

OMBUDSMAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE – DAY OF DIALOGUE
DRAFT AGENDA
National Archives
Washington, D.C.
OCTOBER 20, 2011

- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. **Registration**
Lobby of William McGowan Theater
- 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Welcome Remarks**
Remarks from the Ombudsman, January Contreras
Remarks from the Archivist of United States, David S. Ferriero
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Transition Break**
Lobby of William McGowan Theater
- 10:15 – 12:00 p.m. **Simultaneous Roundtables – Session I**

ONGOING: Meet the Ombudsman Staff for Q and A

Adams Room

Roundtable 1: Hot Topics in Employment Law - The Importance of Adjudication Predictability: Impact on Employers, Individuals, and the Economy

Location TBD

Description: This panel will explore current issues with USCIS adjudications on employment-based applications and discuss best practices and possible solutions to problems encountered by stakeholders.

Roundtable 2: Hot Topics in Asylum - Particular Social Group Issues

Location TBD

Description: This panel will cover important developments in asylum law including the changes in particular social group definitions, the changes around terrorism related inadmissibility grounds and their impact on asylum, and changing law and procedures for children applying for asylum.

Roundtable 3: Hot Topics in Family Based - I-601 Waivers of Inadmissibility: Does Current Processing Work? When is Hardship Extreme? Do Alternative Models Exist?

Location TBD

Description: This panel will describe current processes of I-601 waivers of inadmissibility and implementation issues and compare it to centralized processing of nonimmigrant waivers of inadmissibility. Legal standards and processing for the waivers will also be discussed including any recent changes.

- 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. Lunch (on your own)
- 1:15 – 1:45 p.m. **Plenary Remarks**
William McGowan Theater

Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman – Annual Conference Draft Agenda

- 1:45 – 2:45 p.m. **Plenary Panel**
William McGowan Theater
- 2:45 – 3:00 p.m. **Transition Break**
Lobby of William McGowan Theater
- 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. **Simultaneous Workshops – Session II**

ONGOING: Meet the Ombudsman Staff for Q and A

Adams Room

Roundtable 4: Improving Docket Efficiency through Better Communication and Coordination - Roles of USCIS, ICE and EOIR

Location TBD

Description: This workshop will cover issues relating to EOIR docket efficiency including attempts to resolve through inter-agency partnerships.

Roundtable 5: USCIS Verification Systems and Impact on Immigrants

Location TBD

Description: This workshop will look at the most recent trends in the operation of USCIS documentation verifications systems such as SAVE and E-Verify with a discussion of their operations and how it has impacted immigrants applying for public benefits, employment, driver's licenses, and social security.

Roundtable 6: Priority Date Issues - Retention, Revocation, Reinstatement and the effects of Retrogression

Location TBD

Description: This workshop will look at trends in the Visa Bulletin for both employment and family-based categories. The panelists will also discuss how priority dates are established, how they may be retained when categories change, and how they are revoked under certain circumstances. Retrogression and its impact will also be discussed.