2017 AILA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 21 – JUNE 24, 2017
SESSIONS AND SPEAKERS

PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINARS

As a special registration bonus, the following pre-conference seminar will be recorded and distributed to all registrants via the Agora Digital Library before the conference.

How to Complete Forms ETA-9141, ETA-9089, and I-140: A Practical Workshop
Practicing immigration law means working with forms. However, knowing and understanding how the forms work is essential for advising clients and avoiding costly errors. Panelists in this workshop will provide a step-by-step tour through three forms at the heart of employment-based practice.

- Form ETA-9141—Request for Prevailing Wage Filed with DOL
- Form ETA-9089—Application for Permanent Employment Certification Filed with DOL
- Form I-140—Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker Filed with USCIS

Brenda Oliver (DL), Washington, DC
Lida Daneshfar, Los Angeles, CA
Nancy M. Lawrence, Reston, VA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017

12:00 pm–8:55 pm  Registration (Marriott: Preservation Hall Foyer, Level 2)

6:00 pm–8:55 pm  Exhibitor Hall Grand Opening (Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)

1:00 pm–2:00 pm  New Attendee Orientation (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Olsi Vrapi (DL), AILA Annual Conference Chair, Albuquerque, NM
Jennifer Hermansky, AILA NMD Steering Committee Chair, Philadelphia, PA
Duffy Trager, Louisville, KY

FUNDAMENTALS BOOT CAMP

2:05 pm–3:05 pm  Overview of Essential Immigration Terms, Concepts, and Governmental Agencies (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
The experts on this fundamentals-level panel will provide an overview of the general concepts, terms, language, and rules that are essential to immigration practitioners. The panelists also will provide practitioners with an understanding of the different government agencies and their roles in the immigration process.

- Nonimmigrant vs. Immigrant
- Changing, Maintaining, and Extending Status

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
- Unlawful Presence and Overstaying
- DHS—Overview of Different Immigration Agencies (USCIS, ICE, CBP)
- DOS—Overview of State Department’s Role in Immigration (Consular Posts, NVC)
- DOL—Overview of DOL’s Role in Immigration (OFLC, ETA, BALCA)
- DOJ—Overview of DOJ’s Role in Immigration (EOIR, BIA, IER (formally known as OSC))

Julianne Cassin Sharp (DL), Southfield, MI
Joseph S. Porta, Los Angeles, CA
Tejas N. Shah, Chicago, IL

3:05 pm–3:20 pm
Networking Break

3:20 pm–4:20 pm
Family Immigration 101 (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Speakers on this fundamentals-level panel will provide a basic overview of family-based immigration concepts and options. Practitioners who are new to family-based immigration should attend this session to obtain a basic understanding of family-based preference categories, the Visa Bulletin, affidavits of support, and other family-based topics.

- Definition of Family Members
- Immediate Relatives vs. Preference Categories
- The Visa Bulletin, Application Filing Date, and Final Action Date
- General Overview of the Life Cycle of Family Cases

Heather L. Poole (DL), AILA Board of Governors, Los Angeles, CA
Jeremy A. Weber, AILA Bangkok District Chapter Chair, Sydney, Australia
Aaron Hall, Aurora, CO
Sonal Shah, Atlanta, GA

4:25 pm–5:25 pm
Removal 101 (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Panelists on this fundamentals session will provide an introduction to the grounds of inadmissibility and deportability, discuss the differences between them, and outline which grounds of inadmissibility and removability are waivable.

- Inadmissibility vs. Deportability
- Common Grounds of Inadmissibility and Waivers
- Common Grounds of Deportability and Available Relief

Jesse A. Lloyd (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Oakland, CA
Veronica Barba, Los Angeles, CA
Rebecca Kitson, Albuquerque, NM

5:25 pm–6:25 pm
Networking Break

6:25 pm–7:25 pm
Business Immigration 101 (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Those new to business immigration law practice will benefit from this informative overview of an immense and complex subject. The panelists aim to provide new practitioners with a broad but thorough understanding of the basic ins and outs

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of business immigration law. In addition, this session will serve as a primer for more in-depth fundamentals panels focused on business immigration law later in the conference.

- General Overview of the Life-Cycle of Nonimmigrant and Immigrant Business Cases
- Roles of the Various Stakeholders—e.g., Immigration Lawyer, Company Contact, Foreign National, and Foreign National’s Manager
- Overview of Common Nonsensical Issues in Business Immigration
- Practical Tips for New Business Immigration Practitioners

Gayle Oshrin (DL), AILA Board of Governors/Future of Education Taskforce Chair, New York, NY
Agnna Varinia Guzman, Toronto, Canada
Punam S. Rogers, Boston, MA

7:25 pm–7:40 pm
Networking Break

7:40 pm–8:40 pm
Alphabet Soup: Nonimmigrant Visa Overview (Part 1) (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Panelists will present a basic overview of the nonimmigrant visa categories. Part 1 of this two-part panel will cover all nonimmigrant visa categories from diplomats (A visa) to fiancé(e)s (K visa), and discuss when each would be appropriate for your client.

- 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
- K-1 and K-3: The Fiancé(e) Visa

Shannon Napier Barnes (DL), AILA SSA-DMV-SAVE Task Force Chair, San Diego, CA
Mark S. Johnson, Atlanta, GA
Ronald A. Nair, Norwalk, CT

8:40 pm–8:55 pm
Networking Break

8:55 pm–9:55 pm
Alphabet Soup: Nonimmigrant Visa Overview (Part 2) (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
In Part 2 of this two-part panel, the speakers complete the basic overview of the nonimmigrant visa categories. All nonimmigrant visa categories from foreign media representatives (I visa) to victims of crime (U visa) will be discussed, and panelists will address when each would be appropriate for your client.

- I: Foreign Media
- L-1A and L-1B: Intracompany Transferees
- O: For the Extraordinary
- P: For Athletes, Artists, and Entertainers
- Q: The Cultural Visa
- R: Religious Workers

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WEDNESDAY EVENING ROUNDTABLES (6:25PM–7:25PM)

6:25 pm–7:25 pm
The New Landscape of Immigration Enforcement (Marriott: Galerie 1, Level 2)
Join the American Immigration Council as we discuss recent and developing changes to interior immigration enforcement policies and tactics with a panel of advocates and policy experts.
Royce Murray (DL), Policy Director, Immigration Policy Center, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

6:25 pm–7:25 pm
Basics on International Adoption (Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)
Adopting a child from abroad is a rewarding but anxiety-inducing, undertaking for prospective parents. Panelists on this intermediate-level panel will clarify the international adoption process, the standards for adoption, and the challenges that can arise.

- Adoption in Hague vs. Non-Hague Convention Countries
- What Is an Agency’s Role in International Adoption?
- Where Is International Adoption Suspended at This Time?
- Preparing the I-600A or I-800A
- U.S. Citizenship for Adopted Children

Karen S. Law (DL), Ashburn, VA
C.J. Lyford, Lafayette Hill, PA
Tiffany E. Markee, San Diego, CA
*Carrie Rankin, Branch Chief for Children’s Issues and Parole Policy, USCIS, DHS, Washington, DC

6:25 pm–7:25 pm
Holistic Lawyering: How to Live Long and Prosper (Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)
Leverage your law practice with whole-hearted practice management and business growth techniques that reflect your core values, enrich you personally, professionally, and financially, and empower you to make a difference in the world.

- Aligning Your Mission Statement and Business Plan
- Adopting Conscious Business Practices
- Serving the Whole Client: How Far Should You Go?
- Handling Overwork, Anxiety, and Stress
- Achieving Work-Life Balance with Family

Ritu Goswamy (DL), San Jose, CA
Lisa T. Johnson-Firth, Manassas, VA
Donusia Lipinski, Myrtle Beach, SC
6:25 pm–7:25 pm
**The Life Cycle of the International Medical Graduate (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)**

With the increasing shortage of physicians in the United States, employers are turning to international medical graduates (IMGs) to meet their hiring needs. Our experts on this intermediate-level panel will give an overview of the entire life cycle of an IMG, from graduation from medical school abroad to permanent residence in the United States.

- What Are the ECFMG and USMLE?
- Qualifying for Medical Training in the United States
- Visa Options for Residency/Fellowship Training
- Path from Training to Employment: J-1 Waivers, H-1B, O-1
- Permanent Residence Options: PERM, PNIW, EB-1

Gregory H. Siskind (DL), AILA Board of Governors, Memphis, TN
Naveen Rahman Bhora, New York, NY
Mahsa Khanbabai, Brockton, MA
David A. M. Ware, AILA Health Care Professionals Committee Chair, Metairie, LA

6:25 pm–7:25 pm
**What’s Really Happening on the Border? (Marriott: Mardi Gras Ballroom, Level 3)**

The influx of Central Americans into the United States fleeing persecution, combined with amped-up enforcement by CBP, has resulted in a need for more attorneys who are well-versed in representing asylum-seekers apprehended at the border. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will discuss what actually happens at the border and how practitioners can protect the rights of asylum-seekers following their apprehension.

- Who is Subject to Expedited Removal and Reinstatement of Removal?
- A Step-by-Step Walk-Through of What Actually Happens at the Border: Apprehensions, “Hieleras” and “Perreras,” CBP Screenings, and Sworn Statements
- Practical Tips for Overcoming Logistical Challenges
- Protecting Your Client’s Rights Following Border Apprehensions and Processing: Seeking Reopening and Rescission of Expedited Removal Orders, Correcting the Record, Addressing Credibility Challenges, and More

Michelle Natalia Mendez (DL), Silver Spring, MD
Paul S. Zoltan, Dallas, TX
Mary Kenney, Senior Staff Attorney, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

**WEDNESDAY EVENING ROUNDTABLES (7:40 PM–8:40 PM)**

7:40 pm–8:40 pm
**Arguing for H-1B Cap Exemptions (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)**

For the past several years, the H-1B cap has been reached in the initial five-day filing period, and demand for these visas shows no sign of decline in the foreseeable future. As a result, statutory H-1B cap exemptions have become an increasingly important part of immigration practice. Panelists on this intermediate– to advanced-level session will provide guidance on taking advantage of these exemptions, particularly in light of the increased scrutiny many of the categories have received from USCIS.

- Exemption Options
- Definition of “Institution of Higher Education”
- Definition of “Research Organization”
- Challenges and Barriers to Claiming Exemptions

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• New Regulations/Guidelines: Is Deference Still Alive?

Amy Erlbacher-Anderson (DL), Omaha, NE
Jennifer Minear, AILA Treasurer, Richmond, VA
Sarah K. Peterson, AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Minneapolis, MN

7:40 pm–8:40 pm
Cultural Awareness: How to Promote Diversity and Inclusion (Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)
The panelists will discuss various ways to sharpen cultural awareness in order to help you promote diversity within your practice and better understand and represent clients from different backgrounds. They also will address the importance of cultural sensitivity in building a successful international operation.

• Diversity and Inclusion: An Essential Strategy for a Successful and Productive Practice
• Understanding Your Employees, Clients, and Government Agents
• Improving Cultural Adoptability and Diversity Skills
• The Importance of Cultural Awareness to Operating Without Borders

Navid Dayzad (DL), AILA LGBT Immigration Issues Working Group Vice Chair, Los Angeles, CA
Allen Orr, AILA Secretary, Washington, DC
Denyse Sabagh, AILA Past President, Washington, DC
Ganesh Kalyanaraman, AILA Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair, Sacramento, CA

7:40 pm–8:40 pm
Exposing Expedited Removals and Streamlined Criminal Reentry Prosecutions (Marriott: Mardi Gras Ballroom, Level 3)
Rapid-fire removals at the border bypass the court system and are responsible for a troubling percentage of all removal orders. Meanwhile, fast-tracked criminal prosecutions for illegal entry and reentry represent more than a quarter of all federal criminal prosecutions in this country. The experts on this advanced-level panel will discuss the practical realities of CBP enforcement actions, the increasing criminalization of immigration violations, and ideas for challenging these processes.

• How and When Is Expedited Removal Used in Practice?
• Is There Even a File, and How Can Such Records Be Obtained?
• How to Challenge, Rescind, and Reopen Expedited Removal Orders
• The Ins and Outs of Illegal Entry and Illegal Reentry Prosecutions
• Creating a Path to Undercut the Underlying Criminal or Removal Process in Illegal Reentry Cases

Sheila T. Starkey Hahn (DL), Memphis, TN
Brian K. Bates, Houston, TX
Paul H. Scott, Baton Rouge, LA

7:40 pm–8:40 pm
Prosecutorial Discretion (Marriott: Galerie 1, Level 2)
Our experts on this panel will look beyond deportation and discuss the authority that every law enforcement agency has in deciding whether to exercise its enforcement powers against someone. They also will explore how ICE interprets its enforcement priorities, what should be happening on the ground versus what is actually happening, and how ICE applies enforcement measures even against those who might be eligible for relief, including deferred action.

• The Different Types of Prosecutorial Discretion: Pre-NTA, Administrative Closure, Termination, and Stays of Removal
• Understanding Your Jurisdiction

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• Negotiating with the ICE Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) During Trial and Appeal
• What to Do After Prosecutorial Discretion Is Denied? Matter of Avetisyan, Escalating Within OCC, and Other Creative Solutions
• Collateral Issues: Work Permits, Bonds, Etc.

Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia (DL), University Park, PA
Anna M. Gallagher, Washington, DC
Adilene Nunez, Washington, DC

7:40 pm–8:40 pm
They’re Not All Saints: Common Inadmissibility Issues (Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)
Panelists in this intermediate-level session will provide an overview of the common reasons a foreign national can be refused admission at a port of entry into the United States. Identifying these red flag situations will be pivotal in clearing the path for entry.

