
- Dealing with a Malpractice Claim and Maintaining Your Firm's Reputation

*Gayle Wissinger (DL), LPL Product Manager, Hanover Professionals, Grand Rapids, MI
David L. Bridges, President, The Leavitt Group of Atlanta, Inc., Lawrenceville, GA*

9:25 am-10:25 am

How to Increase Your Efficiency

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

How often have you worked a 12-hour day, only to look back to realize that you did not accomplish what you wanted or needed to do? In this session, speakers will provide tips and strategies to maximize your efficiency and get the most out of each day.

- How to Effectively Structure and Staff a Practice
- What to Do vs. What to Delegate
- Time Management
- Maximizing Efficiency of Paralegals and Attorneys Without Compromising Quality
- How Technology Can Help

*Sweta Khandelwal (DL), San Jose, CA
Jeffrey A. Devore, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Andrea P. Reyes, Jacksonville, FL
Edward Rios, Boston, MA*

10:25 am-10:40 am

Networking Break

10:40 am-11:40 am

New Technological Tools That Will Change the Practice of Immigration Law

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

While technology has dramatically altered virtually every industry, the legal profession has lagged in many respects. This may soon be a thing of the past. New online products are changing the way immigration lawyers practice, be they new expert systems that use artificial intelligence, chatbots, digital signature products, web-based document assembly and management tools, or a host of other products. Chances are, there currently are opportunities to do your work more efficiently and cost-effectively using new tech tools. Panelists will explore some of the most

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

interesting new products on the market, and advise on how immigration lawyers can start incorporating them into their practices.

- Expert Systems: Using New Tools to Deliver Better, Faster Work Product
- Cutting Edge Case Management: Which New Features Do You Need to Utilize?
- Client Communication Tools
- Documents: Going Paperless, the Latest in Document Assembly, Document Management

Gregory H. Siskind (DL), AILA Board of Governors, Memphis, TN

James L. Betzold, Holland, MI

Hendrik Pretorius, San Francisco, CA

Reid F. Trautz, AILA Senior Director of Practice and Professionalism, Washington, DC

10:40 am-11:40 am

A Conversation with CRCL Officer Cameron Quinn (No CLE)

Naples, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) supports the Department's mission to secure the nation while preserving individual liberty, fairness, and equality under the law. This discussion will be an opportunity for CRCL Officer Cameron Quinn to provide an overview of CRCL, its statutory authority and mission, and the office's work on immigration-related complaints and policy, and to hear from AILA members. Issues for discussion include immigration enforcement; conditions of detention and healthcare for foreign nationals in CBP or ICE custody; treatment of UACs, asylum-seekers, and other vulnerable populations; humanitarian and victim-based programs; and vetting of those applying for benefits and international travelers. This is meant to be an interactive discussion for practitioners at all levels.

Royce B. Murray (DL), Policy Director, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

Cameron Quinn, Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, DHS, Washington, DC

Ur Jaddou, Director, DHS Watch, Washington, DC

11:40 am-12:25 pm

Lunch Break, AILA Experts Bar, and Exhibit Hall

12:25 pm-1:25 pm

Build A Profitable Practice with Clients You Love (Lunch Session)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

What if you could figure out a way to ensure that all the clients you bring in would result in a thriving practice, free of administrative headaches? What if all your clients valued and respected your work, appreciated your abilities and paid you well ... and did so willingly? By understanding how to read the signals potential clients and referral sources give at the outset, you become empowered to choose your ideal clients. In this session, learn to network with the

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

right contacts to attract the clients you want and make informed choices about keeping those clients with whom you can enjoy a long-term working relationship.

- Strategies to Increase the Right Kind of Referrals from Your Network
- Identifying the Clients That Will Work Best with You
- Figure Out If Your Client Values Your Services ... Within the First 10 Minutes of Meeting
- Identifying What You Value in a Client Relationship
- Tips to Prevent Unpaid Bills Now Instead of Chasing After Fees Later

Dale M. Schwartz (DL), AILA Past President, Atlanta, GA

Ryan B. Barshop, Manila, Philippines

Anis N. Saleh, Coral Gables, FL

1:25 pm-1:35 pm

Networking Break

1:35 pm-2:35 pm

Everyone Makes Mistakes: How to Ethically Mitigate Your Liability (*Ethics*)

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists in this ethics session will discuss steps to take when you realize that you have made a serious mistake in a client's case. They also will address common traps to avoid.