• Criminal Issues: Cautions, Convictions, and Other Procedural Aspects
• False Claims, Material Misrepresentation, and Preconceived Intent
• Unlawful Presence: Three- and Ten-Year Bars
• Alien Smuggling
• Drugs and Alcohol

Matthew G. Holt (DL), San Diego, CA
Kehrela M. Hodkinson, London, UK
Elizabeth A. Nanton, Vancouver, Canada
Danielle M. Rizzo, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Chair, Buffalo, NY

WEDNESDAY EVENING ROUNDTABLES (8:55 PM–9:55 PM)

8:55 pm–9:55 pm
Cracking the Glass Ceiling While Closing the Gender Gap (Marriott: Galerie 1, Level 2)
It is a well-known fact that women earn less than their male colleagues. But how much less, and why is there a discrepancy? In a practice area like immigration law, where there are more female attorneys than males, the concept of there being a gender-based earnings gap or glass ceiling should not hold true. And yet, it does. This session is for everyone—women and men—to discuss why the earnings gap is still prevalent today and how, together, we can crack the glass ceiling and eliminate this gap.

• What the Numbers Say: Analyzing Salaries in Today’s Marketplace
• Why Women Are Not Making As Much As Men: Observations From a Successful Female Immigration Practitioner
• Breaking the Self-Imposed Barriers: Ideas and Solutions for Workplace Success
• Taking a Leap: What More Can We Do?

Sonal J. Mehta Verma (DL), Rockville, MD
Monica Dorman, Columbus, OH
Ruth Lozano McChesney, San Antonio, TX

8:55 pm–9:55 pm

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Finding What’s Special in Specialty Occupation (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)

Your H-1B petition has been selected in the lottery, but then you receive the dreaded specialty occupation RFE. Given the high stakes, how do you prepare each H-1B for success and overcome such an RFE? Experts on this intermediate-level panel will offer real-life examples and suggestions for drafting H-1B petitions with challenging specialty occupation issues.

- “Difficult” Occupations: Do O*NET or OOH Help?
- Revisiting the “Four Prongs” and Evidence That Meets Them
- Lingering Issues with Foreign Degrees: Education Equivalency
- Using Case Law: The Legacy of Residential Finance

Sandra Feist (DL), Minneapolis, MN
Matthew Kriezelman, Chicago, IL
Judy J. Lee, Houston, TX

8:55 pm–9:55 pm

Reinstatement of Removal (Marriott: Mardi Gras Ballroom, Level 3)

Even seasoned practitioners experience an increased heart rate when they hear the words “reinstatement of removal.” This previously obscure provision of the INA has come into increasing use in recent years. ICE now routinely invokes its authority to summarily remove record numbers of previously deported noncitizens, and institutes “withholding only” proceedings for those who establish a reasonable fear of persecution. The experts on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will outline reinstatement law and procedures, brainstorm creative strategies for working with ICE to address the problem, and raise challenges and defenses to reinstatement in the courts.

- Challenging Detention During the Reinstatement Process
- Leveraging Victories in Criminal Reentry Proceedings
- What Relief Is Available to Individuals with Reinstated Orders?
- Challenges to the Underlying Removal Order
- Petitions for Review of Reinstated Orders

Matt Adams (DL), Seattle, WA
Trina Realmuto, Boston, MA
Keren Zwick, Chicago, IL

8:55 pm–9:55 pm

The Big Easy Entry … Not So Easy: Imperfect Inspections and Admissions (Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)

Some clients do not qualify for adjustment of status under INA §245(a) at first glance. However, using case law and advocacy, the speakers on this intermediate-level panel will discuss the ways in which a person can prove lawful admission in cases where such proof may be difficult to find.

- Northern and Southern Border Entry Issues
- Matter of Arrabally/Yerrabelly
- The Undocumented Inspection: Matter of Quilantan and the “Wave In”
- Jurisdictional Differences Between USCIS Field Offices
- Where the I-94 Is Long Gone: Primary and Secondary Evidence of Admission

Ramon E. Curiel (DL), San Antonio, TX
Heather N. Segal, Toronto, ON
Satnam Singh, Norfolk, VA
Vera A. Weisz, Los Angeles, CA

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OTHER TRAININGS, MEETINGS, AND EVENTS

8:30 am – 5:00 pm
AILA Leadership Workshop  
(Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Have you Heard about Fastcase?  (No CLE Credits)  
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

2:05 pm – 3:05 pm
See AILALink in Action!  
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

3:20 pm – 4:20 pm
Advanced Legal Research Using AILA’s Online Properties  
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

4:25 pm – 5:25 pm
Case Resolution Strategies  
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Central Florida Chapter Meeting  
(Marriott: Balcony L, Level 4)

5:00 pm – 6:25 pm
AILA Student Network  
(Marriott: Balcony I-J, Level 4)

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Speed Networking  
(Members Lounge, Marriott, Level 3 Foyer)

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017

7:15 am – 4:15 pm
Registration (Marriott: Preservation Hall Foyer, Level 2)

7:30 am – 1:35 pm
Exhibit Hall (Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)

2:25 pm – 6:00 pm
Exhibit Hall (Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)

PLENARY

8:00 am – 8:30 am
Conference Kick-Off (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)

8:30 am–9:45 am

President's Installation (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)

9:45 am–10:00 am

Networking Break

10:00 am–10:30 am

Keynote Address (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)
*The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto, United States Senator for Nevada

10:30 am–11:45 am
Hot Topics Strategy Session with AILA National Officers (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)
Olvi Vrapi (DL), AILA Annual Conference Chair, Albuquerque, NM
William A. Stock, AILA President, Philadelphia, PA
Annaluisa Padilla, AILA President-Elect, La Habra, CA
Anastasia Tonello, AILA 1st Vice President, New York, NY
Marketa Lindt, AILA 2nd Vice President, Chicago, IL
Jennifer Minear, AILA Treasurer, Richmond, VA
Allen Orr, AILA Secretary, Washington, DC
Benjamin E. Johnson, AILA Executive Director, Washington, DC

FUNDAMENTALS (Sheraton: Armstrong, Level 8)

9:45 am–10:45 am
Family-Based Immigration: Preference Categories
Panelists will provide an overview of the immediate relative and family-based (FB) immigrant visa preference categories. They also will identify the criteria for eligibility in each of these categories, and address Form I-130 in detail.

- Immediate Relatives
- FB-1: Adult, Unmarried Children of U.S. Citizens
- FB-2: Spouses, Minor Children, and Adult Children of Lawful Permanent Residents
- FB-3: Married Children of U.S. Citizens
- FB-4: Siblings of U.S. Citizens

David Gluckman (DL), Richmond, VA
Farshad Owji, AILA Board of Governors, San Francisco, CA
Irene Mugambi, Dallas, TX

10:50 am–11:45 am
The Basics of Adjustment of Status
Panelists will provide an introductory overview of the adjustment of status process. They also will discuss initial requirements for adjustment applications, the various forms and documents needed, and red-flag issues that could potentially complicate the process.

- Requirements of Adjustment of Status Applications
- Supporting Documentation
- Common Red Flags: Entry Without Inspection, Intent at Entry, Unauthorized Employment, Etc.
1:35 pm–2:35 pm
**Immigrant Visa Consular Processing**
Panelists will present a general overview of consular processing, from the visa petition approval stage to the interview at a U.S. consular post. They also will provide valuable insight regarding what documents the NVC needs, how the interview is scheduled, preparing clients for the immigrant visa interview, and more.

- Electronic Processing vs. Paper Processing
- Documents Needed at the National Visa Center and Current Trends
- When and How Is the Interview Scheduled?
- Preparing Your Client for the Medical Exam and Visa Interview Abroad
- Administrative Processing: What Triggers It, How to Avoid It, and How to Remedy It

_Nataliya Rymer (DL), Philadelphia, PA_
_Ryan Benjamin Barshop, Makati, Philippines_
_Carol L. Edward, Seattle, WA_

2:35 pm–2:55 pm
**Networking Break**

2:55 pm–3:55 pm
**There Is Trouble in Paradise: I-751 Petitions to Remove Condition on Residence**
Panelists will take you through the nuts and bolts of preparing and filing an I-751 petition. They will also discuss certain aspects of the process, including remedies for late submission and best practices for documenting a good faith marriage.

- Preparing an I-751 Petition: The Basics
- When to Submit the I-751, and Remedies for Late Submission
- What Exactly Is Good Faith, and How Do You Prove It?
- Overview of Cases Where There Is a Divorce, Abuse, or Death

_Adam Solow (DL), Philadelphia, PA_
_Randall Caudle, San Francisco, CA_
_Matthew L. Hoppock, Overland Park, KS_

3:55 pm–4:15 pm
**Networking Break**

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
**The End of the Road: Basics of Naturalization Applications**
Panelists will provide practitioners with an overview of the fundamentals of preparing and filing an N-400 application. They will address the basics of what an attorney must know, including when to file, eligibility requirements, preparing clients for the naturalization interview, and other common issues.

- When Can You File?
- Does Your Client Meet the Good Moral Character Requirement?
- Continuous Residence and Physical Presence
- Preparing Your Client for the Naturalization Interview

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* = invited, not confirmed
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• Common Issues and Pitfalls

Philip Hornik (DL), Portland, OR
Kevin L. Dixler, Chicago, IL
Nancy Taylor Shivers, San Antonio, TX

THURSDAY LUNCH SESSIONS

12:15 pm–1:15 pm
E-1/E-2 Consular Applications: Learn from the Experts (Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)
Clients are increasingly interested in E-1 and E-2 visa applications as an alternative to the H-1B and L-1 visas. Panelists on this intermediate-level panel will provide guidance on the common challenges of an E-1 and E-2 practice, and identify the differences at various consular posts.

• What Is an Investment? Tips for Submitting the Right Documentation
• What It Means for Funds to Be “Irrevocably Committed” to the Enterprise
• E-1/E-2 Options for Recent Graduates and Younger Entrepreneurs
• Registration at Consulates

Amanda Shipley (DL), AILA USCIS International Operations Liaison Committee Chair, London, UK
Charles H. Kuck, AILA Past President, Atlanta, GA
Terry Yale Feiertag, Chicago, IL
Kripa Upadhyay, Seattle, WA

12:15 pm–1:15 pm
Honestly, the United States Is My Home (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
There is indeed no place like home. Where a person identifies as his or her home, however, can greatly impact the ability to sponsor relatives, reenter the United States, or naturalize. The speakers on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will focus on the importance of obtaining information and evidence on your client’s current domicile.

• U.S. Citizen Petitioner: Proving Domicile or Intent of Domicile in the United States
• Returning Residents and Fighting Allegations of Abandonment
• Filing Options for LPRs: Travel Documents, Transportation Letters, and I-470s
• Evidence Required to Meet the Burden of Proof

Liam Schwartz (DL), Ramat Gan, Israel
David Isaacson, New York, NY
Jacqueline B. Martinez, Pittsburgh, PA
Michelle Saenz Rodriguez, Dallas, TX

12:15 pm–1:15 pm
Hot Topics for Minors and Derivatives Seeking Asylum (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)
The panelists will address specialized issues in asylum practice, such as how to protect derivatives and address changes in family relationships given the lengthy and unpredictable delays in the asylum process. This intermediate-level panel will also provide updates and strategies for presenting claims for unaccompanied alien minors and working with child applicants.

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* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
- Special Ethical Considerations and Legal Standards for Minors
- Applicability of the TVPRA and Jurisdictional Issues in Children’s Asylum Claims
- How and When to Include, Add, and Even Remove Family Members as Derivatives
- CSPA Protections, Nunc Pro Tunc Asylum, and Other Timing Issues
- Navigating the Process of Bringing Derivatives from Abroad and Filing for Relatives Who Are Present in the United States

Jennifer M. Rotman (DL), Portland, OR
Karen T. Grisez, Washington, DC
Claire R. Thomas, New York, NY

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
Risk Management Best Practices for Immigration Lawyers (Marriott: Galerie 1, Level 2)

Experienced practitioners will provide guidance on avoiding common grounds of malpractice, as well as 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. The panel will also provide tips on how to purchase Lawyers Professional Liability coverage, including common coverage features and benefits available in the marketplace.

- Determining Whether You Are Qualified to Take on a Case
- Common Malpractice Claims Against Lawyers
- What Can You 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

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
The Honeymoon Is Over: Introduction to Spousal “Green Cards” (Fundamentals) (Sheraton: Armstrong, Level 8)

Marriage to a U.S. citizen may be the fastest and easiest way to gain permanent residence in the United States. The key to successful spousal permanent residence cases is preparing your clients adequately for the process. Panelists for this fundamentals-level session will address the concept of spousal sponsorship, go through the petition process, and identify common pitfalls.

- Validity of Marriages
- Sham Marriages and Consequences
- Preparing for and Attending Interviews
- Introduction to Fiancé(e) Visas

Cynthia Lucas (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Jon E. Jessen, Stamford, CT
Maria T. Ryan, Milwaukee, WI

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
Tricky LCA and PERM Issues for a Mobile Workforce (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)

The need to rapidly mobilize a talented workforce across the United States has sparked a shift from traditional short-term and long-term relocation assignments to a more heavy reliance on frequent business travel. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will address the unique requirements you must consider.

- The Impact of Simeio on LCAs and NIV Status

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
• Addressing Multiple Worksites on the ETA-9035 and ETA-9089
• Proving the Employer-Employee Relationship
• PERM and NIV Drafting Challenges

Janora L. Hawkins (DL), Atlanta, GA
Kathleen L. Grzegorek, Los Angeles, CA
Jonathan Moore, Richmond, VA
Cora-Ann Victoria Pestaina, New York, NY

**ASYLUM (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)**

1:35 pm–2:35 pm

**Preparing and Presenting Central American Asylum Claims: Tips and Tricks for Success**
As the refugee crisis in Central America worsens, the U.S. asylum system continues to fail to protect bona fide refugees from the dangers of this region. Panelists on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will provide an overview of case law developments in Central American asylum claims, and will discuss strategies for successfully preparing and presenting claims for an extremely vulnerable population in need of creative and zealous advocacy.

• Overview of Gang-Based Case Law Developments and Current Strategies for Utilizing and Distinguishing Precedent
• Presenting Political Opinion Claims in the Context of Third-Generation Gang Violence
• How to Demonstrate Nexus in the Presence of “Mixed Motives”
• Experts and Evidence: Educating and Convincing the Adjudicator
• CAT as an Alternative Form of Relief

Dree K. Collopy (DL), AILA Author, AILA’s Asylum Primer, 7th Ed., Washington, DC
Brian J. Hoffman, Wooster, OH
Ashley Huebner, Chicago, IL

2:35 pm–2:55 pm

**Networking Break**

2:55 pm–3:55 pm

**Gender-Based Asylum Claims Post-Matter of A–R–C–G–**
It has now been three years since the landmark decision by the Board of Immigration Appeals confirming in Matter of A–R–C–G– that domestic violence may be a ground for asylum. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will discuss how the decision has been implemented and interpreted since 2014. They also will provide practical tips for applying the decision in the contexts of gender-based and family violence beyond the specific facts of A–R–C–G–.

• Legal Marriages vs. Domestic Partnerships
• Ability to Leave and Internal Relocation
• Willingness of the Government to Protect
• Applying A–R–C–G– to Other Contexts of Gender-Based and Family Violence
• Thinking Outside the Box: Gender-Based Protected Grounds Beyond A–R–C–G–

Daniel Thomann (DL), Chicago, IL
Christina Brown, Denver, CO
Eunice Lee, San Francisco, CA

*(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.*
3:55 pm–4:15 pm

**Networking Break**

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

**Surviving Asylum Processing Backlogs**

With affirmative cases lasting two–to-five years, and the immigration court setting initial hearings years after the Notice to Appear (NTA) has been served, a whole host of new problems has arisen for applicants and their counsel. Panelists on this all-levels session will explore some of these emerging issues and suggest practical strategies for addressing them.

- Seeking Expedited Affirmative Asylum Interviews and Individual Hearings Before the Immigration Court
- Court Delays and the One-Year Filing Deadline: Preserving Asylum Eligibility When There Is No Master Calendar in Sight
- Obtaining EADs and Travel Documents While the Application is Pending
- Is Mandamus a Viable Option for Getting a Case Moving?
- Updating the Case: Dealing with Stale Evidence and Disappearing Witnesses, Fading Memories and Credibility Questions, and Changes in Country Conditions

*Lindsay M. Harris (DL), Washington, DC
Judy M. London, Los Angeles, CA
Paul O'Dwyer, New York, NY

**BUSINESS (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)**

1:35 pm–2:35 pm

**PERM Hot Topics**

Panelists will discuss the prospects of a new PERM regulation under the new administration and will provide insight into transformation plans. Panelists also will present updates on recent DOL denial trends, BALCA decisions, and FAQs.

- Will There Be New Regulations in the Near Future?
- Prevailing Wage Trends and Challenges
- DOL IT “Transformation” Plans
- Processing, Audit, and Denial Trends
- How Is BALCA Responding?

*Kevin W. Miner (DL), AILA Board of Governors/Department of Labor Liaison Chair, Atlanta, GA
Catherine L. Haight, AILA Board of Governors/ACES Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA
Deborah J. Notkin, AILA Past President/Business Immigration Committee Vice Chair, New York, NY
Eleanor Pelta, AILA Past President, Washington, DC
Harry Sheinfeld, Senior Attorney, Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals, DOL, Washington, DC*

2:35 pm–2:55 pm

**Networking Break**

2:55 pm–3:55 pm

**Pre– and Post-PERM Filing Challenges: Improving Your Odds of Success**

Panelists on this intermediate-level session will focus on the day-to-day challenges of PERM cases. In particular, they will closely examine tricky issues related to prevailing wage determinations, ability-to-pay issues, audit triggers, strategies for responding to common audit requests, reconsiderations, and appeals.

- Drafting Job Descriptions and Prerequisites
- Analyzing Ability-to-Pay Documentation Pre– and Post-PERM

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
• Getting the Prevailing Wage the Employer Wants: Predicting Prevailing Wages Using the OES Prevailing Wage Worksheet
• Successful Reconsideration Requests for Prevailing Wage Determinations: Is This Even Possible with Current Processing Times?
• Random Audits and Automatic Audit Triggers (E.g., Ownership, Tuition Reimbursement, Foreign Language) and How to Respond
• Strategies for Successful Reconsiderations and BALCA Appeals

Elizabeth L.A. Garvish (DL), Atlanta, GA
Elizabeth Chatham, Phoenix, AZ
Alexander Dgebuadze, Woodland Hills, CA

3:55 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
To PERM or Not to PERM
How should attorneys counsel employers on the best option to obtain permanent residence for employees, and why should they choose (or not choose) the PERM process? Exploring current realities of PERM and non-PERM adjudications, the experts on this panel will discuss how to evaluate client eligibility for one or more immigrant visa categories, from Extraordinary Ability and Outstanding Researcher to National Interest Waivers (including the new Dhanasar standard) and Schedule A, Group II.

• When PERM Makes the Most Sense
• Schedule A
• Non-PERM EB-2 Options: NIW, PNIW, Exceptional Ability
• EB-1 Options

Rita Sostrin (DL), Woodland Hills, CA
Robert H. Cohen, AILA USCIS Liaison Committee Chair, Columbus, OH
Kristen A. Harris, Chicago, IL
Suzanne B. Seltzer, New York, NY

FAMILY (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)

1:35 pm–2:35 pm
Avoiding Family Feuds: Ethics in Family Practice
Ethical issues arise frequently in cases involving dual representation, marital fraud, immigration, and criminal history. The panelists will address the ethical responsibilities of practitioners in these areas. This session is appropriate for all levels of experience.

• Navigating Disagreements Between Petitioner and Beneficiary
• How Separation or Divorce Impacts Attorney Representation
• Who Represents Affidavit of Support Co-sponsors?
• Addressing Negative Information or Ineligibility Before a Tribunal
• What to Do When Clients Plan to Lie to a Tribunal

Cyrus D. Mehta (DL), New York, NY
2:35 pm–2:55 pm

Networking Break

2:55 pm–3:55 pm

**Marriages Are as Diverse as Bourbon Street: Bona Fides of a Marriage**

Practitioners are faced with constant challenges in evidencing cases that have minimal bona fides. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will explore how to integrate new types of bona fide documentation, including use of social media, and will provide strategies to avoid a denial.

- How to Win Over Your Adjudicator
- Creative Solutions When “Traditional” Documents Are Unavailable
- Special Challenges: Indigent, Bohemian, and Young Clients
- Addressing Social Bias and Cultural Differences

*Hardeep Sull (DL), AILA Nevada Chapter Chair, Las Vegas, NV*
*Ally Bolour, AILA Board of Governors, Los Angeles, CA*
*James W. Austin, Kansas City, MO*
*Margaret Holland Sparages, Boston, MA*

3:55 pm–4:15 pm

Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

**Southern Comfort? Complex I-130 Issues**

I-130s are not always straightforward. Some issues can induce real headaches! Panelists in this intermediate— to advanced-level session will guide you through red flags, including complicated family relationships or a client with an unconventional past. Panelists also will provide advice on how to prepare a strong I-130 petition in the face of such challenges.

- Children Born Out of Wedlock, Step-Parent Petitions, and Legitimation
- Past Visa Denials
- Adam Walsh Act
- Marriage Potpourri: Serial, Long-Distance, and Those in Proceedings
- Challenges Unique to LGBT Marriages

*Edward R. White (DL), Boston, MA*
*Jeffrey A. Devore, Palm Beach Gardens, FL*
*Amber L. Weeks, Albuquerque, NM*

**INVESTOR/ENTREPRENEUR (Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)**

1:35 pm–2:35 pm

**Representing Entrepreneurs and Start-Ups**

Learn from seasoned AILA attorneys about the unique and complex issues that often arise when representing entrepreneurs and start-ups. The experts on this intermediate— to advanced-level panel will help you get started in bringing entrepreneurs to the United States and address complex issues that arise for individuals and their businesses when an entrepreneur is transitioning from nonimmigrant status to permanent residence.
- Nonimmigrant Visa Options and Challenges: Moving from E-1 and E-2 to EB-5
- Use of Parole
- Immigrant Visa Options for Investors and Entrepreneurs (NIW, Extraordinary Ability, PERM)
- Creating a Solid Business Plan: Working with Corporate and IP Counsel
- Venture Capital, Financial Statements, and Accounting Concepts

**Paul L. Samartin (DL), AILA Rome District Chapter Chair, London, UK**

**Kathleen Campbell Walker, AILA Past President/USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee Co-chair, El Paso, TX**

**Alan Tafapolsky, San Francisco, CA**

**Fuji Whittenburg, Woodland Hills, CA**

2:35 pm–2:55 pm

**Networking Break**

2:55 pm–3:55 pm

**EB-5 Basics: Getting Ready for Your First Investor Case**

*There is a lot to understand about EB-5 before taking on your first case, and there is more to filing than documenting the source of funds. Panelists on this beginner-level session will discuss the elements of an EB-5 case, the basics of source of funds preparations, and the multi-step EB-5 process.*

- Basic Elements of EB-5 Cases
- Preparing the Source of Funds Memorandum
- Attorney’s Role in Reviewing Project Documents
- Looking Towards the I-829 Petition and Anticipating Future Issues
- Important Ethical Considerations Specific to an EB-5 Practice

**Kristal J. Ozmun (DL), Ithaca, NY**

**Elsie Hui Arias, Los Angeles, CA**

**Edward C. Beshara, Maitland, FL**

**David M. Morris, Washington, DC**

3:55 pm–4:15 pm

**Networking Break**

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

**“Direct” EB-5 Investments**

*Panelists will focus on “direct” case requirements, project structures, and job creation issues for entrepreneurial clients.*

- Single-Investor “Direct” I-526 Petition Requirements
- Job Creation Rules in the “Direct” Petition
- Common Structures for “Direct” I-526 Petitions
- Pooled “Direct” I-526 Petitions with Multiple Investors
- Common Pitfalls at the I-829 Stage

**Tammy Fox-Isicoff (DL), AILA Board of Governors, Miami, FL**

**Bernard P. Wolfsdorf, AILA Past President, Santa Monica, CA**

**Jennifer Hermansky, AILA NMD Steering Committee Chair, Philadelphia, PA**

**Ignacio A. Donoso, Bethesda, MD**

(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

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

1:35 pm–2:35 pm
U.S. CBP Border Patrol Open Forum (Marriott: Galerie 1, Level 2)
Judy Flanagan (DL), AILA CBP Liaison Committee Chair, Phoenix, AZ
Mitra Ebadolahi, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Member, San Diego, CA
Benjamine “Carry” Huffman, Chief, U.S. Border Patrol, CBP, Washington, DC

THURSDAY NIGHT ROUNDTABLES (8:10 PM–9:10 PM)

8:10 pm–9:10 pm
Advanced Issues in EB-5 Cases (Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)
The EB-5 program continues to change rapidly. Experts on this advanced-level panel discuss the latest major changes in all stages of the process. They also will present strategies for overcoming the issues flowing out of these changes.

- Recent Trends in I-526 Source of Funds Adjudications
- Effects of Visa Unavailability on Chinese Investors and Projects
- Material Change Hot Topics: Switching Regional Centers Post-I-526 Filing
- Advising Investors When Projects Fail
- Latest Rumblings in Legislative and Administrative Changes

H. Ronald Klasko (DL), AILA Past President/EB-5 Investor Committee Chair, Philadelphia, PA
Robert C. Divine, Chattanooga, TN
Carolyn S. Lee, AILA EB-5 Investor Committee Vice Chair, Ithaca, NY
Cletus M. Weber, Mercer Island, WA

8:10 pm–9:10 pm
Advanced U Visa Issues (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)
The experts on this advanced-level panel will go beyond the basics of U visa eligibility. They will discuss advanced topics and unique challenges in seeking U visas, U visa waivers, and U visa adjustments of status. They also will address issues surrounding derivatives and after-acquired family members of U visa grantees.

- Pushing the Envelope on U Certifications
- Seeking U Visas While in Immigration Court and Dealing with Agency Delays
- Distinguishing Between INA §212(d)(14) and §212(d)(3)(A) Waivers
- Special Considerations for Derivatives and After-Acquired Family Members
- Challenges That Arise During U Visa Adjustment of Status

Jessica Farb (DL), San Francisco, CA
Deepa Bijpuria, Baltimore, MD
Edna Yang, Austin, TX

8:10 pm–9:10 pm
Exceptional/Extraordinary/Outstanding: Where Do You Fit? (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)
Panelists on this advanced-level session will provide a comparison of three categories of immigrant visa classifications and provide practitioners with tips for choosing the best one based on the needs of the employer and the likelihood of success. They also will discuss the role of the attorney and provide suggestions on how best to address the respective interests and concerns of employers and employees.

- Advising Employers and Employees on the Three Categories, and the Likelihood of Success for Each
- Drafting Challenges for Each Category

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Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
- Supporting Documentation: What Is the Role of the Attorney?
- Recent Trends in Adjudication
- Lessons Learned from Kazarian

Nathan A. Waxman (DL), New York City, NY
Tiffany Chang, Los Angeles, CA
Avalyn C. Langemeier, Houston, TX
Karin Wolman, New York, NY

8:10 pm–9:10 pm

**From Diplomacy to Residency: Diplomatic Visa Holders Changing Status From NIV to LPR (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)**

Foreign diplomats may not initially plan to seek permanent residence in the United States, but eventually, due to life circumstances, many eventually do. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will explore the limitations and benefits associated with diplomatic and government-related visa categories, as well as how to advise clients on the various options available.