- Assessing the Situation: How Damaging Is the Mistake?
- Who to Contact for Advice
- How Best to Communicate Mistakes to Your Client
- Professional Liability Insurance
- Exacerbating the Situation: What Not to Do

Stacey L. Gartland (DL), San Francisco, CA

Stephanie Scarborough, Jacksonville, FL

David L. Bridges, President, The Leavitt Group of Atlanta, Inc., Lawrenceville, GA

Gawain Charlton-Perrin, Director of Risk Management, Hanover Professionals, Itasca, IL

2:35 pm-2:50 pm

Networking Break

2:50 pm-3:50 pm

Immigration and Tax: Strategic Planning in the Acquisition and Abandonment of Permanent Residence and the Relinquishment of Citizenship

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

Panelists will discuss significant immigration and tax issues individuals should consider prior to applying for lawful permanent residence, abandoning permanent residence, or relinquishing

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

citizenship. Topics will include consideration of maintenance of permanent residence, taxation, and other compliance issues.

- The Immigration Pros and Cons of Applying for Lawful Permanent Residence
- Tax Consequences of Becoming a Lawful Permanent Resident
- The Process and Immigration Consequences of Abandoning Lawful Permanent Residence
- The Process and Immigration Consequences of Relinquishing Citizenship
- The U.S. Exit Tax and When It Applies

*Elaine M. Kumpula (DL), Minneapolis, MN
Clayton Eugene Cartwright Jr., Columbus, GA
Donald Jay Wolfson, New York, NY*

3:50 pm-4:05 pm
Networking Break

4:05 pm-5:05 pm
GDPR: What Am I Required to Do?

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

The implementation of the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has significant implications for immigration lawyers who deal regularly with the personal information of European nationals. Panelists will discuss the basic obligations of GDPR as they apply to immigration practitioners.

- The Basics of GDPR
- Obligations of a Law Firm Regarding Storage and Processing of Client Information
- Obligations of a Law Firm Regarding Communication of Information Between Parties
- Considerations for a Law Firm that Serves as a Vendor to Corporate Clients
- Subcontracting to Vendors (Translators and Evaluation Companies)
- Using GDPR Consultants vs. Doing It Yourself

*Julia E. Macri (DL), San Francisco, CA
Natalie Feher, Matawan, NJ
Chrystal C. Green, San Francisco, CA
Alexander de Gaye, Palo Alto, CA*

SATURDAY TRAININGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

7:00 am-8:00 am
Yoga

Tallahassee, Convention Center Ballroom Level

7:00am-8:00am

*(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Fastcase: Research Member Benefit for AILA Members
AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

7:30 am-9:00 am

DC Chapter Meeting

Tampa 1-2, Convention Center Ballroom Level

8:00 am-9:00 am

Carolinas Chapter Meeting

Castillo de San Marcos Fort, Atrium Level

8:10am-9:10am

Effective Direct Exams in Immigration Court

AILA Inspires Theater, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

8:10am-9:10am

Military Service Related Immigration Issues

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

9:25am-10:25am

Nonprofit Practice Management

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

10:40am-11:40am

Case Resolution Strategies

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

12:00 pm-3:00 pm

Board of Governors Meeting

Orange Blossom, Emerald Bay, Atrium Level

12:25pm-1:25pm

Advanced Legal Research Using AILA Member Benefits and AILALink

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

2:50pm-3:50pm

Fastcase: Research Member Benefit for AILA Members

AILA Classroom, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

6:00pm-11:00pm

Host Chapter Saturday Night Pub Crawl at Disney Springs

9:00pm-12:00 Midnight

New Members Division Saturday Night Party

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

Sun C, Convention Center Ballroom Level

AILA INSPIRES SPEAKER SERIES

12:25 pm –1:25 pm

AILA Inspires Series: Searching for Our North Star—Reflections on Two Decades of Immigrants’ Rights Advocacy

sponsored by AILA/American Immigration Council's Immigration Justice Campaign

AILA Inspires Theater: AILA Learning Lab, Hall A, Convention Center Exhibit Level

From inside the jails holding Muslim immigrants after 9/11, to courtrooms filled with unrepresented children fleeing violence in Central America, to the U.S. Supreme Court argument challenging the prolonged imprisonment of immigrants, Ahilan will tell stories from his work as a human rights lawyer, and offer a positive vision of a future where justice can be had by all.

Speaker: Ahilan Arulanantham, Senior Counsel, ACLU of Southern California,
Los Angeles, CA

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.