- Blue List vs. White List
- Change of Status to and from A, G, and NATO Status
- Notification of Foreign Embassy Appointment to the State Department
- Children of A, G, or NATO Born in the United States
- Qualifications and Benefits Associated with the N Visa

Elaine H. Witty (DL), Memphis, TN
Palma R. Yanni, AILA Past President/USCIS HQ Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Washington, DC
David M. Gottfried, New York, NY
*Carol E. Farrand, Attorney Advisor, Department of State, Washington, DC

8:10 pm–9:10 pm

**Mock Green Card Interviews for the Beginner (Fundamentals) (Sheraton: Armstrong, Level 8)**

Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will review strategies for preparing clients for the green card interview with USCIS. They also will discuss how best to deal with difficult interviews and difficult USCIS officers.

- Strategies for Preparing Clients
- Mock Preparation for the Interview: Making Sure the Answers Are Consistent
- Mock Interview
- What the Attorney Can Do at the Interview

Ellen S. Kief (DL), Boston, MA
Wendy C. Hess, Philadelphia, PA
Stanley P. Walker, Fort Walton Beach, FL

**Late Breaking Sessions (9:15PM-10:15PM)**

9:15 pm–10:15 pm

Sessions - TBD

**Other Trainings, Meetings, and Events**

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Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
7:00 am–8:00 am
Yoga
(Sheraton, Bayside, Level 4)

7:00 am–8:00 am
Indian Subcontinent Interest Group Meeting
(Sheraton, Grand Couteau, Level 5)

7:00 am–9:00 am
Carolinas Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton: Nottoway, Level 4)

9:45 am–10:45 am
Have You Heard About Fastcase?
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

10:45 am–11:45 am
One Big Easy Overview: Exchange Visitor Program and J-1 Visas
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Middle Eastern Interest Group Meeting
(Sheraton, Bayside C, Level 4)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
MidSouth Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Southdown, Level 4)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Texas, Oklahoma & New Mexico Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Nottoway, Level 4)

12:00 pm–1:30 pm
DC Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Grand Couteau, Level 5)

12:00 pm–1:30 pm
Latin American and Caribbean Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Grand Chernier, Level 5)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Georgia-Alabama Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Oak Alley, Level 4)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
African-American Interest Group Meeting
(Sheraton, Bayside B, Level 4)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
New England Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Bayside A, Level 4)

1:35 pm–2:35 pm
Making the Most of Your Member Benefits *(No CLE Credits)*
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

2:55 pm–3:55 pm
Case Resolution Strategies
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

4:00 pm–4:30 pm
Speed Networking
(Members Lounge, Marriott, Level 3 Foyer)

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
Top 10 Takeaways from the AILA Marketplace Study *(No CLE Credits)*
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

5:30 pm–6:45 pm
AILA Annual Membership Meeting
(Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)

7:15 pm–8:00 pm
Presidents Reception (House of Blues, 225 Decatur Street)

8:10 pm–9:10 pm
See AILALink in Action!
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

9:00 pm–11:00 pm
9th Annual Pro Bono/NMD Hospitality Suite
(Marriott, St. Charles, 41st floor)

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

7:00 am–4:15 pm
Registration (Marriott: Preservation Hall Foyer, Level 2)

8:30 am–1:40 pm
Exhibit Hall (Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)

2:30 pm–6:00 pm
Exhibit Hall (Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)

ROUNDTABLES– FRIDAY MORNING

7:00 am–8:00 am
Basics of Consular Practice: Applying for a Nonimmigrant Visa (Sheraton: Armstrong, Level 8)

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
Panelists will discuss the basics of the processes and challenges faced by clients when they apply for a visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate.

- Does Your Client Need a Visa Stamp?
- How to Apply: Step-by-Step Instructions and Dealing with the Nonimmigrant Visa Unit
- Addressing Family Members
- Administrative Processing: Causes and Options to Resolve
- Inadmissibility and Waivers

Richard Yemm (DL), Santa Monica, CA
Bushra A. Malik, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Cadence M. Moore, Cincinnati, OH

7:00 am–8:00 am
Call Me Old Fashioned: Refresher on K-1 Rules of Engagement and K-3 Marriages (Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)
The experts on this intermediate-level panel will cover the complex nuances of fiancé(e) and marriage-based K-3 petitions. They also will discuss eligibility requirements and how to overcome common problems.

- The “Hybrid” Nonimmigrant Visas: Medical Exams and Waivers
- I-134 vs. I-864 Affidavits of Support
- Conditional Status and Age-Out Issues for K-2/K-4 Children
- I Wanted a K-3/K-4, But Now It’s an Immigrant Visa Instead
- LGBT Beneficiaries from Non-equality Countries: Privacy and Third-Country Processing Tips

Michael R. Jarecki (DL), AILA Media Advocacy Committee Vice Chair, Chicago, IL
Elaine Kimbrell, Metairie, LA
Noemi E. Masliah, New York, NY

7:00 am–8:00 am
Immigration and Technology: The Final Frontier (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)
Using technology is an inescapable part of practicing law today. However, there is now an overwhelming array of technology products currently on the market. Speakers on this session will focus on the latest and greatest technologies, utilities, and tools to help you manage, streamline, and grow your practice.

- Selecting the Right Devices, Software, and Email Providers
- Customizing Your Case Management Software for Your Practice
- Technology Tips and Tools for Tracking Your Cases
- Is Paperless Right for Your Firm?

Becki L. Young (DL), Silver Spring, MD
Karol Brown, Seattle, WA
Tiffany Martinez, San Francisco, CA
Douglas R. Penn, Stamford, CT

7:00 am–8:00 am
Marijuana Decriminalization and Increasing Legalization: What Does It Mean for Noncitizens? (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)
Following the lead of Colorado and Washington, many states are enacting laws decriminalizing medical marijuana; some have even contemplated outright legalization for most marijuana use and related activities. This has set up a direct

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* = invited, not confirmed
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conflict with federal law regarding marijuana use, possession, and cultivation. Thus, noncitizens who try to comply with state law may find themselves inadvertently facing potential immigration consequences for their actions. Federal law and policy have been slow to catch up, but recent congressional actions are starting to change both. Panelists for this intermediate-level session will discuss both the traps for, and the tools available to, noncitizens dealing with these issues.

- Overview of State and Federal Law Differences on Marijuana, Including Anti-Immigrant History of U.S. Drug Laws
- Congressional Legislation on Use of Federal Funds, and Resulting Litigation
- Federal Policy and How It Can Apply to Immigration Law—E.g., Applicants for Admission, Residency, and Naturalization
- Marijuana Cultivation: Changing Norms and Implications for Crimes Involving Moral Turpitude and Particularly Serious Crimes Analysis
- Potential Strategies for Future Litigation and Advocacy

Zachary Nightingale (DL), San Francisco, CA
Mark R. Barr, Amicus Committee Chair, Denver, CO
Sejal Zota, Durham, NC

7:00 am–8:00 am

**Working Dependents: Issues and Opportunities (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)**

The experts on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will address creative strategies for dependents and timing strategies to achieve familial goals in the United States.

- Dependent Visa Categories with Work Authorization
- Spouses Who Work in United States Remotely for Companies Abroad: Effect on Nonimmigrant Visa (NIV) Status and Immigrant Visa (IV) Eligibility
- H-4 EAD: Timing Changes of Status, Backlogged Adjudications, and Impact of Employment on NIV
- Couples Who Flip-Flop NIV Status and IV Petitions

Janet L. Henner (DL), New York, NY
Ceridwen J. Koski, Denver, CO
Barry J. Walker, Tupelo, MS

**BUSINESS (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)**

8:10 am–9:10 am

**Advanced Panel on the New Office L-1A**

Your client wants to start a new business in the United States. You want to prepare a winning petition and avoid RFEs, as well as plan for the one-year renewal. Speakers on this advanced-level panel will help you with all of this and more.

- Employer-Employee Relationships
- Importance of a Business Plan
- Preparing for the Post-One-Year Extension
- Travel Issues

Aimee Clark (DL), Atlanta, GA
Karnig Dukmajian, London, UK
Lisa Krueger Khan, Orlando, FL

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* = invited, not confirmed
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In-Depth L-1 Visa Issues for the Experienced Practitioner

With the growth of multinational companies and global business, the L-1 Visa category for multinational intracompany transferees is used frequently by U.S. employers. With increasing use of technology and new ways of conducting business in the digital age, even experienced practitioners face new challenges when filing these petitions. The experts on this advanced-level panel will address these issues and provide solutions and strategies to resolve them.

- Issues Facing Start-Ups and Unique Qualifying Relationships
- Transferring L-1s When There Are No U.S. Employees
- L-1B Specialized Knowledge for IT professionals and Beyond
- Post-Approval Issues: Consular Re-adjudications, FDNS Site Visits, and Revocations
- Strategies for Backlogged Countries

Alexis S. Axelrad (DL), AILA Board of Governors, New York, NY
Paul L. Zulkie, AILA Past President, Chicago, IL
Gus M. Shihab, Columbus, OH
Leslie K. Dellon, Staff Attorney (Business Immigration), American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

To B-1 or Not to B-1: What Can You Really Do on a B-1 Visa?

The B-1 can be a practical visa alternative in many situations where individuals doing business in the United States come here for a short-term, temporary stay. The panelists on this intermediate-level panel will outline the many varied uses of the B-1 visa. They also will identify situations where use of the B-1 is appropriate, and situations where the B-1 may not fly with the consulate, CBP, or USCIS.

- Permissible B-1 Activities
- B-1 in Lieu of H-1B, H-3, and Other Nonimmigrant Visas
- B-1 for Domestic Workers and Renewal Issues
- Use of ESTA vs. Applying for the B Visa
- Advising Clients on Requesting Admission at Border

Theresa Corcoran (DL), Chicago, IL
Noah Klug, Matawan, NJ
Diana Okoeva, London, UK
Tracy Schauff, Troy, MI
TN Issues and Challenges
The TN visa is a useful tool for employers hiring professionals from Mexico and Canada. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will tackle the issues and challenges faced by employers seeking TN visas for their employees.

- Occupation Specific Challenges: Management Consultants and Beyond
- TN as an Option When the Beneficiary Does Not Have a Degree
- Understanding Mexican and Canadian Degrees—E.g., Cedula and Titulo/Licenciatura vs. Carta de Pasante
- Differences Facing Mexicans vs. Canadians
- Applying Through USCIS vs. at the Consulate or Border

Audrea J. Golding (DL), Toronto, Canada
W. Scott Railton, Bellingham, WA
Kimberley Best Robidoux, San Diego, CA
Terry Weir, Houston, TX

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networking Break

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
RFEs, NOIDs, and Challenging Denials
Hear from experts at this intermediate-level panel on the latest trends and tips for responding to nonimmigrant and immigrant visa RFEs and NOIDs. In addition, panelists will provide an overview of the types of relief available, and guidance in strategizing on how to deal with denials in a business practice.

- Recent Trends at Service Centers and Ports of Entry
- Addressing Misapplication of Law
- NOID vs. RFE, and How to Respond
- Motions for Reconsideration
- When to Refile vs. Appealing to the AAO
- Utilizing AILA Liaison/Ombudsman’s Office

Ian David Wagreich (DL), CSC Liaison Committee Chair, Chicago, IL
Dagmar Butte, AILA Board of Governors/AILA USCIS Service Center Operations Liaison Committee Chair, Portland, OR
Liane Cooney, McLean, VA
David Grunblatt, Newark, NJ

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
Interagency Panel on Worksite Enforcement
Worksite enforcement is under the jurisdiction of multiple agencies. As it has become increasingly complex, more and more issues arise between the agencies and employers. Practitioners need to know how each agency may advise on a particular issue and where that advice may differ. Through liaison meetings, AILA has been working with ICE HSI, USCIS Verification, and IER (formally known as OSC) to try to coordinate on, and eliminate the inherent discrepancies often associated with, these types of interagency crossover matters.

- Substantive vs. Technical Errors
- Constructive vs. Actual Knowledge
- Electronic Form I-9 Programs, E-Verify, and Third-Party Agents
List of Acceptable Documents and Acceptance by HSI vs. E-Verify

Honesty Policies

Sharon R. Mehlman (DL), AILA Verification & Documentation Liaison Committee Chair, San Diego, CA
Alberto Ruiz Sanchez, Acting Deputy Special Counsel, Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER), Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC
Tom Mehalko, Chief of Monitoring and Compliance, Verification Division, DHS, Washington, DC
*Rachel Ross, Section Chief of the Employer Compliance Inspection Center, Worksite Enforcement Unit, Office of Investigations, ICE, DHS, Washington, DC

CRIMMIGRATION/TRIAL SKILLS (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)

8:10 am–9:10 am

Void for Vagueness: How to Apply Johnson in the Immigration Context
The U.S. Supreme Court’s 2015 decision in Johnson v. United States infused new life into the “void for vagueness” doctrine, whereby a statute “fails to give ordinary people fair notice of the conduct it punishes.” Since that decision, the circuit courts are split as to whether this doctrine applies to the “crime of violence” definition in civil immigration law, suggesting that a future Supreme Court decision on the matter is likely. The experts on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will explore how this precedent can be used to argue that other notoriously vague immigration provisions also must be void due to a lack of clarity.

- Update on Status of Supreme Court Cases on Crimes of Violence
- Applying Johnson in the Context of Crimes Involving Moral Turpitude
- Other Areas: INA §212(h) Regulations, Sexual Abuse of a Minor, Etc.
- Strategies for Convincing Adjudicators to Apply Johnson and Find Statutes Void for Vagueness

Andrew Knapp (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Marc Van Der Hout, AILA Board of Governors, San Francisco, CA
H. Raymond Fasano, New York, NY
Thomas K. Ragland, Washington, DC

9:10 am–9:30 am

Networking Break

9:30 am–10:30 am

Categorical/Modified Categorical Approach: From Taylor to Today
Every immigration lawyer will be confronted at some point with the analysis of crimes to determine immigration consequences. The experts on this panel will examine and discuss the categorical approach from its roots in criminal law, its application in the immigration context, and the current state of the law given the most recent development concerning the U.S. Supreme Court.

- A Brief History from the Supreme Court: Taylor to Nijhawan to Descamps/Moncrieffe/Mathis
- State Offenses, Federal Crimes, and Generic Definitions
- How Does the Case Law Apply to CIMTs, Aggravated Felonies, and Drug Offenses?
- Sufficiency of the Record of Conviction: Peralta-Sauceda and Almanza
- Agency Deference: Where Is the BIA in All of This?

Ben Winograd (DL), Alexandria, VA
Simon Azar-Farr, San Antonio, TX

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
Henry Cruz, Seattle, WA

10:30 am–10:50 am
Networkning Break

10:50 am–11:50 am
A “How-To” Guide on Applying the Categorical Approach
To serve a client convicted of a crime effectively, practitioners must understand how to use the categorical approach properly in light of recent decisions. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will employ a case example to provide step-by-step guidance on how to apply the categorical approach in your cases under current law.

- When the Categorical Approach Does and Does Not Apply
- Step-by-Step Analysis of the Categorical Approach
- How to Find the Information Needed for Each Step

Mary E. Kramer (DL), AILA Author, Immigration Consequences of Criminal Activity, 6th Ed., Miami, FL
Holly S. Cooper, Davis, CA
Hans Meyer, Denver, CO

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Making the Most of Legal Writing in Immigration Court
In an era of massive backlogs and crushing caseloads, immigration judges are under tremendous pressure to adjudicate cases quickly. The faculty for this all-levels panel will present practical, real-world advice on utilizing legal writing to maximum effect with a focus on style, tone, and efficacy. They also will discuss best practices from pre-trial motions and pre-hearing statements to post-decision submissions.

- Pre-Trial Motions and Pre-Hearing Statements
- Legal Briefs and Memoranda of Law
- Written Closing Statements
- Post-Decision Motions

Ilana E. Greenstein (DL), East Boston, MA
Gregory Romanovsky, Boston, MA
Lory D. Rosenberg, Darnestown, MD

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networkning Break

3:00 pm–5:15 pm
Trial Skills in Immigration Court
One of your most important duties as an attorney is to present your client’s story from beginning to end in the best and most persuasive light. The seasoned experts on this intermediate-level panel will discuss effective strategies used to do this, and will identify the critical skills you’ll need to win your client’s case.

- The Art of Storytelling: From Client Intake to Court Presentation
- Preparing Lay and Expert Witnesses and Conducting Direct Examination
- Taking the Teeth Out of Government’s Cross-Examination and Rehabilitation on Redirect
- I Object! Protecting Your Client’s Rights
- Effective Opening and Closing Arguments
- Making Your Record for Appeal: Exhaustion of Statutory, Regulatory, and Constitutional Claims
8:10 am–9:10 am
**Overview of Immigrant Waivers in Family Cases**
Has your client lied or made a misrepresentation? Committed a crime? Had a medical issue? There is a waiver for that! Panelists on this intermediate-level session will cover the waivers that are available in family-based cases. Discussion will include eligibility criteria, practice, and procedure for each waiver type.

- INA §212(i) Waivers for Misrepresentation and Fraud
- INA §212(g) Waivers for Medical Conditions
- INA §212(h) Waivers for Certain Criminal Convictions
- 15 Years Have Passed: What Do You Need to Prove?
- Waivers of Unlawful Presence

9:10 am–9:30 am
**Networking Break**

9:30 am–10:30 am
**Submitting an Effective I-601 or I-601A Waiver**
The panelists on this intermediate-level session will highlight the similarities of, and delineate the differences between, these two waivers. In addition, they will provide a concise overview of preparing an effective waiver.

- The Difference Between I-601 and I-601A Waivers
- Proving the Standard of “Extreme” Hardship Effectively
- Creative Evidence: Use of Expert Opinions, Social Media, and Indirect Extreme Hardship to Children
- Supporting Documents: Quality vs. Quantity
- Strategies in Advocating Your Case

10:30 am–10:50 am
**Networking Break**

10:50 am–11:50 am
**Don’t Be a Potted Plant: Advocacy Skills During Family-Based Interviews**
The faculty for this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will discuss effective advocacy and how to protect and guide clients through tough interviews. The attention may be on your clients, but you as the attorney have one of the most important roles!
• I-751 Interviews with Ex-spouse
• What to Do When the Interview Becomes Adversarial
• Challenging Requests for Waivers When They Aren’t Appropriate
• Should Your Client Sign an Officer-Prepared Sworn Statement?
• The Law May Give You More Authority Than You Think

Ellen Ma Lee (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Margo Chernysheva, Las Vegas, NV
Jonathan S. Greene, Columbia, MD

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Best Practices for Consular Processing: NVC Issues
Panelists will discuss all aspects of issues relating to consular processing of I-130 and K-1 visas at the National Visa Center (NVC). This session, which is appropriate for all levels, will examine how you can more effectively communicate with the NVC to resolve your case questions and problems, prior to the scheduling of the interview at consular post.

• NVC Updates and Processing Timelines
• Practice Tips and Pointers for Dealing with the NVC
• How to Correspond with the NVC Effectively and Efficiently
• What to Do When the I-130 Is Revoked
• NVC Paper Filing vs. Electronic Filing

Lynn Susser (DL), Memphis, TN
John Q. Khosravi, Los Angeles, CA
Claire D. Nilson, London, UK

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networking Break

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
Best Practices for Consular Processing: Post Issues
Processing cases through U.S. consular posts abroad can be more complicated than anticipated and fraught with unexpected difficulties. In this all-levels panel, the speakers will provide updates on current consular trends and offer tips and tricks for navigating processes at posts abroad.

• Preparing Clients for Consular Interviews
• Consular Denials: Medical Issues, GMC, Alien Smuggling, Criminal Records, and Tattoos
• Evolving Administrative Processing Concerns
• Appropriately Communicating with Consular Posts
• Unusual Filings: I-130s at U.S. Consulates and I-864s for U.S. Citizens Living Abroad

Lynn Marie Lee (DL), AILA Latin America and Caribbean Chapter Chair/USCIS International Operations Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Springfield, VA
Gary N. Chodorow, Beijing, China
Daniel J. Parisi, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, London, UK
Edward Rios, Boston, MA

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
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Weaving Through the French Quarter: Offbeat Paths to Lawful Permanent Residence
Clients do not always meet the criteria for one of the more “traditional” pathways to obtain permanent resident status. The faculty on this intermediate-level panel will explore potential options for clients who may not be eligible to file for residency under more common-based or employment-based petitions.

- Do You Qualify as a Class Member? Catholic Social Services, LULAC, and Beyond
- How Your Client Can Go from TPS or NACARA to Adjustment … Really!
- The Diversity Visa Lottery: Does Anyone Still Win That?
- Children of Diplomats Born in the United States
- Party Like It’s 1972!: Remembering the Registry

Gloria A. Goldman (DL), Tucson, AZ
Rehim Babaoglu, Memphis, TN
Megan A. Brewer, Los Angeles, CA
Neil F. Lewis, Tampa, FL

FUNDAMENTALS (Sheraton: Armstrong, Level 8)

8:10 am–9:10 am
Introduction to H-1B Specialty Workers
Securing an H-1B visa has many quirks and challenges. The speakers on this panel will provide a basic overview of this much sought-after visa category.

- Do You Have a “Specialty Occupation”?
- Does the Foreign National Qualify? Education and Experience
- Is the Employer Offering (and Willing to Pay) the Prevailing Wage?
- Is There an H-1B Visa Number Available?
- Mechanics of Filing: Labor Condition Application/Form I-129
- Evidence, RFEs, and Recordkeeping

Matthew I. Hirsch (DL), Wayne, PA
Fausta M. Albi, San Diego, CA
Robert W. Krug, Chicago, IL
Adrienne J. Vaughan, Boston, MA

9:10 am–9:30 am
Networking Break

9:30 am–10:30 am
Introduction to the L-1 Intracompany Transferee
With the globalization of commerce, the L-1 nonimmigrant visa for intracompany transfers is a much sought-after vehicle to bring foreign nationals into 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
- Establishing a “Qualifying Relationship”: Subsidiaries and Affiliates
- Establishing How the Petitioner (and Its Affiliate) Are “Doing Business”
Nell W. Barker (DL), Chicago, IL
Abby Loomis, Seattle, WA
Blake Miller, Irvine, CA

10:30 am–10:50 am
**Networking Break**

10:50 am–11:50 am
**Employment-Based Immigration: Preference Categories**
*Roughly one-third of immigration is employment-based. Panelists will provide an overview of the employment-based (EB) immigrant visa preference categories. They also will describe the eligibility criteria for each of these EB categories.*

- **EB-1**: “Priority Workers”— The Fast Track to LPR Status
- **EB-2**: Members of Professions with Advanced Degrees/Exceptional Ability/National Interest Waivers
- **EB-3**: Professionals, Skilled Workers, and Other Workers
- **EB-4**: Special Immigrants—E.g., Religious Workers, Gov’t/Military Workers, and Others
- **EB-5**: Job-Creating Entrepreneurs

Dinesh C. Verma (DL), Bethesda, MD
Lisa Baker Jones, Santa Clara, CA
Anthony E. Weigel, Grain Valley, MO

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
**Labor Cert. 101: Introduction to PERM Labor Certification**
*Nearly all EB-2 and EB-3 cases require a certification from the U.S. Department of Labor that the U.S. employer has been unable to find willing, qualified, and available U.S. workers. The speakers on this panel will discuss the basic concepts and steps associated with DOL’s PERM process for preparing and filing applications for labor certification.*

- What Is a “Bona Fide Job Offer”? 
- “Actual Minimum Requirements” and “Business Necessity”: How to Document When They Exceed Normal
- What Is the Prevailing Wage 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

Roger Tsai (DL), Salt Lake City, UT
Susan R. Bond, Dallas, TX
Atessa Chehrazi, San Francisco, CA

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
**Networking Break**

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
**Labor Cert. 102: Recruitment**
*Recruitment is at the core of the labor certification process. Recruitment must be conducted with scrupulous attention to the regulations and FAQs. There is no room for error! Panelists 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

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
• Supplemental Recruitment: Websites, Career Centers, ERP’s, Local Papers, and Other Alternatives
• Reviewing Resumes and Use of Checklists
• Maintaining Evidence of Recruitment, Recruitment Report, the Audit File, and Document Retention

Jonathan L. Flores (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Rosanna M. Fox, New York, NY
Angelica Grado-Wright, Houston, TX

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
**Labor Cert. 103: Audits, Supervised Recruitment, Denials, and Appeals**
DOL uses audits to maintain the integrity of the PERM system. No matter how careful the practitioner has been, a labor certification may be audited, placed in supervised recruitment, or denied. The experts on this panel will consider those gut-wrenching moments when DOL sends a notice ... and it does not contain good news.

• Audit “Triggers” vs. Random Audits
• Common Audit Issues and Requests
• How to Respond to an Audit Notification
• Supervised Recruitment: What Is It and Why My Client?
• What to Do When the 9089 Is Denied: Request for Reconsideration and Request for Review

Amy Fallon (DL), New York, NY
Michelle Funk, McLean, VA
Pamela Genise, Owings Mills, MD
Amanda Meghan Mullane, San Diego, CA

**GOVERNMENT OPEN FORUMS (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)**

8:10 am–9:10 am
**U.S. Department of State (DOS) Open Forum**
Daniel J. Parisi (DL), AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, London, UK
Kenneth J. Harder, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Houston, TX
*Chloe Dybdahl, Chief, Advisory Opinions Division, Bureau of Consular Affairs, DOS, Washington, DC
Rebecca Austin, Senior Advisor, Visa Policy and Process, National Visa Center, DOS, Portsmouth, NH

9:10 am–9:30 am
Networking Break

9:30 am–10:30 am
**U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Field Operations Open Forum**
Danielle M. Rizzo (DL), AILA CBP Liaison Committee Chair, Buffalo, NY
Leslie A. Holman, AILA Past President/CBP Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Burlington, VT

10:30 am–10:50 am
Networking Break

10:50 am–11:50 am
**U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Open Forum**

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
Kevin W. Miner (DL), AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Chair, Atlanta, GA
Sarah K. Peterson, AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Minneapolis, MN
*William W. Thompson, II, Administrator, 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
*Albert Herrera, Deputy Administrator, Office of Foreign Labor Certification Department of Labor, ETA, Washington, DC
Paul R. Almanza, Associate Chief Administrative Law Judge, Office of Administrative Law Judges, Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals, Washington, DC
*Brian Pasternak, Director of Programs, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, Department of Labor, ETA, Washington, DC

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

11:50am–12:20pm
Lunch Break

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
CIS Ombudsman Open Forum
Yeu S. Hong (DL), CIS Ombudsman Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Los Angeles, CA
James W. Austin, CIS Ombudsman Liaison Committee Member, Kansas City, MO
*Julie Kirchner, CIS Ombudsman, Office of the CIS Ombudsman, DHS, Washington, DC
*Gary Merson, Acting Ombudsman, Office of the CIS Ombudsman, DHS, Washington, DC
*Elissa M. McGovern, Chief of Policy, Office of the CIS Ombudsman, DHS, Washington, DC
*Allison Posner, Chief of Casework, Office of the CIS Ombudsman, DHS, Washington, DC

1:20 pm - 1:40 pm
Networking Break

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Open Forum
Robert H. Cohen (DL), AILA USCIS Liaison Committee Chair, Columbus, OH
Donald Neufeld, Associate Director, Service Center Operations, USCIS, Washington, DC
Charles “Locky” Nimick, Deputy Chief, Administrative Appeals Office, USCIS, Washington, DC
*Daniel M. Renaud, Associate Director, Field Office Operations, USCIS, Washington, DC

2:40 pm–2:55 pm
Networking Break

2:55 pm–3:55 pm
Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Open Forum
Jeremy L. McKinney (DL), AILA Board of Governors/EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Greensboro, NC
Matthew L. Benson, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Cincinnati, OH
*Juan P. Osuna, Director, EOIR, Falls Church, VA
*David L. Neal, Chairman, BIA, EOIR, Falls Church, VA
*Mary Beth Keller, Chief Immigration Judge, EOIR, Falls Church, VA
*Jean King, General Counsel, EOIR, Falls Church, VA
*Robin M. Stutman, Chief Administrative Hearing Officer, OCAHO, EOIR, Falls Church, VA

4:00 pm–5:00 pm
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Open Forum
Heather Drabek Prendergast (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Cleveland, OH

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
Jesse A. Lloyd, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Oakland, CA
*Thomas Homan, Acting Director, ICE, Washington, DC
*Tracy Short, Principal Legal Advisor, Office of Principal Legal Advisor, ICE, Washington, DC
*Kenneth Padilla, Director of Field Legal Operations, Office of Principal Legal Advisor, ICE, Washington, DC
*Matthew Albence, Executive Associate Director, ICE ERO, Washington, DC
*Richard Rocha, Deputy Assistant Director, Stakeholder Engagement/Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement (VOICE), Office of Public Affairs, ICE, Washington, DC

LUNCH SESSIONS (FRIDAY)

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
“Circumstance-Specific” Offenses: Risks Posed by the Increased Use of This Exception to the Categorical Approach (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)

Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court reinforced the strict application of the categorical approach. Simultaneously, however, the Court questioned whether Congress actually intended use of this approach in immigration law in the first place, and whether carving out certain exceptions where the “circumstance-specific” approach applies was appropriate. The BIA has taken the Supreme Court’s invitation in Nijhawan to identify more statutory provisions where the adjudicator can consider evidence outside the record of conviction. Speakers on this intermediate-level panel will address common examples of when the “circumstance-specific” approach has become relevant.

- Nijhawan and Determining Amount of Loss/Funds in Reference to Fraud and Money Laundering
- Davies and 30g Exception to Deportability
- Estrada and Domestic Violence Deportability
- Prostitution and Other Contexts
- Defending Against Potential Future Expansion of the Circumstance Specific Approach

Russell Abrutyn (DL), AILA Message Center Moderators Chair, Troy, MI
Ira J. Kurzban, AILA Author, Kurzban’s Immigration Law Sourcebook, AILA Past President, Miami, FL
Dan Kesselbrenner, Executive Director, National Immigration Project, Boston, MA

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
F-1 Employment: Where Are We Now? (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)

Many employers are thrilled the STEM regulations permit up to 36 months of Optional Practical Training for recent graduates, but the regulations also impose greater obligations on students and their employers. The speakers on this intermediate-level panel will discuss the impact of the STEM regulations on employers and the new employer compliance requirements. They also will identify issues related to CPT, F visa schemes, for-profit and unaccredited schools, and the impact on prospective H-1B applications.

- Who Can You Hire and How?
- New STEM Requirements: Overview for Students and Employers
- Hiring Student Employees: Compliance Requirements for Employers
- “Fake” Schools: Flagging Issues for F-1 Students and Prospective H-1B Applications
- CPT Challenges

Charlotte W. Smith (DL), New York, NY
Dyann DelVecchio, Boston, MA
Stephen D. Springer, Washington, DC
Bob White, Schaumburg, IL

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
12:20 pm–1:20 pm
**Introduction to O and P Visas: Athletes, Artists, Musicians, Entertainers, Olympians, and Movie Stars! (Fundamentals)** *(Sheraton: Armstrong, Level 8)*

Have you ever wondered about nonimmigrant options for scientists, artists, performers, athletes, and business persons who are at the top of their field? The speakers on this panel will provide an overview of who qualifies for the O and P visas, what documents are required, and the basic process of applying for these visas.

- O Visa: “Extraordinary Ability” in the Sciences, Arts, Education, Business, or Athletics, and How to Get Creative in Documenting It
- P Visa: “Internationally Recognized” Athletes or Entertainment Groups
- P Visa: “Culturally Unique” and Exchange Programs
- Employers, Agents, and Events
- Advisory Opinions and Written Consultations: Who Issues Them? Do I Need One? How Do I Get One?

**Joseph J. Shepherd (DL), Los Angeles, CA**

**Lorne M. Fienberg, Santa Barbara, CA**

**Linda Rose, Nashville, TN**

**Matthew D. Stump, AILA VSC Liaison Committee Chair, Oklahoma City, OK**

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
**Keeping Your Client “Forever Young”: The Ins and Outs of the CSPA (Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)**

What do you mean my child can’t come with me? Speakers on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will explore and explain how to protect children from aging-out.

- Tips on Easily Calculating CSPA Age and Nuances with the Visa Bulletin
- How to Get NVC and Embassies to Apply CSPA to Your Case
- What to Do? Automatic Conversion or Opt-Out Options
- Matter of Le and K-2 Adjustment of Status Adjudications

**Ari J. Sauer (DL), AILA Board of Governors, Memphis, TN**

**Nancy E. Miller, Pasadena, CA**

**Charles Wheeler, AILA Author, AILA's Focus on the Child Status Protection Act, 2nd Ed., Oakland, CA**

**OTHER TRAININGS, MEETINGS, AND EVENTS**

7:00 am–8:00 am
**Yoga**

*(Sheraton, Bayside, Level 4)*

7:00 am–8:00 am
**Advanced Legal Research Using AILA’s Online Properties** *(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)*

8:10 am–9:10 am
**Mindful Lawyering: Techniques to Help You Be Your Best Self Every Day (No CLE Credits)** *(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)*

9:30 am–10:30 am
**Make the Case for Immigration: Advocacy and Media Training** *(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)*

(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
10:50 am–11:50 am
Make Your Message Successful: Learn How to Activate Positive Frames on Immigration
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Missouri/Kansas Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Grand Chernier, Level 5)

12:00 pm–1:00 pm
Rome – EMEA Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Grand Couteau, Level 5)

12:00 pm–1:30 pm
Ohio Chapter Meeting
(Marriott, Balcony L, Level 4)

12:00 pm–4:00 pm
The Council Board of Trustees Meeting
(Sheraton, Borgne, Level 3)

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Case Resolution Strategies
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Make the Case for Immigration: Advocacy and Media Training
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
Jazzing Up the J-1 Trainee and Intern Placement Plan (DS-7002)
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

4:00 pm–4:30 pm
Speed Networking
(Members Lounge, Marriott, Level 3 Foyer)

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
See AILALink in Action!
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

5:00 pm–6:30 pm
Hispanic Latino Interest Group Meeting
(Sheraton, Nottoway, Level 4)

5:00 pm–6:30 pm
National Immigration Project Reception
(Marriott, Balcony L, Level 4)

4:30 pm–6:00 pm
Southern California Chapter Reception
(Sheraton, Bayside B-C, Level 4)
5:00 pm–7:00 pm  
**IMG Taskforce**  
*(Marriott, Galerie 6, Level 2)*

5:15 pm–6:00 pm  
**Exhibit Hall Happy Hour** *(Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)*

6:00 pm–10:00 pm  
**American Immigration Council’s 2017 American Heritage Awards** *(Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)*

6:00 pm–7:30 pm  
**New Members Division Reception** *(Bourbon Vieux, 501 Bourbon Street, 2nd floor)*

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**SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017**

7:15 am–12:00 pm  
**Registration** *(Marriott: Preservation Hall Foyer, Level 2)*

8:30 am–4:30 pm  
**Exhibit Hall** *(Marriott: Preservation Hall, Level 2)*

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**ROUNDTABLES—SATURDAY MORNING**

7:00 am–8:00 am  
**After Love Ends, Your Work Begins: Assisting Clients When the Marriage Dissolves** *(Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)*

*All is not lost when a relationship ends. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will discuss the complicated circumstances of troubled marriages, abuse and its impact, and issues when the petitioner dies, and will explore available options in these situations.*

- Valid or Sham Marriage: Was It Good to Begin with?
- Becoming a Self-Petitioner: Filing a VAWA Case
- Death of the Petitioner: Pre– or Post-Filing
- I-751 Waiver: Divorce, Death, Extreme Hardship, and Abuse

*Christine Popp (DL), Bloomington, IN*  
*Jeanne Brennan Funk, Hudson, NH*  
*Sonia Parras Konrad, Des Moines, IA*

7:00 am–8:00 am  
**Creating Meaningful and Lasting Partnerships with Corporate Clients** *(Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)*

*The experts on this advanced-level panel will discuss best practices for partnering with corporate clients to establish successful and lasting business relationships. Practitioners will learn how to navigate tricky ethical situations while providing top-notch service and creating value for corporate clients.*

- RFPs and How to Win Them
- Meeting the Expectations of In-House Counsel or HR Director

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*(DL) = Discussion Leader  
* = invited, not confirmed  
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.*
• Managing Communications Between Your Firm and Client Contacts
• Dual Representation: Navigating the Needs and Wants of the Employer and the Employee
• Keeping Apprised of Changes to and Within Clients

Jeremy Fudge (DL), Dallas, TX
Rebecca R. Massiatte, Dallas, TX
Jeffrey M. Zimskind, Allentown, PA

7:00 am–8:00 am
Hot Topics in Prolonged, Indefinite, and Mandatory Detention (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)
The faculty on this all-levels panel will address instances when your client may or may not be subject to mandatory detention. They also will discuss the challenges regarding the length of detention.

• What Is “Custody”? Criminal Custody and Pending Charges
• What Does “When Released” Mean and How Does It Affect ICE Policies?
• Challenges to Mandatory Detention and Prolonged or Indefinite Detention

Hudaidah Farooq Bhimdi (DL), Fairfax, VA
Martin Rosenbluth, Lumpkin, GA
Michael Tan, Staff Attorney, Immigrants’ Rights Project, ACLU, San Francisco, CA

7:00 am–8:00 am
Removal 102: Procedures, Rights, Obligations, and Rules (Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)
Most immigrants who are removed never see the inside of a courtroom. Panelists will provide attendees with an overview of the various forms of removal proceedings.

• INA §235: Expedited Removal and Credible/Reasonable Fear Proceedings
• INA §238: Summary Removal for Criminal Convictions
• INA §§239 and 240: Full Removal Hearings and Stipulated Removal
• INA §241(b)(5): Reinstatement of Removal

Lauren Eagan (DL), Washington, DC
Erin Cobb, Chicago, IL
Lance Curtright, San Antonio, TX
Maris J. Liss, Farmington Hills, MI

7:00 am–8:00 am
The Lawyer as Manager (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Being a great lawyer does not automatically translate to being a great manager. Panelists will offer suggestions on how best to manage processes, people, and time, whether you are at a large firm or run a solo practice.

• Effective Communication with Your Staff and Clients
• Hands Off vs. Hands On: How to Get the Most Out of Your Staff
• Being the Boss Does Not Mean You Cannot Get Your Hands Dirty
• Strategies and Resources to Help You Get It Done

Maurice H. Goldman (DL), AILA Media Advocacy Committee Chair, Tucson, AZ
Rami D. Fakhoury, Troy, MI
Frieda A. Garcia, San Francisco, CA
Sheela Murthy, Owings Mills, MD

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
The Challenges of Virtual Offices and Flexible/Offsite Employment
The speakers for this advanced-level panel will address the practical issues associated with nonimmigrant visa, immigrant visa, and permanent situations for non-roving, remote employees.

- Working from Home and Offsite Employment
- The Company with No Office(s)
- Proving Business Existence and Ability to Pay
- Proving the Employer-Employee Relationship
- Drafting and Posting Challenges

Ellen Freeman (DL), Pittsburgh, PA
Marketa Lindt, AILA 2nd Vice President, Chicago, IL
Lisa M. Galvan, Cincinnati, OH

Networking Break

Dabbling in a Global Practice: Important Ethical Issues to Consider
Many immigration practitioners either already handle some global cases or are contemplating the idea. Speakers on this all-levels panel will highlight some of the key issues that U.S. practitioners should be concerned about regarding handling non-U.S. cases.

- Understanding and Avoiding Ethical Issues in Advising Clients on Non-U.S. Immigration
- Foreign Compliance Issues—FCPA, Anti Bribery Laws, and Managing Local Compliance
- Consular Processing and Issues Regarding the Unauthorized Practice of Law
- Working with Foreign Counsel to Ensure Clients Get the Right Advice and You Stay on the Right Side of the Law
- Pointers from the ABA Model Rules of Practice as Applicable to a Global Immigration Practice

Poorvi Chothani (DL), Mumbai, India
Maria L. Celebi, Istanbul, Turkey
Elise A. Fialkowski, Philadelphia, PA
Audrey Lustgarten, Harbor Springs, MI

Networking Break

H-2B Advanced Issues One Year Later: Can You Get the Beneficiary(s) to Work on Time?
The H-2B regulations were completely revised by DOL last year. Come to this intermediate-level panel to learn how these regulations are working one year later, and to receive an update on more recent developments.

- Timing Challenges: Submitting the Prevailing Wage, Advertisements, and SWA Delays
- Best Practices for Advertisements: What Must Be Included?
- Addressing Multiple Beneficiaries
Post-Approval Compliance and Challenges at the Consulate

Jeanne M. Malitz (DL), San Diego, CA
Robert M. Birach, AILA Michigan Chapter Chair, Southfield, MI
Kevin Robert Lashus, Austin, TX
Jay C. Ruby, Atlanta, GA

11:50 am–12:20 pm
Lunch Break

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Addressing Mergers & Acquisitions and Outsourcing HR Functions
Many companies undergo full or partial mergers and acquisitions (M&A), consolidate entities, and outsource HR functions. The experts on this intermediate–to advanced-level panel will address the impact of changes in the corporate structure and situations where HR functions are handled by another entity.

- Impact of Full or Partial Corporate Changes on NIVs
- Impact of Full or Partial Corporate Changes on the Permanent Process
- Changing Employee Payroll to an Affiliated Company
- Use of Professional Employer Organizations
- Role of Immigration Counsel in M&A Deals (Due Diligence and Practical Tips)

Michael P. Nowlan (DL), Detroit, MI
Marcine Seid, AILA Board of Governors, Palo Alto, CA
Jerome G. Grzeca, Milwaukee, WI
Peter T. Schiron Jr., Stamford, CT

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networking Break

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
What to Do When the Post or the Border Says No
How do you help a client whose visa or border application is being denied? What can you do to avoid going down that path in the first place? Panelists on this intermediate-level session will address how to handle issues that can arise during border and consular processing. They also will discuss how to get an approval when a waiver is not needed.

- Analyzing and Understanding the Grounds of Refusal
- Security Issues and Delays
- Pre-Clearance vs. Port-of-Entry
- Transportation Letters, Form I-193, and Deferred Inspection
- Withdrawal vs. Denial and What Happens Next
- Mitigating the Chance of Re-adjudication

Avi Friedman (DL), Santa Monica, CA
Diane M. Butler, AILA Board of Governors, Seattle, WA
Tu Cam T. Castillo, San Francisco, CA
Stephen R. Pattison, Darnestown, MD

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
4:15 pm–5:15 pm
**Maintaining LPR Status: Life After Getting a Green Card**

Many global companies petition for green cards for their employees, only to have other employment opportunities later arise abroad for these new LPRs. Speakers on this intermediate-level panel will provide guidance on how to maintain LPR status when assigned or choosing to live abroad temporarily.

- Issues at the Ports-of-Entry
- Reentry Permits
- Preserving Permanent Residence for Naturalization
- Dual Residence in the United States and Abroad
- Returning Residents

Andrew Zeltner (DL), Philadelphia, PA
Hiba Ghalib, Atlanta, GA
Loan T. Huynh, AILA DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Minneapolis, MN
Helena S. Younossi, South San Francisco, CA

**DUE PROCESS/REMOVAL** *(Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)*

8:10 am–9:10 am
**Post-Removal Waivers**

An individual’s removal does not necessarily end his or her chances of returning lawfully to the United States. Panelists on this intermediate-level panel will discuss how to obtain the appropriate information about an individual’s negative immigration history, and will address the consequences of removal on immigrant and nonimmigrant visa cases. They also will present a practicum on filing waivers in these cases, including how these waivers differ from typical I-601 waivers.

- Covering All Your Bases Through FOIA: How Much Information Is Enough, and Where Do You Find It?
- Immigration Judge Orders, Expedited Removal, Voluntary Departure/Return, In Absentia Orders, and the Permanent Bar
- Removal Orders and Inadmissibility: Immigrant vs. Nonimmigrant Visas
- When, Where, If, and How to File the I-212 or I-192
- When Is a Waiver Unnecessary? The Arriving Alien/Adjustment of Status Case

Scott Bratton (DL), Cleveland, OH
Kathleen C. Gasparian, New Orleans, LA
Raed Gonzalez, Houston, TX

9:10 am–9:30 am
**Networking Break**

9:30 am–10:30 am
**Criminal and Fraud Waivers in Removal Proceedings**

The faculty on this intermediate-level panel will discuss the statutory requirements and strategies for criminal and fraud waivers in removal proceedings. When can someone file a stand-alone waiver, and how do we know if a violent and dangerous crime is involved? Are there temporal limitations, potential crime bars, and residency requirements? What is fraud at entry, and what does “otherwise admissible” really mean? Panelists will provide practical pointers and examine eligibility, preparation, and process.

- INA §212(h) Waivers: Options and Limitations for Lawful Permanent Residents
- Violent and Dangerous Offenses and the “Heightened” Standard

*(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.*
• Evolution of Law Regarding INA §212(c) Waivers, and Who Can Still Apply?
• Challenging Allegations of Fraud and Seeking Waivers Under INA §212(i) and §212(k)
• The Requirements and Logistics of §237(a)(1)(H) in Removal Proceedings

Jacqueline Watson (DL), Austin, TX
Jeremy L. McKinney, AILA Board of Governors/EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Greensboro, NC
Ava Benach, Washington, DC

10:30 am–10:50 am
Networking Break

10:50 am–11:50 am
Whether Your Client Has Been Admitted, Which Admission Matters, and Further Conundrums
Even experienced practitioners and adjudicators may face moments of confusion about which admission date counts for applicants/respondents, and for what purpose. Panelists on this intermediate-level session will dissect the fine lines of admissions regarding inadmissibility, deportability, and new applications for immigration benefits based on past and current immigration history.

• Returning Lawful Permanent Residents and Fleuti
• Which Admission Date Counts for Purposes of Removability and Inadmissibility?
• TPS and U Visa Grants as Admissions
• Is “Entry” Still a Thing?
• Implications of Procedurally Regular, but Legally Flawed, Admissions and Wave-Through Admissions

Maria T. Baldini-Potermin (DL), AILA Federal Court Litigation Section Steering Committee Chair, Chicago, IL
Jessica Boell, Portland, OR
Nancy Falgout, Houston, TX

11:50 am–12:20 pm
Lunch Break

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Understanding the Burdens of Proof and Production
Knowing which side has the burden of proof is essential to the development of a sound strategy for each phase of your client’s case. Speakers on this intermediate-level panel will analyze the burden of proof in various contexts, including bond proceedings, master calendar hearings, and individual hearings before the immigration courts. They also will examine the process of seeking benefits before USCIS.

• Custody Re-determination Hearings and the Burden of Proof in Prolonged Detention Cases
• Denying the Charges and Establishing Eligibility for Relief
• Addressing Incomplete Records of Conviction and Burdens of Production: Almanza and Peralta-Sauceda
• Burdens Before USCIS
• Burden of Production and Access to Information: FOIA and the Creative Use of Stokes and Dent

Rex Chen (DL), New York, NY
Matthew J. Archambeault, Philadelphia, PA
Michael S. Vastine, Miami Gardens, FL

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networking Break

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
3:00 pm–4:00 pm
**The “How-To” Guide to FOIA: Obtaining Information from Different Agencies**

Panelists on this intermediate-level session will identify the various kinds of information a practitioner can expect to receive from CBP, OBI&M, DHS, ICE, EOIR, DOS, and other government agencies. They also will address the processes involved in obtaining this information from each agency, how to overcome challenges that arise throughout these processes, and litigation options.

- Deciding Where to Seek Records: Immigration Agencies and Beyond
- Challenges that Arise in Filing Concurrent Requests
- Agency-Specific Practice Tips
- How to Litigate FOIA Delays and Denials

*Scott D. Pollock (DL), Chicago, IL*
*W. Michael Sharma-Crawford, Kansas City, MO*
*Melissa Crow, Legal Director, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC*

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
**Networking Break**

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
**Advanced Motions To Reopen**

Motions to reopen often represent a client's last, and sometimes only, option for pursuing relief from removal. The experts on this advanced-level panel will provide effective tips for requesting reopening with the immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals in cases with complicated histories.

- Creative Strategies in Seeking to Reopen In Absentia Orders
- Ethical and Legal Complications Related to *Lozada* Motions and Equitable Tolling
- How to Frame *Sua Sponte* Motions to Reopen to Preserve Underlying Legal and Constitutional Issues
- Addressing Prior Orders in VAWA, U-Visa, TPS, and DACA Cases: When Is Reopening Necessary?
- Motions to Reopen After Reentry and the Departure Bar

*Sui Chung (DL), Miami, FL*
*Vikram K. Badrinath, Tucson, AZ*
*Jodi Goodwin, Harlingen, TX*
*Kristin Macleod-Ball, Boston, MA*

**FAMILY** *(Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)*

8:10 am–9:10 am
**Deja Vu All Over Again: Refiling vs. Appealing**

Once a case is denied, sometimes the next step is not so clear. Each client has different concerns and different needs. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will discuss factors to consider when deciding whether to appeal a decision or whether to refile.

- Choosing the Best Course of Action
- Appealing the Denial: Was the Government Wrong?
- I-290B Processing Delays: What Are Your Alternatives?
- Timing, Priority Date, and Filing Fee Issues

*Kenneth K. Schmitt (DL), St. Louis, MO*
John Patrick Pratt, Miami, FL
David Strashnoy, Los Angeles, CA

9:10 am–9:30 am
Networking Break

9:30 am–10:30 am
Caught in Between: I-751 Petition Questions
As the processing times for I-751 petition adjudications increase, a seemingly straightforward joint petition can turn complex. Speakers on this intermediate-level panel will discuss what to do when good marriages go bad.

- Addressing Negative Factors: Brief Cohabitation and Lack of Joint Documents
- Preempting RFEs and Interviews: Packaging a Solid I-751 Packet
- Marital Limbo: Separated Clients with No Divorce in Sight
- Benefits of Filing the N-400 During I-751 Pendency

David A. Guerrettaz (DL), AILA Indiana Chapter Chair, Evansville, IN
Nash Joseph Fayad, Richmond, VA
Nathalie Gottschalk, Las Vegas, NV
Lucy Fong Lee, San Francisco, CA

10:30 am–10:50 am
Networking Break

10:50 am–11:50 am
To Natz, or Not to Natz, That Is the Question
Panelists on this advanced-level session will explore the pros and cons of advising clients to naturalize. They will discuss the complex reasoning involved in determining when clients should file, why clients cannot pursue naturalization, and when clients may not want to pursue naturalization, even if this option is available to them.

- Naturalization May Not Be the Right Option: Taxation, Inheritance, Visas to Home Country, and Retirement
- Voting and False Claims to U.S. Citizenship: Does It Doom an Application Forever?
- Past Criminal Convictions and Applicability of Prior Waivers in the Naturalization Context
- Timing it Right: Physical Presence, GMC, and Preserving Eligibility for Derivatives
- Is Dual Citizenship Real or a Legal Fiction?

Clayton E. Cartwright (DL), AILA Global Migration Section Steering Committee Chair, Columbus, GA
Lolita Dimovski, Livonia, MI
Tracie L. Klinke, AILA USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee Co-Chair, Marietta, GA

11:50 am–12:20 pm
Lunch Break

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Perfecting Grits: The Case for Special Immigrant Juveniles
State court decisions vary widely across the country, yet they often present the first and biggest hurdle toward eligibility for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS). The experts on this intermediate-level panel will advise on how best to secure SIJS in light of this. The discussion will include how to identify the proper state court venue, how to satisfy service of process requirements in notifying parents and/or other parties entitled to notice (both in the United States and abroad), how to overcome jurisdictional challenges, and how to effectively present evidence of abuse, neglect, and abandonment.

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
• Key Concepts: Dependent, Neglect, Abandonment, Abuse, and Viability of Reunification/Single-Parent Cases
• State Court Venues and Collaborating with State Court Attorneys
• Service of Process, Notice Requirements, and the Hague Service Convention
• Age-Specific Issues: Age-Outs, 18–20 Years Olds, and Jurisdictional Problems
• Defining Abuse, Neglect, and Abandonment Across State Lines

Natasha V. Snow (DL), Birmingham, AL
Jenna Carl Jabara, Dallas, TX
Yesenia Leonor Polanco-Galdamez, Raleigh, NC

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networking Break

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
T & U Lane
Speakers on this advanced-level panel will delve into hot topics, recent trends, and the many challenges faced by victims of trafficking and serious crimes who have assisted in criminal investigations. They also will offer valuable practice tips when interacting with law enforcement agencies, DHS, and DOS.

• Hot Topics: Conditional Grants, EADs, Parole, Travel, and Processing Abroad
• Obtaining Difficult Certifications and Educating Law Enforcement
• U Visas: Working with the Cap, Emerging/Less-Used Crimes, and Crafting Effective INA §212(d)(14) Waivers
• T Visas: Emerging Issues in Labor and Sex Trafficking

Laura F. Bachman (DL), Tulsa, OK
Robin Dalton, AILA VAWA, Us, and Ts Committee Co-Chair, Madison, WI
Sally L. Kinoshita, San Francisco, CA
Susanna Saul, New York, NY

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
Humanitarian Options of Last Resort
There are times when it seems your client is completely out of options. When faced with this situation, consider whether your client might qualify for relief through humanitarian means. Panelists on this intermediate to advanced-level session will discuss various humanitarian relief options, and will advise on how to determine the pathway that is best for your client.

• Humanitarian Parole Requests When Other Options Have Failed
• Humanitarian Reinstatement: The Magic of Reviving the Dead
• Humanitarian Options for Those Subject to a Permanent Bar
• Asking the Government for Deferred Action
• Avoid the Heavy Lift: Consider a B-2 Visa

Tamar Lawrence (DL), Henrico, VA
William A. Diaz, London, UK
Meg Hobbins, Washington, DC
*Joanna Ruppel, Acting Associate Director, Refugee, Asylum and International Operations, USCIS, DHS, Washington, DC

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
**FUNDAMENTALS (Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)**

8:10 am–9:10 am

**Before Taking on Your First Removal Case: An Overview of Relief from Removal**

*Defending a client in removal proceedings can be both challenging and fulfilling. Speakers on this fundamentals-level session will provide an overview of the various forms of relief available to clients in removal proceedings.*

- Cancellation of Removal for LPRs and Non-LPRs
- Adjustment of Status
- Other Forms of Relief, Including Asylum, Withholding, INA §212(c), Voluntary Departure
- Prosecutorial Discretion

*Brigit Greeson-Alvarez (DL), Los Angeles, CA*
*Matthew L. Guadagno, New York, NY*
*Jennifer A. Kain-Rios, Denver, CO*
*Jonathan Willmoth, Kansas City, MO*

9:10 am–9:30 am

**Networking Break**

9:30 am–10:30 am

**Waivers 101**

*Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will review the different immigrant and nonimmigrant waivers available when clients are inadmissible or deportable. They also will provide helpful preparation tips for your waiver case.*

- Inadmissibility and Removability: What Is Waivable?
- Nonimmigrant Waiver of Inadmissibility
- Extreme Hardship
- Advance Permission to Reapply for Admission

*Michael H. Davis (DL), Minneapolis, MN*
*Leah L. Chavarria, San Diego, CA*
*Eric M. Johnson, Lakewood, CO*

10:30 am–10:50 am

**Networking Break**

10:50 am–11:50 am

**Asylum 101: Protecting Refugees in the United States**

*Panelists will provide an overview of the asylum process for new practitioners. They will outline the differences between affirmative and defensive asylum applications, and address preparing evidence for the application.*

- Definition of Refugee and Other Legal Standards
- Grounds of Ineligibility and Statutory Bars
- Evidentiary Issues
- Affirmative vs. Defensive Processing
- Related Relief: Withholding of Removal and Protection Under the Convention Against Torture

*Kristen Jackson (DL), Los Angeles, CA*
*Charles S. Ellison, Omaha, NE*

*(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.*
11:50 am–12:20 pm

Lunch Break

1:40 pm–2:40 pm

**Detention Practice Basics: Bonds and Beyond!**

*Clients in detention present unique challenges. The speakers on this fundamentals-level panel will review detention basics, bond hearings, and mandatory detention.*

- Challenges Regarding Access to Clients in Detention
- Release, Parole, and Bond by DHS
- Bond Hearings Before the Immigration Judge
- Mandatory Detention and Detention Factors
- Mock Bond Hearing

*Richard Prinz (DL), Houston, TX*
*Benjamin Crouse, Milwaukee, WI*
*Liset M. Lefebvre, Dallas, TX*
*Kevin A. Raica, Chicago, IL*

2:40 pm–3:00 pm

**Networking Break**

3:00 pm–4:00 pm

**Fundamentals of a Master Calendar Hearing**

*Panelists on this fundamentals-level session will cover the basics of appearing at the immigration court during a master calendar hearing, preparing for pleadings, and understanding burdens of proof.*

- Burdens and Standards of Proof
- Reviewing the NTA and Preparing for Pleadings
- Challenging Allegations and Contesting Charges
- Motions Practice: Terminating and Suppressing Evidence
- Mock Master Hearing

*Heather Drabek Prendergast (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Cleveland, OH*
*Hiroko Kusuda, New Orleans, LA*
*Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, Staff Attorney, American Immigration Council, Washington, DC*
*Shannon M. Underwood, Seattle, WA*

4:00 pm–4:15 pm

**Networking Break**

4:15 pm–5:15 pm

**Preparing for an Individual Calendar Hearing**

*Preparing for a successful case in removal proceedings takes immense preparation and practice. Panelists will review practice before the immigration court and how it differs from practice in federal or state court.*

- Lack of Discovery and Discovery Alternatives
- Choosing Witnesses and Preparing Their Testimony

48

*(DL) = Discussion Leader*

* = invited, not confirmed

**Note:** All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
- Rules of Evidence: “Fundamental Fairness”
- Objections and Strategies for Challenging DHS Evidence and Examination
- Closing Statements

Anne G. Relias (DL), Chicago, IL
Todd Becraft, Los Angeles, CA
Brian Murray, Fairfax, VA
Michelle C. Rivero, St. Paul, MN

LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)

8:10 am–9:10 am
Attracting the Best and Brightest, and Letting the Bad Ones Go
In today’s competitive marketplace, it is critical to have a solid team of talented employees/contractors at your disposal. Speakers on this panel will give valuable insight on and tips for hiring, evaluating, and firing employees.

- Keys to Choosing Your Staff Members and Maintaining Appropriate Staffing Levels
- Determining What Makes an Employee the “Best” or the “Worst”
- How Can Smaller Firms Compete with Large Firms in Getting and Keeping the Best Employees?
- How to Keep Your Employees Happy, and How Best to Let the Troublesome Ones Go

J. Anthony Smith (DL), Los Angeles, CA
Magali Suarez Candler, Houston, TX
Laura Devine, New York, NY
Amy R. Novick, Washington, DC

9:10 am–9:30 am
Networking Break

9:30 am–10:30 am
Futures 101: Envisioning Your Future in Immigration Practice
AILA’s Future of Immigration Law Practice Report provides a substantive basis for discussion of the changes in the practice of immigration law. Consumers are changing, technology is changing, and the regulation of legal services is changing. So how do we, as lawyers and AILA members, adapt to these changes? How do we help shape our future in the practice that we professionally enjoy? Panelists will examine the current legal landscape and discuss strategies for leading your practice successfully into the future.

- How Consumers are Changing Your Practice
- Closing the Justice Gap
- Regulation of Legal Service Providers
- The Future of Online Legal Service Delivery
- How Technology Can Increase the Efficiency of Your Firm

Reid Trautz (DL), Director, AILA Practice and Professionalism Center, Washington, DC
William A. Stock, AILA President, Philadelphia, PA
Neena Dutta, AILA Board of Governors, New York, NY
Xiomara Hernandez, AILA Future of Immigration Law Practice Task Force Chair, Miami, FL

10:30 am–10:50 am

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
Networking Break

10:50 am–11:50 am
AILA Ethics Compendium–LIVE

Join us for an enlightening and thought-provoking ethics discussion with the authors and editors of the AILA Ethics Compendium. Now in its fourth year, panelists on “AILA Ethics Compendium–Live” offer an in-depth and robust analysis of the Rules of Professional Responsibility, and discuss how these rules apply to immigration lawyers.

- What Every Immigration Lawyer Must Know About Multi-jurisdictional Practice
- Flat Fees, Trust Accounts, and Refunds
- Identifying Conflicts of Interest – Considering Affidavits of Support

Alan B. Goldfarb (DL), Minneapolis, MN
Sherry K. Cohen, New York, NY
Kenneth Craig Dobson, New York, NY
Meghan Moore, Wyoming, MI

11:50 am–12:20 pm
Lunch Break

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Ethical Challenges of Engagement Agreements and Fees

Though entering into an engagement agreement with your client is a best practice, a poorly drafted engagement agreement can do more harm than good. Panelists will identify key considerations in preparing and using engagement agreements. They also will address considerations in setting and communicating fees to your clients.

- Best Practices and Common Pitfalls with Engagement Agreements
- Key Provisions of a Successful Engagement Agreement
- Effectively Setting and Communicating Fees
- Hourly vs. Flat Fees
- When and How to Disengage

Ruby Lichte Powers (DL), AILA Practice Management Committee Chair, Houston, TX
Robert E. Juceam, AILA Past President, New York, NY
Melissa Chavin, London, UK
Helen A. Sklar, Los Angeles, CA

2:40 pm–3:00 pm
Networking Break

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
Marketing Your Immigration Law Practice

Speakers on this panel will cover the nuts and bolts of how to develop an effective marketing plan for your immigration law practice. They also will offer guidance on the practical and ethical factors you should consider when choosing marketing tools.

- The Essential Elements of a Marketing Plan
- What Types of Marketing Work Best, and How to Measure Their Success
- The Art of Networking
- How and Where to Get Help When You Need It: Mentors, Consultants, and More
- Ethical Considerations in Choosing and Using Marketing Tools

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
Sandra A. Grossman (DL), AILA Asylum and Refugee Committee Vice Chair, Bethesda, MD
Nathan R. Bogart, Fayetteville, AR
Jacob Sapochnick, San Diego, CA
Rohit Turkhud, East Brunswick, NJ

4:00 pm–4:15 pm
Networking Break

4:15 pm–5:15 pm
Building a Practice Full of Extraordinary Clients
There are plenty of clients in the sea, but not all clients are created equal. Panelists will provide basic tips and strategies for attracting and retaining extraordinary clients. They also will provide valuable information regarding what to ask during an initial consultation and how to end the attorney-client relationship.

- How to Attract the Clients You Want
- What Important Questions Should You Ask in an Initial Consult?
- Strategies for Retaining Your Best Clients
- When and How to End the Attorney-Client Relationship

James Y. Pack (DL), Irvine, CA
Sara B. DeBlaze, Chicago, IL
Arturo R. Rios, St. Petersburg, FL
Ivan Yacub, Woodbridge, VA

LUNCH SESSIONS (SATURDAY)

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Introduction to Crimmigration (Fundamentals) (Sheraton: Rhythms, Level 2)
Sometimes our clients get into serious trouble. Speakers in this session will provide a primer on common issues that arise from criminal activity. They also will identify strategies for categorizing and mitigating crimes, and discuss available options for relief.

- Most Common Criminal Grounds (CIMT, Aggravated Felony, Etc.)
- What Is a Conviction?
- Admission of Guilt
- Relief from Convictions

Helen Parsonage (DL), Winston Salem, NC
Brian J. Blackford, AILA Iowa/Nebraska Chapter Chair, Omaha, NE
J. Christopher Keen, Orem, UT

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Immigration Policies from the Employer’s Perspective (Sheraton: Grand Ballroom, Level 5)
Large or small, companies need consistent internal immigration policies. The experts on this intermediate-level panel will highlight key issues to focus upon when preparing and establishing policies with your corporate clients.

- Housekeeping: Tracking Expiration and Priority Dates, Maintaining Public Access Files, Tracking Movement of Nonimmigrant Visa Workers
- Drafting Corporate Immigration Policies on Initiating the Permanent Residence Process

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
• Repayment Agreements and Payment of Costs.
• Ensuring Consistency and When to Make Exceptions: Job Descriptions, PERM Filings, and EB Categories
• Maintaining Nonimmigrant Visa Status After the I-485 Is Filed

Poonam Gupta (DL), New York, NY
Kristin Aquino-Pham, Atlanta, GA
Dwight D. Myfelt, Cincinnati, OH
Angelo A. Paparelli, Los Angeles, CA

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Improving the Client Intake Process (Marriott: Grand Ballroom, Level 3)
Panelists for this session will discuss one of the most common sources of problems at the outset of a case: the client intake process. They also will identify common client intake issues that arise and provide solutions to address these issues.

• Common Client Intake Issues
• Processes and Procedures for Efficient Client Intake
• Using Checklists as a Screening Tool
• Recognizing and Adjusting Unreasonable Client Expectations
• Best Practices and Risk Management for Effective Client Intake

Roberto D. Caballero (DL), Houston, TX
Peter L. Ashman, Las Vegas, NV
Matthew Blaisdell, AILA Consumer Protection & UPL Committee Chair, Brooklyn, NY
Bennett Savitz, Boston, MA

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Parole: What Is It and How Do You Seek It? (Sheraton: Napoleon, Level 3)
DHS has broad discretion to employ parole in a variety of contexts for humanitarian and equitable reasons, and in the interests of administrative economy. Panelists for this intermediate-level session will provide an overview of the various mechanisms by which a noncitizen may be paroled into the United States. These include humanitarian parole, advance parole, parole in place, and parole for deferred inspection or removal proceedings. Panelists will also discuss the legal and practical implications of a grant.

• The Different Kinds of Parole
• How to Seek Parole: Substance and Procedure
• The Special Case of Humanitarian Parole
• Legal and Practical Implications of a Grant of Parole
• Termination of Parole: Procedures and Implications

David N. Simmons (DL), Denver, CO
Siovhan A. Sheridan, Tucson, AZ

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Unusual Problems with Birth Documents (Marriott: Mardi Gras, Level 3)
Practitioners often encounter trying situations where clients have incorrect birth records, conflicting birth records, or no birth records at all. There are even cases where the foreign-born parents of U.S. citizen children have obtained foreign birth certificates in an effort to secure benefits in their native country. The experts on this advanced-level panel will discuss strategies to employ when faced with such situations.

• Secondary Evidence of Birth Records
• “At Home” Births

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
• My Biological Parents are Not on My Birth Certificate: Amending the Record and the Role of Civil Registrars
• Dual Birth Certificates for U.S.-Born Children: Which One to Trust?
• How State Agencies are Challenging U.S. Birth Certificates

Catherine Seitz (DL), San Francisco, CA
Enrique Arellano Rincon, Mexico City, Mexico
Justin Tullius, Corpus Christi, TX
*Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Deputy General Counsel, Texas Dept. of State Health Services, Austin, TX

OTHER TRAININGS, MEETINGS, AND EVENTS

7:00 am–8:00 am
Yoga
(Sheraton, Bayside, Level 4)

7:00 am–8:00 am
See AILALink in Action!
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

7:30 am–9:00 am
Law Professors Interest Group Meeting
(Marriott, Balcony L, Level 4)

8:10 am–9:10 am
Bangkok District Chapter Meeting
(Sheraton, Southdown, Level 4)

8:10 am–9:10 am
Exchange Visitor Program (J-1) Intern and Trainee Host Placement Training
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

9:00 am–10:00 am
Asian Interest Group Meeting
(Sheraton, Grand Chernier, Level 5)

9:30 am–10:30 am
Make the Case for Immigration: Advocacy and Media Training
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

12:20 pm–1:20 pm
Have you Heard About Fastcase? (No CLE Credits)
(Marriott, Galerie 4, Level 2)

1:40 pm–2:40 pm
Make the Case for Immigration: Advocacy and Media Training
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

3:00 pm–4:00 pm
Have you Heard About Fastcase? (No CLE Credits)
(Marriott: Galerie 4, Level 2)

(DL) = Discussion Leader
* = invited, not confirmed
Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.
5:30 pm–7:00 pm
AILA Annual Awards Ceremony
(Marriott, Galerie 1, Level 2)

8:00 pm–11:00 pm
Saturday Night Mardi Gras Party (Mardi Gras World, 1380 Port of New Orleans Place)